

## Chapter XIX

## Women

Efforts for the advancement of women were highlighted in 1981 by the entry into force in September of the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, a fact welcomed with great satisfaction by the General Assembly.<sup>(17)</sup> At year's end, the Convention had been signed by 87 States, and ratified or acceded to by 32 States.

Also in 1981, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare a multisectoral and interdisciplinary survey on women's role in development.<sup>(5)</sup> It considered but deferred action on a draft Declaration on the Participation of Women in the Struggle for the Strengthening of International Peace and for the Solution of Other Vital National and International Problems (p. 990).

In connection with the United Nations Decade for Women (1976-1985), the Economic and Social Council<sup>(2)</sup> stressed the need for urgent implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the Decade, and the Assembly<sup>(6)</sup> called on Governments to continue taking measures aimed at ensuring women's equal participation in the development process (p. 985). At the same time, the Assembly requested the Commission on the Status of Women to give priority consideration in 1982 to the question of preparations for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, and to submit proposals to the Assembly (p. 985).

Among a series of guidelines given to competent bodies within the United Nations system, the Assembly defined the role of its Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) Committee and the Commission on the Status of Women with regard to questions on women's role in development;<sup>(7)</sup> decided that the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women should continue its activities beyond the Decade (p. 982); and requested the Secretary-General to report in 1984 on the implications of relocating the Fund within the Secretariat's Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, at Vienna, Austria.<sup>(9)</sup> The Economic and Social Council, for its part, wished that prompt and effective co-operation would be instituted between the Centre's Branch for the Advancement of Women, the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

(INSTRAW), the Statistical Office and the Commission on the Status of Women;<sup>(1)</sup> and invited all United Nations organizations not to perpetuate the idea that women constituted a marginal category relating only to social welfare.<sup>(4)</sup>

The Assembly also pronounced on the question of equal rights to work, when it invited Governments in host countries to consider granting working permits for spouses accompanying members of diplomatic missions or consular posts and staff members of international organizations.<sup>(10)</sup>

Work of INSTRAW in 1981 focused on the development of organizational and administrative procedures (p. 996). The agreement between the United Nations and the Dominican Republic concerning establishment of INSTRAW at Santo Domingo was signed in March (p. 998), and Dunja Pastizzi-Ferencic of Yugoslavia assumed her duties as the Institute's Director in June (p. 997).

Sharing the hope expressed by the Council<sup>(3)</sup> that INSTRAW would start functioning shortly, the Assembly urged all Governments to consider making financial contributions or extending co-operation to it.<sup>(8)</sup>

All Assembly action was taken in December, while the Council adopted its resolutions relating to women in May.

Resolutions: ESC: <sup>(1)</sup>1981/11 (p. 993), <sup>(2)</sup>1981/12 (p. 981), <sup>(3)</sup>1981/13 (p. 996), <sup>(4)</sup>1981/26 (p. 987), 6 May. GA: <sup>(5)</sup>36/74, 4 Dec. (p. 989); <sup>(6)</sup>36/126 (p. 982), <sup>(7)</sup>36/127 (p. 990), <sup>(8)</sup>36/128 (p. 997), <sup>(9)</sup>36/129 (p. 984), <sup>(10)</sup>36/130 (p. 994), <sup>(11)</sup>36/131 (p. 995), 14 Dec.

## UN Decade for Women (1976-1985)

## Implementation of the Programme for 1981-1985

In 1981, both the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly dealt with implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, adopted by the 1980 World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.<sup>(5)</sup> The Council acted after consideration of proposals by the Secretary-General for Programme implementation. Information on Programme implementation was also contained in a report on preparations for the 1985 World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women (p. 985), submitted by the Secretary-General to the Assembly in October.<sup>(11)</sup>

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION.** The Economic and Social Council, by a resolution of 6 May adopted by a recorded vote of 47 to 1, with 5 abstentions,<sup>(3)</sup> reaffirmed the importance and need for urgent implementation of the Programme of Action. The Council recognized the role of resident co-ordinators in Programme implementation, reaffirmed the importance of strengthening the role of the regional commissions and invited relevant United Nations bodies to inform the Council of action taken to integrate their activities into the global effort to implement the Programme. In addition, the Council requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly later in the year a report containing concrete proposals and specific measures to ensure its urgent and full implementation.

Venezuela introduced the text on behalf of the Group of 77 developing countries and orally revised it to indicate that the resident co-ordinators not only could help ensure but, indeed, should ensure co-ordination of activities. The Council's Second (Social) Committee approved the draft on 29 April by a recorded vote of 45 to 1, with 5 abstentions.

In a 13 April report to the Council on Programme implementation proposals,<sup>(2)</sup> the Secretary-General noted the suggestions made at the March meeting of the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, including the establishment of interorganizational working groups in the four regional commissions in developing regions. At the national level, designation of resident representatives of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as co-ordinators and team-leaders was considered helpful in maintaining co-operation among all United Nations organizations.

In addition, the Secretary-General informed the Council of activities undertaken by the Branch for the Advancement of Women, of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs (CSDHA), which served as the focal point of the Decade for Women, and noted that a programme of monitoring, review and research had been prepared to look into relationships between women's advancement and various determining factors.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION.** Welcoming the entry into force in 1981 of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (p. 994), the General Assembly affirmed on 14 December<sup>(4)</sup> that the implementation of the Programme of Action and recommendations made at the 1980 World Conference should result in the complete integration of women into the development process (p. 986) and in the effective

realization of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women.

The Assembly called on Governments to continue taking measures aimed at full implementation of the Programme, and urged United Nations organizations to devote resources and attention to Programme implementation and the regional commissions to report to the Economic and Social Council in 1982 on the evolution of women in their development programmes. It requested the Council to consider Programme implementation and the Commission on the Status of Women to submit in 1982 proposals for the preparations for the 1985 World Conference (p. 985). It emphasized the role of CSDHA as the focal point in the United Nations system for Programme implementation; stressed the need for close and continued co-operation between the United Nations system and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (p. 996); and took note with satisfaction of the effective contribution by the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women (p. 983) to the Programme's implementation.

The resolution was adopted without vote, following its approval in the same manner by the Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) Committee on 24 November.

The text was introduced by Algeria on behalf of the Group of 77 and was subsequently orally revised to incorporate some amendments suggested by France, such as deleting a request that the regional commissions submit reports on the subject every two years.

In explanation of positions, continued reservations on the Programme of Action, particularly its paragraph 5 containing a reference to Zionism as a form of racism, were expressed by Australia, Austria, Japan, New Zealand, Norway (for the Nordic countries), Portugal, the United Kingdom (on behalf of the 10 States members of the European Community) and the United States. Spain also reiterated the reservations it had expressed at the 1980 Conference, and Canada hoped the adoption of the text would help overcome the divisiveness that had arisen at that Conference as a result of the introduction of extraneous elements. Israel dissociated itself from the consensus on this and other resolutions based on the Programme of Action, which contained a call for the elimination of Zionism.

Support for the Programme was expressed during the Committee debate by a number of countries, including Afghanistan, Cape Verde, the Congo, the German Democratic Republic, Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Oman, Poland, Uganda, the Ukrainian SSR, the USSR and Zimbabwe.

The German Democratic Republic said the Programme provided effective machinery to ensure women's equality in all spheres of life. The Byelorussian SSR stated that implementation of the Programme's objectives depended on the nature and extent of national efforts, while the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya called for Programme implementation by international organizations and specialized agencies. Egypt thought that the Secretariat should have taken further steps to draw attention to the need to implement the Programme.

The Netherlands said it was endeavouring to formulate a national action programme based on the Programme, and New Zealand explained that, although it could not formally vote in favour of the Programme of Action, it had taken specific steps to implement a national programme. The importance of national action within the framework of the Programme was reaffirmed by several other States, including Belgium, Bolivia, the USSR and Yugoslavia.

Speaking for the Nordic countries, Denmark stated that only very slow progress had been made during the first half of the Decade and that determined political efforts were necessary if the Programme was to be implemented satisfactorily. Portugal and the United Kingdom thought that, despite some unacceptable elements, the Programme contained realistic proposals.

Reservations to the Programme were made by Chile. The United States declared it would continue to participate in activities beneficial to women and in efforts to attain the objectives of the Decade; however, propaganda must be left behind and attention must be given to the real problems of women which were the need for better food, better health facilities and care, education, and less arduous work.

Several countries attached importance to the provisions of the Programme linking the struggle for international peace and security with the struggle for women's equality (p. 990), among them Bulgaria, Cuba, the German Democratic Republic, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Uganda and the USSR.

Reports: S-G, <sup>(1)</sup>A/36/564 & Corr.1, <sup>(2)</sup>E/1981/32.

Resolutions: <sup>(3)</sup>ESC, 1981/12, 6 May, text following;

<sup>(4)</sup>GA, 36/126, 14 Dec., text following.

Yearbook reference: <sup>(5)</sup>1980, p. 890.

Meeting records: ESC: 2nd Committee, E/1981/C.2/SR.3-8, 10, 12 (16-29 Apr.); plenary, E/1981/SR.14 (6 May).

GA: 3rd Committee, A/C.3/36/SR.41, 44-48, 50, 51, 53, 59, 60 (5-24 Nov.); plenary, A/36/PV.97 (14 Dec.).

Statement: NGOs, E/1981/NGO/2.

Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/12

47-1-5 (recorded vote) Meeting 14 6 May 1981

Approved by Second Committee (E/1981/51) by recorded vote (45-1-5), 29 April (meeting 12); draft by Venezuela, for Group of 77 (E/1981/C.2/L.10), orally revised; agenda Item 9.

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Woman  
The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 35/136 of 11 December 1980, in which the Assembly endorsed the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, as adopted at the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 35/78 of 5 December 1980, in which the Assembly called upon all regional commissions and other organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to make every effort to implement the recommendations and resolutions of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women related to the integration of women in the development process,

Recognizing the need for women's active participation in the achievement of a just and lasting peace and social progress, the establishment of the new international economic order, complete respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and the integration of women into the development process so that the equality of men and women may be affirmed and their situation improved,

Reaffirming that the realization of equal rights for women at all levels and in all areas of life would contribute to the struggle for the elimination of colonialism, neo-colonialism, all forms of racism and racial discrimination and apartheid,

Emphasizing the need for urgent and full implementation of the special measures of assistance to women called for in the Programme of Action,

1. Reaffirms the importance of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women and stresses the need for its urgent and full implementation at the international, regional and national levels for the further promotion of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women;

2. Takes note of the proposals for the implementation of the Programme of Action contained in the report of the Secretary-General;

3. Recognizes that the resident co-ordinators of the operational activities for development of the United Nations should ensure co-ordination among the organizations of the United Nations system for the implementation of the Programme of Action;

4. Reaffirms the importance of strengthening and enhancing the role of the regional commissions, which should be kept informed of the progress achieved and actions taken at the global level by the United Nations system. In order to facilitate necessary follow-up at the regional level;

5. Takes note with interest of the system of co-ordination at the national level being developed by the Economic Commission for Africa;

6. Invites relevant specialized agencies, regional commissions and other United Nations organizations to provide information to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1982 on the follow-up action taken by them with a view to integrating their activities into the global effort to implement the Programme of Action;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to make available to the Commission on the Status of Women at its twenty-ninth session the information referred to in paragraph 6 above;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session a report containing concrete proposals and specific measures to ensure urgent and full implementation of the Programme of Action, including the special measures of assistance called for therein.

Recorded vote in Economic and Social Council as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Argentina, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Chile, China, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Jordan, Kenya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Senegal, Spain, Sudan, Thailand,

Turkey, USSR, United Republic of Cameroon, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: United States.

Abstaining: Australia, Canada, Germany, Federal Republic of Italy, United Kingdom.

General Assembly resolution 36/126

Adopted without vote Meeting 97 14 December 1981

Approved by Third Committee (A/36/789) without vote, 24 November (meeting 60): draft by Algeria, for Grout of 77 (A/C.3/36/L.47), orally revised, incorporating amendments by France (A/C.3/36/L.57, paras. 1,2 and 4-6): agenda item 88 (a).

United Nations Decade for Women:  
Equality, Development and Peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 35/136 of 11 December 1980, in which it endorsed the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, and decided to convene in 1985, at the conclusion of the Decade, a World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women,

Bearing in mind its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202(S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, and 3362(S-VII) of 16 September 1975, on development and International economic co-operation,

Emphasizing the importance attached in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade to the need to improve the status of women and ensure their full participation in the development process as agents and beneficiaries of development,

Taking note of chapter XXV, on the role of women in development, of the New Delhi Declaration, adopted by the conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Non-Aligned Countries, held at New Delhi from 9 to 13 February 1981,

Emphasizing that the recommendations made in the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the Decade and in other relevant decisions and resolutions adopted by the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women should immediately be translated into concrete action by States, the organizations of the United Nations system and inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations,

Welcoming the entry into force on 3 September 1981 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the growing number of States that have ratified it,

Convinced that the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women must be given the assistance needed to enable it to begin to function as early as possible in the host country,

Noting that the review and appraisal of the progress made by Governments in implementing the Programme of Action will be carried out by the Commission on the Status of Women every two years, beginning with the Commission's twenty-ninth session,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women,

1. Affirms that the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women and of the relevant recommendations, resolutions and decisions adopted by the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women should result in the complete integration of women into the development process and in the effective realization of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace;

2. Calls upon Governments to continue taking the measures necessary for achieving substantial progress in the implementation of the relevant recommendations of the Programme of Action with a view to ensuring equal participation by women as agents and beneficiaries in all sectors and at all levels of the development process;

3. Calls upon the organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, to reserve adequate resources for, and pay increased attention to, the implementation of the Programme of Action, particularly as regards the dissemination of information of the participation of women;

4. Urges the regional commissions to report in full to the Economic and Social Council, at its first regular session of 1982, on the evolution of the situation of women in all the sectors of their development programmes, in order to strengthen and reorient the programmes and reporting methods of those commissions, so as to reflect more adequately the regional concerns of women;

5. Requests the Economic and Social Council, at its first regular session of 1982, to consider the implementation of the Programme of Action, giving high priority in this regard to the report of the Commission on the Status of Women;

6. Emphasizes the role of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat as the focal point for the organizations of the United Nations system with regard to the implementation of the Programme of Action, in order to achieve the goals and objectives of the Decade, and requests the Secretary-General to give the Centre the assistance required to enable it to carry out its mandate;

7. Requests the Commission on the Status of Women at its twenty-ninth session, to be held in February 1982, to give priority to the question of the preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, to be held in 1985, which will mark the end of the Decade, with a view to submitting to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, specific proposals on that question;

8. Stresses the need for close and continued co-operation between the United Nations system and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to allow the Institute to carry out its mandate;

9. Takes note with satisfaction of the effective contribution made by the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women to the implementation of the Programme of Action;

10. Invites the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its thirty-seventh session, a report on the steps taken to implement the present resolution;

11. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-seventh session the item entitled "United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace".

Voluntary Fund for the Decade

In 1981, \$3.4 million in funding was approved for 68 new and five ongoing projects under the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, of which 56 were at the country level and 17 at the regional and subregional levels. Of all country projects financed from the Fund, 59 per cent were located in least developed, land-locked and island developing countries:

Rural and poor urban women, many of them heads of families, continued to be the Fund's major beneficiaries and there was a noticeable increase in 1981 in projects dealing with women in urban slums who worked in large-scale industries. Intended to give women more equitable access to the resources and benefits of the development process, the Fund continued to assist innovative and experimental activities which

could later be financed from other sources: energy projects originally sponsored by the Fund, for instance, attracted several million dollars from other funds in 1981.<sup>(4)</sup>

The \$2.1 million pledged at the 1981 United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities (p. 426) was considered insufficient to meet the multiplying demands on the Fund. Lack of resources affected the Fund's operations at a time when women's critical role in the fight against poverty had begun to be recognized and the Fund's activities were demonstrating that women could contribute more productively to development and participate more equitably in its benefits.

Information on developments and activities of the Fund in 1981, an outline of its financial situation and needs, and a summary of the recommendations made by the Consultative Committee on the Fund at its ninth (16-20 March) and tenth (31 August-4 September) sessions in New York, were contained in a November report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly.<sup>(2)</sup>

Concerning the Fund's future beyond the United Nations Decade for Women ending in 1985, the Consultative Committee noted that an overwhelming majority of responses from Member States and organs of the United Nations system were in favour of continuation, for reasons of the Fund's catalytic, innovative and co-ordinating roles as well as absence of other more immediate or permanent resources.<sup>(3)</sup> The Committee considered it desirable that an affirmative decision be taken following the 1985 World Conference (p. 985).

In its 14 December resolution on the United Nations Decade for Women,<sup>(5)</sup> the Assembly took note with satisfaction of the effective contribution made by the Fund to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the Decade. In a separate action, taken without vote on the same day,<sup>(6)</sup> the Assembly underlined the importance of the Fund's contributions towards realization of the goals of the Decade; decided that the Fund should continue its activities beyond the Decade; urged Member States to increase their contributions; and stressed the Fund's interrelationship with the Advancement of Women Branch of CSDHA (p. 985).

The draft was approved without vote in the Third Committee on 19 November, when it was introduced by the Netherlands, also on behalf of the Bahamas, Morocco, New Zealand, Oman, Samoa, Senegal and Somalia. It was presented as a compromise text incorporating the views contained in another draft which was co-sponsored, and later withdrawn, by India, Jamaica and Nigeria.<sup>(1)</sup> That draft, rather than noting the interrelationship, stressed the need for integration of the Fund's activities within CSDHA and emphasized

the importance of those activities' responding to the priorities in the Programme of Action.

Introducing the revised draft, the Netherlands said that, while there were divergent views on the Fund's future, there was clear support for its activities.

Appreciation and support for the Fund's activities, in particular projects in rural areas and for the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, was expressed during the Committee debate by a number of speakers, among them Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bhutan, Chile, Egypt, France, Japan, Malawi, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Uganda, the United Kingdom, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zimbabwe. Morocco noted with satisfaction that the Fund had financed 220 projects with contributions from 70 Member States, and New Zealand said the Fund had done much to increase the direct participation of women in development projects (p. 985). Sri Lanka welcomed in particular the emphasis on support to employment-generating activity. Nepal said the Fund's resources should be more closely geared to the needs of the poorest women in low-income countries, while Italy felt that the Fund should be not only a source of direct support for innovative and experimental activities benefiting rural and poor urban women, but also a catalyst encouraging major agencies and funds to consider women's needs in their development assistance programmes. Algeria considered that the Fund should enable the implementation of projects normally not included in national programming. Japan urged that efforts be made to involve more countries in the Fund's Consultative Committee.

Extension of the Fund beyond the end of the Decade was favoured by the majority of speakers, among them Belgium, Egypt, Ethiopia, Guyana, India, Morocco, Nepal, Suriname and Zimbabwe. The United Kingdom, on the other hand, said it would welcome more time to consider the matter, and Australia felt that the Fund should be retained at the end of 1985 but as a special fund within UNDP. The Netherlands hoped that, by the end of the Decade, United Nations agencies would have integrated the Fund's activities in their regular programmes. Yugoslavia was convinced that CSDHA would succeed in finding the most propitious way of ensuring continuation of the Fund's activities.

Several countries, including Benin, Sierra Leone and Uganda, expressed concern at the shortage of the Fund's resources and appealed for generous contributions.

The following table shows the status, as at 31 December 1981, of contributions and pledges made to the Fund.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE VOLUNTARY FUND FOR THE  
UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN, 1981 AND 1982  
(as at 31 December 1981; In US dollar equivalent)

Country	1981 payment	1982 pledge
Algeria	5,000	-
Australia	-	174,419
Austria	21,000	21,000
Barbados	1,000	-
Belgium	130,582	-
Bolivia	10,101	-
Brazil	10,000	-
Chile	5,000	5,000
China	50,000	-
Democratic Yemen	3,646	1,323
Denmark	-	37,241
Finland	116,360	112,360
France	16,949	35,398
Greece	3,500	-
Honduras	3,000	1,000
Iceland	2,000	1,000
India	15,000	6,000
Indonesia	-	20,000
Iraq	-	2,000
Italy	126,840	254,237
Lesotho	-	500
Luxembourg	7,485	-
Madagascar	-	883
Maldives	1,000	-
Mexico	5,073	5,195
Netherlands	128,070	-
New Zealand	8,286	-
Nigeria	9,058	-
Norway	290,670	672,269
Pakistan	10,101	10,101
Philippines	5,000	6,000
Qatar	5,000	5,000
Republic of Korea	-	2,000
Samoa	300	-
Sao Tome and Principe	500	-
Senegal	-	1,000
Spain	-	60,000
Sweden	100,000	100,000
Switzerland	50,000	-
Syrian Arab Republic	500	-
Thailand	2,000	-
Togo	1,807	-
Trinidad and Tobago	-	1,008
Turkey	125	-
United Republic of Cameroon	-	2,209
United Republic of Tanzania	2,442	2,442
United States	1,000,000	-
Zimbabwe	-	5,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,147,395</b>	<b>1,544,585</b>

Draft resolution withdrawn <sup>(1)</sup>India, Jamaica, Nigeria, A/C.3/36/L.49.

Reports: S-G, <sup>(2)</sup>A/36/646, <sup>(3)</sup>A/36/647 & Corr.1, <sup>(4)</sup>DP/1982/22.

Resolutions: GA. 14 Dec.: <sup>(5)</sup>36/126, para. 9 (p. 982); <sup>(6)</sup>36/129, text following.

Meeting Records: GA: 3rd Committee, A/C.3/36/SR.41, 44-48, 50, 51, 57(5-19 Nov.); plenary, A/36/PV.97(14Dec.).

#### General Assembly resolution 36/129

Adopted without vote Meeting 97 14 December 1981

Approved by Third Committee (A/36/789) Without vote, 19 November (meeting 57); 8-nation draft (A/C.3/36/L.52/Rev.1); agenda item 88 (b).

Sponsors: Bahamas, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Oman, Samoa, Senegal, Somalia.

#### Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women The General Assembly.

Recalling its resolution 3520(XXX) of 15 December 1975, by which it proclaimed the period from 1976 to 1985 United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recalling its decision of 15 December 1975 to extend the activities of the Voluntary Fund for the International Women's Year so as to cover the period of the Decade,

Recalling its resolution 31/133 of 16 December 1976, containing the criteria and arrangements for the management of the Fund,

Recalling its resolution 32/138 of 16 December 1977,

Recalling also its resolution 34/156 of 17 December 1979, in which it expressed the desire to see the activities developed by the Fund continued beyond the United Nations Decade for Women and decided to review at its thirty-sixth session the decision regarding the location of the Fund in New York,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/3 of 16 April 1980,

Bearing in mind Its resolution 35/136 of 11 December 1980, in which it endorsed the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women,

Conscious that the Fund is intended to supplement, through financial and technical support, the activities for implementing the goals for the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Noting with appreciation the effective management and continuing expansion of the Fund's activities and the co-operation extended by the relevant organs of the United Nations, including the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and the regional commissions,

Reaffirming the role of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat as the focal point for inter-agency co-operation towards the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Noting with appreciation the support given by the Fund to projects in the developing countries,

/Voting also with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General on the future of the Fund,

1. Notes with satisfaction the decisions of the Consultative Committee on the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women during Its ninth and tenth sessions;

2. Expresses its appreciation for the voluntary contributions pledged by Member States and urges them to contribute or increase their contributions to the Fund;

3. Decides that the Fund should continue its activities beyond the United Nations Decade for Women;

4. Stresses the importance of the contributions of the Fund towards the realization of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women;

5. Stresses also the interrelationship of the Voluntary Fund with the Advancement of Women Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, of the Secretariat:

6. Requests the Secretary-General to invite the views of Member States on how best the Fund can continue its activities beyond the Decade and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session:

7. Requests also the Secretary-General, taking into account the views expressed by Member States on this matter, to submit to the General Assembly at Its thirty-ninth session a report on the substantive and financial implications of, and his proposals for the timing and modalities for, a relocation of the Fund within the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat in order to enable Member States to take a decision in the matter.

#### Location of the Fund

The Secretary-General noted in his November 1981 report<sup>(1)</sup> that the question of the Fund's location had elicited responses from 24 Member States, of which 12 considered that the Fund should remain in New York, 11 favoured its location at Vienna, Austria, and one wished to

make no comment. He recalled that while the Fund's managing body, CSDHA, had moved to Vienna in 1979, the Fund itself remained administratively located in New York. In view of the fact that the Fund's activities were essential for achieving the goals of the Decade and integral to the continuing programme for the advancement of women, with which CSDHA was charged, the Secretary-General considered it logical and desirable that the Fund's operation be fully integrated within CSDHA at Vienna.

The General Assembly, in a resolution of 14 December,<sup>(2)</sup> requested the Secretary-General to submit in 1984 a report on the substantive and financial implications of, and his proposals for the timing and modalities for, a relocation of the Fund within CSDHA in order to enable Member States to decide on the matter.

During the debate in the Assembly's Third Committee, several countries, including Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Jamaica, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Suriname, spoke for relocation of the Fund to Vienna, while others, such as Australia, Guyana, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States, thought it should remain in New York.

Nigeria expressed regret that a final decision had not been reached and Pakistan urged a quick decision. Malawi, on the other hand, said the proposal to relocate the Fund must be carefully assessed with regard to the Fund's effectiveness, and Ethiopia felt that a change of location required stronger justification than had been presented. Sri Lanka considered it preferable to await the results of the deliberations of the Fund's Consultative Committee, rather than attempt to resolve the question in 1981. In Egypt's view, the decision should be based on practical considerations and should ensure that the Fund's activities were not adversely affected.

Report: <sup>(1)</sup>S-G, A/36/647.

Resolution: <sup>(2)</sup>GA, 36/129, para. 7, 14 Dec. (p. 984).

#### 1985 World Conference

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, to be convened in 1985 at the conclusion of the Decade, was to review achievements and consider a strategy for future United Nations activities. The decision to hold the Conference was taken by the General Assembly in December 1980.<sup>(2)</sup>

In an October 1981 report,<sup>(1)</sup> the Secretary-General indicated that the Secretariat was giving preliminary consideration to the Conference's preparation and a report would be submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women in 1982. Preliminary arrangements were also

being made to ensure that the procedures for undertaking the 1982-1983 round of monitoring, review and appraisal of implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the Decade (p. 979) and other international instruments for the advancement of women were adapted to the need to provide the Conference with up-to-date information.

In its 14 December resolution on the Decade,<sup>(3)</sup> the General Assembly requested the Commission on the Status of Women, at its February 1982 session, to give priority consideration to the question of preparations for the 1985 World Conference and to submit specific proposals to the Assembly at its 1982 session, through the Economic and Social Council.

Speaking during the Third Committee's debate on women, Argentina expressed the hope that, in preparing for the Conference, the Commission would take into account the need to strengthen those activities in which the least progress had been achieved. Nepal said preparatory measures should be intensified on all levels, and Yugoslavia held it necessary to make new efforts for co-ordination within the United Nations system in preparing for the Conference. Stating that the political elements introduced at the 1980 World Conference had prevented a consensus on the Programme of Action and relevant resolutions, Chile stressed the importance of careful preparations for the 1985 Conference.

Report: <sup>(1)</sup>S-G, A/36/564 & Corr.1.

Resolutions: GA: <sup>(2)</sup>35/136, 11 Dec. 1980, para. 17 (YUN 1980, p. 906); <sup>(3)</sup>36/126, para. 7, 14 Dec. 1981 (p. 982).

## Women and society

### Women in development

Calls for greater recognition of women's right to participate in development, both as agents and as beneficiaries, were issued in many international forums during 1981.

Making that call to all United Nations organizations, the Economic and Social Council, in a 6 May resolution adopted without vote, also invited them not to perpetuate the widely accepted idea that women constituted a marginal category relating only to social welfare.<sup>(6)</sup> The text was approved likewise on 29 April by the Council's Second (Social) Committee, where it was introduced by France, also on behalf of Belgium and Poland, and was orally revised by the sponsors on the basis of consultations to replace "commonly" with "widely".

Information contributed by various United Nations organs and agencies was submitted by the Secretary-General in a 16 September note to the General Assembly,<sup>(1)</sup> concerning their assessment of women's involvement in financial and

technical support activities and evaluation of the impact of those activities on women.

The Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund observed that low governmental priorities for women's concerns and the ad hoc nature of women's projects seemed to indicate that many policy-makers viewed programmes for women as a drain on the national budget rather than as productive investments or even as cost-effective welfare expenditures. Governments needed to be made aware of women's multiple roles as integral to the successful implementation of national policies and overall economic development.<sup>(4)</sup>

Echoing that sentiment, the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, meeting in New York from 1 to 8 June, invited Governments and United Nations organizations to promote complete integration of women in the technical co-operation process.<sup>(10)</sup>

The Industrial Development Board of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) on 30 May<sup>(3)</sup> recognized that the integration of women should be seen as an intrinsic element in UNIDO activities; considered that the impact of UNIDO efforts to increase the participation of women in the development process must be greatest in the developing countries themselves; and requested the secretariat to focus on activities aimed at generating employment for women in their home countries.

The UNIDO Executive Director, in a report submitted through the Secretary-General to the General Assembly in September,<sup>(5)</sup> discussed relevant activities of the organization, including a Seminar on the Role of Women in the Development of Industrial Branches Traditionally Employing Female Labour, scheduled for October at Sofia, Bulgaria. However, due to increased financial and staff constraints, UNIDO indicated its inability to carry out proposed new activities for women, except those for which extrabudgetary resources might be made available. The Assembly took note of the report on 4 December without vote,<sup>(11)</sup> as did its Second (Economic and Financial) Committee on 20 November when it approved the text as orally proposed by its Chairman. By the same decision, the Assembly took note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the role of United Nations agencies and organizations in facilitating the integration of women in rural development (p. 987) and on the implementation of the resolution on women, science and technology, adopted by the 1979 United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (p. 992).

By a note verbale of 9 September to the Secretary-General, Cuba transmitted the Final

Document adopted at the meeting of High-level Experts of Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries Concerned with the Role of 'Women in Development, held at Havana, Cuba, From 25 to 27 May.<sup>(2)</sup> It contained a programme of action aimed at contributing to women's total liberation from domination, subordination and socio-political inequality, enabling them to possess true human dignity and lead independent and creative lives.

The Assembly, in its 14 December resolution on the United Nations Decade for Women,<sup>(8)</sup> affirmed that the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the Decade and of the relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the 1980 World Conference should result in the complete integration of women into the development process, and called on Governments to continue taking measures to ensure women's equal participation as agents and beneficiaries in all sectors and at all levels of that process. The Assembly urged the regional commissions to report to the Economic and Social Council in 1982 on the evolution of women in their development programmes so that programmes and reporting methods could be adjusted to reflect more adequately women's regional concerns.

In related action, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare a multisectoral and interdisciplinary survey on women's role in development,<sup>(7)</sup> and further defined the role of its Third Committee and the Commission on the Status of Women in relation to questions on women's role in development.<sup>(9)</sup>

During discussions in the Assembly's Second and Third Committees, many speakers, including Bolivia, Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Chad, China, Denmark, Finland, France, the German Democratic Republic, Greece, Grenada, Guyana, Italy, Kenya, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Yemen and Yugoslavia, underlined the importance of women's participation in the development process. Uganda said the integration of women in development had to be viewed in the light of the new international economic order, while Morocco held it premature to call on women to contribute to the establishment of such an order. Mexico considered the full implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the Decade (p. 979) as a key element for the total integration of women in the development process.

France said that, while the international community should focus its efforts on poor countries, women's role in economic life should also be promoted in industrialized countries; it asserted that some of the United Nations measures to



involve women in development had been left in abeyance because of the lack of resources and staff.

Italy believed that many United Nations organizations and programmes were increasingly committed to involving women in their financial and technical support activities. Denmark, speaking for the Nordic countries in the Third Committee, thought that only very slow progress had been made during the first half of the Decade and, in many cases, the situation of women had worsened; solutions to the social and economic problems affecting women must be integrated in the planning and implementation of regular programmes and activities, not only in those specifically designed for women. A similar opinion was expressed in the Second Committee by Finland, also on behalf of the Nordic States.

Note: <sup>(1)</sup>S-G, A/36/485.

Note verbale: <sup>(2)</sup>Cuba, 9 Sep., annexing report of high-level experts, A/36/490.

Reports: <sup>(3)</sup>IDB, A/36/16; <sup>(4)</sup>UNICEF Executive Director, E/ICEF/690; <sup>(5)</sup>UNIDO Executive Director, transmitted by S-G note, A/36/470.

Resolutions and decisions:

Resolutions: <sup>(6)</sup>ESC: 1981/26, 6 May, text following GA: <sup>(7)</sup>36/74, 4 Dec. (p. 989); <sup>(8)</sup>36/126 (p. 982), <sup>(9)</sup>36/127 (p. 990), 14 Dec.

Decisions: <sup>(10)</sup>Committee on TCDC (report, A/36/39): 2/2,7 June. <sup>(11)</sup>GA: 36/422, 4 Dec., text following.

Meeting records: ESC: 2nd Committee, E/1981/C.2/SR.3-8, 9, 12 (16-29 Apr.); plenary, E/1981/SR.14 (6 May). GA: 2nd Committee, A/C.2/36/SR.3-6, 10-26, 28-32, 42 (24 Sep.-20 Nov.); plenary, A/36/PV.84 (4 Dec.).

Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/26

Adopted without vote Meeting 14 6 May 1981

Approved by Second Committee (E/1981/57) without vote, 29 April (meeting 12): J-nation draft (E/1981/C.2/L.4), orally revised; agenda item 10.

Sponsors: Belgium, France, Poland.

#### Women and development

The Economic and Social Council,

Having taken cognizance of the report of the Commission for Social Development on its twenty-seventh session,

Recalling the contents of the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Social Aspects of the Development Activities of the United Nations.

Conscious that women, like men, are an integral part of the population of the world,

Aware that women, like men, participate in the economic, social and cultural development of their country, although too frequently in a subordinate capacity.

1. Invites all the organizations of the United Nations system to refrain from perpetuating the widely accepted idea that women constitute a marginal category relating only to social welfare;

2. Calls upon all the organizations of the United Nations System to emphasize the right of women to participate, as agents and as beneficiaries, in all aspects of economic and social development.

General Assembly decision 36/422

Adopted without vote

Approved by Second Committee (A/36/694/Add.11) without vote. 20 November (meeting 42): oral proposal by Chairman (paras. (a) -(c) as a whole); agenda item 69 (I).

#### Effective mobilization and Integration of women in development

At Its 84th plenary meeting, on 4 December 1981, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee, took note of the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization on the Integration of women in development:

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the role of United Nations agencies and organizations in assisting Governments to facilitate the integration of women in rural development;

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the Implementation of resolution 2, entitled "Women, science and technology", adopted by the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development.

#### Rural areas

As requested by the General Assembly in a December 1980 resolution,<sup>(2)</sup> the Secretary-General reported in October 1981 on a wide range of activities undertaken by United Nations agencies and organizations to assist Governments in facilitating the integration of women in rural development,<sup>(1)</sup> including those relating to equality of legal status; access to rural services; women's organization and participation; educational and employment opportunities; problems resulting from migration from rural to urban areas; training; impact of agro-business on women's traditional work; and women's participation in the co-operative movement and access to land, credit and marketing facilities (p. 399).

Within the United Nations Secretariat, the integrated reporting system on the status of women, for instance, was anticipated to enable clearer identification of the special problems of women in rural development, and a study which was expected to be completed during the year included a comprehensive survey of rural women workers with 'special reference to labour legislation and maternity protection.

On 4 December, the Assembly took note of the Secretary-General's report.<sup>(3)</sup>

In the Third Committee debate on women, France said discrimination against women would not disappear until the poorest women and women in rural areas had access to the same general opportunities as other women.

Report: <sup>(1)</sup>S-G, A/36/475.

Resolution and decision: Res.: <sup>(2)</sup>GA, 35/78, para. 9, 5 Dec. 1980 (YUN 1980, p. 922). Dec.: <sup>(3)</sup>GA, 36/422, para. (b), 4 Dec. 1981 (p. 987).

#### Survey on women in development

In response to a General Assembly call of December 1980 for preparation of a comprehensive outline for an interdisciplinary and multisectoral world survey on women's role in overall development,<sup>(4)</sup> the Secretary-General proposed in an October 1981 report to the Assembly<sup>(2)</sup> that the survey be prepared by the Centre for Social

Development and Humanitarian Affairs as part of its regular work programme, and that the final draft be submitted by the end of 1983, with the anticipated publication date in mid-1984.

It was further proposed that the survey comprise two parts, the first focusing on women in rural/urban sectors and studying the implications of women's limited participation in production and politics, and the second being organized from the viewpoint of the individual life cycle, with particular attention to health, education and employment.

Acting without vote, the Assembly recommended on 4 December 1981<sup>(5)</sup> that the survey should analyse the role of women in relation to key developmental issues as envisaged in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,<sup>(3)</sup> focusing in particular on trade, agriculture, industry, energy, money and finance, and science and technology. The Assembly recommended that the survey should include an assessment of benefits women derived from their participation in development, and should cover ways and means of improving women's role as agents and beneficiaries of development (p. 985) as well as the potential impact of such improvements on the achievement of overall development goals. Further, it invited the Secretary-General to give due attention to the achievement of goals of self-reliance and to economic and technical cooperation among developing countries; to prepare the survey with contributions from all United Nations organs and organizations, including the regional commissions and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women; and to submit a progress report in 1982 and the survey in its final form in 1984.

The revised text was approved by the Second (Economic and Financial) Committee on 20 November, also without vote, after the USSR withdrew its proposal<sup>(1)</sup> for an additional preambular paragraph dealing with the provisions of the report of the 1980 World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women and the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. As a result of consultations, the preamble of the final text included a general reference to relevant documents adopted at the World Conference.

In explanation of positions, Poland, speaking on behalf of the Eastern European States, asserted that the survey should aim at guaranteeing the equality of women and their participation in the struggle against all forms of racism and foreign domination (p. 990). While joining the consensus, the United States reiterated its objection

to those provisions of the Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference which were not connected with the real problems of 'women. Israel joined the consensus on the understanding that the third preambular paragraph mentioning provisions of documents adopted at the Conference referred exclusively to the agreed measures concerning the integration of women in development; it remained opposed to certain ill-advised politicizing provisions of the Programme of Action.

Introducing the original draft on behalf of the 14 sponsors, Egypt said it was designed to put the survey on the right course; the outline as proposed by the Secretary-General was incoherent, particularly in the first part, and reflected the traditional and stereotypical approaches adopted in earlier surveys. Egypt in particular objected to the proposal for emphasizing the rural and urban sectors rather than the different sectors of the economy; the situation of women in the rural world had already been studied on many occasions and, with regard to part two of the outline, the survey should rather deal with economic aspects than be organized from the viewpoint of the individual life cycle of women. Also, the preparation of the survey should not be entrusted to one particular department but should be dealt with by all specialized agencies dealing with economic development.

Ecuador expressed regret that the multidisciplinary and multisectoral approach had been abandoned and emphasis had been placed on the social aspect which had already been considered at the World Conference. It was useless to duplicate such work or the work done by the Third Committee; what was needed was a survey reflecting the reality of the situation of women in various sectors of the economy.

Meanwhile in the Third Committee, Italy expressed agreement with the structure and content of the proposed outline of the survey, in particular with the necessity of identifying the causes of the ineffectiveness and distortion of the role of women in the development process, of studying the existing relationships between women as individuals and the social environment, and the salient issues of women at all ages. Morocco wondered to what extent it would be possible for the Commission on the Status of Women to participate in the preparation of the survey, and France thought the Commission should be consulted during its elaboration.

Australia hoped that the results of such meetings as the Expert Group Meeting on Women and the International Development Strategy, scheduled for December 1981, would be taken into account in the preparation of the survey.

Amendment withdrawn: <sup>(1)</sup>USSR, A/C.2/36/L.81.  
 Report: <sup>(2)</sup>S-G, A/36/590.  
 Resolutions: GA: <sup>(3)</sup>35/56, annex, 5 Dec. 1980 (YUN 1980, p. 503); <sup>(4)</sup>35/78, para. 10, 5 Dec. 1980 (*ibid.*, p. 922); <sup>(5)</sup>36/74, 4 Dec. 1981, text following.  
 Meeting records: GA: 2nd Committee, A/C.2/36/SR.3-6, 10-26, 28, 29-32, 41, 42 (24 Sep.-20 Nov.); plenary, A/36/PV.84 (4 Dec.).

#### General Assembly resolution 36/74

Adopted without vote Meeting 84 4 December 1981

Approved by Second Committee (A/36/694/Add.11) without vote, 20 November (meeting 42); 14-nation draft (A/C.2/36/L.26/Rev.2); agenda item 69 (D).

Sponsors: Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Chad, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Guinea, India, Mali, Netherlands, Peru, Singapore.

#### Comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

Recalling also its resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980, the annex to which contains the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,

Recalling further the provisions concerning the participation of women in development contained in the documents adopted at the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recalling its resolution 35/78 of 5 December 1980 on the effective mobilization and integration of women in development, in which it, *inter alia*, called for the preparation of a comprehensive and detailed outline for an interdisciplinary and multisectoral world survey on the role of women in overall development,

Bearing in mind the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, in particular the special provisions relating to the integration of women in overall development with a view to securing women's equal participation both as agents and as beneficiaries in all sectors and at all levels of the development process,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on a comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development,

1. Emphasizes the need for a multisectoral and interdisciplinary survey on the role of women in development;

2. Recommends that the survey should analyse the role of women in relation to key developmental issues as envisaged in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, focusing in particular on trade, agriculture, industry, energy, money and finance, and science and technology;

3. Further recommends that, in its analysis, the survey should cover:

(a) The present role of women as active agents of development in each sector;

(b) An assessment of the benefits accruing to women as a result of their participation in development, namely, income, conditions of work, and decision-making;

(c) Ways and means of improving women's role as agents and beneficiaries of development at the national, regional and international levels;

(d) The potential impact of such improvements on the achievement of overall development goals;

4. Invites the Secretary-General, in preparing the survey, to give due attention to the problems and requirements of women in every region and to the contribution of women to the achievement of goals of self-reliance and to economic and technical co-operation among developing countries;

5. Calls upon the Secretary-General to include in the survey an overview analysing interrelationships among key developmental issues with regard to women's current and future roles in development with a view to providing a basis for future action for women's effective mobilization and integration in development;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare the survey in close collaboration and co-operation with the appropriate organizations of the United Nations system and with contributions from all organs and organizations concerned of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, as well as national institutions having expertise on this subject;

7. Further requests the Secretary-General to submit a progress report on the preparation of the survey to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session and to submit the survey in its final form to the Assembly at its thirty-ninth session.

#### Role of the Third Committee and the Commission on the Status of Women

On the recommendation of its Third Committee, the General Assembly, by a resolution adopted without vote on 14 December 1981,<sup>(1)</sup> recommended that documents on the integration of women in development be made available to the Third Committee and that the Assembly's General Committee be informed of this wish. The Assembly expressed the desire that the Third Committee be seized of the world survey on the role of women in development (p. 987) and requested that the Commission on the Status of Women be consulted in its preparation. In addition, the Assembly requested the Commission to give special attention at its 1982 session to questions on women's participation in development.

The Committee approved the text without vote on 19 November after agreeing to incorporate a number of oral amendments by Canada and Egypt. Canada's proposals dealt with the preambular paragraphs, making them more general in nature, while the Egyptian proposal specifically requested transmittal of documents to the Third Committee rather than allocating the item and relevant documents to both the Second and Third Committees. Further, on the basis of an Egyptian proposal, a new operative paragraph was inserted to define the role of the Third Committee in the world survey.

Introducing the text, also on behalf of Chad, Italy, the Ivory Coast, the Philippines and Romania, France considered it sometimes useful that questions involving a number of aspects be studied in different committees and that there should be communication and a transmittal of documents between them; such joint consideration was already practised in a number of national parliaments and the approach suggested in the draft would enable the Assembly to consider development as a whole rather than dividing it into compartments.

Speaking during the debate on women in the Third Committee, Jamaica expressed the view that the time had come for rationalizing the way the Assembly dealt with women's issues; currently, the Third and Second Committees each dealt with different aspects on the basis of different documents.

Resolution: <sup>(1)</sup>GA, 36/127, 14 Dec., text following.  
Meeting records: GA: 3rd Committee, A/C.3/36/SR.41, 44-48, 50, 51, 53, 57 (5-19 Nov.); plenary, A/36/PV.97 (14 Dec.).

#### General Assembly resolution 36/127

Adopted without vote Meeting 97 14 December 1981

Approved by Third Committee (A/36/789) without vote, 19 November (meeting 57); B-nation draft (A/C.3/36/L.50), orally amended by Canada and by Egypt and orally revised; agenda item 88.

Sponsors: Chad, France, Italy, Ivory Coast, Philippines, Romania.

Consideration within the United Nations of questions concerning the role of women in development

The General Assembly.

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

Recalling further its resolution 35/78 of 5 December 1980 in which it emphasized the need to integrate the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women into the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,

Having taken cognizance of the report prepared by the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Social Aspects of the Development Activities of the United Nations, established pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/45 of 11 May 1979, and, in particular, of paragraphs 80 to 82 of the report,

Having also taken cognizance of the report of the Secretary-General, which contains a comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development,

1. Recommends, in the light of paragraphs 80 to 82 of the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Social Aspects of the Development Activities of the United Nations, that documents concerning the Integration of women in development should be made available to the Third Committee under the relevant agenda item;

2. Expresses the desire that the recommendation in paragraph 1 above should be brought to the attention of the General Committee of the General Assembly;

3. Expresses also the desire that the Third Committee should be seized of the world survey on the role of women in development, whose comprehensive outline is contained in the report of the Secretary-General;

4. Requests the Commission on the Status of Women to give special attention at its twenty-ninth session, to be held in February 1982, to questions pertaining to the participation of women in development, under its agenda item 3 concerning the Implementation of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the Commission on the Status of Women is consulted in the preparation of the world survey on the role of women in development requested by the General Assembly in paragraph 10 of its resolution 35/78 and, to the extent possible, regarding any survey or proposed action concerning women.

#### Women and peace

##### Draft Declaration

In 1981, the General Assembly again deferred action on a draft Declaration on women and peace, an idea which first emerged in 1977.<sup>(8)</sup> Ex-

pressing appreciation of the interest shown and the discussions held on the draft Declaration on the Participation of Women in the Struggle for the Strengthening of International Peace and for the Solution of Other Vital National and International Problems, and realizing that neither the debate nor the examination of proposals could be concluded in 1981 due to lack of time, the Assembly, in a 14 December decision adopted without vote,<sup>(10)</sup> requested the Secretary-General to present a report based on further comments from Member States, with a view to ensuring an early adoption of the draft Declaration at the Assembly's 1982 session.

The text, as orally proposed by Ethiopia on behalf of the sponsors of the draft Declaration, was approved without vote by the Third Committee on 3 December.

Explaining its position on the decision, the German Democratic Republic asserted that it did not feel proper procedure had been followed in dealing with the draft. The United Kingdom reiterated the view that the draft Declaration should be referred first to the Commission on the Status of Women.

For its consideration, the Assembly had before it a report plus addendum submitted by the Secretary-General,<sup>(7)</sup> containing the views of 25 Governments on the draft Declaration, as received until 3 November 1981 in response to its December 1980 call,<sup>(9)</sup> as well as two documents, transmitted by a note verbale of 20 October from Czechoslovakia<sup>(6)</sup> - an "Appeal to Women of the World", calling for a stop to the arms race, and a declaration entitled "Equality, National Independence, Peace" - both adopted by the World Congress of Women, held at Prague, Czechoslovakia, from 8 to 13 October, with participants from 132 countries and 234 national and 90 international organizations.

Introducing the 30-nation draft Declaration,<sup>(3)</sup> the German Democratic Republic stated that it aimed at creating, with women's participation, the conditions necessary for guaranteeing such social rights as the maintenance of peace and the elimination of colonialism, racism and apartheid. The draft was originally entitled "Draft Declaration on the Participation of Women in the Struggle for the Strengthening of International Peace and Security and Against Colonialism, Apartheid All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Foreign Aggression, Occupation and All Forms of Foreign Domination".

The text, consisting of a preamble and three operative parts, incorporated several written and oral amendments by a number of countries, including an oral proposal by Singapore to insert the words "intervention and" in the phrase "foreign aggression" throughout the text. Amend-

ments by Australia and New Zealand dealt mainly with the incorporation of phrases on the elimination of sexism and discrimination against women,<sup>(4)</sup> and Morocco's amendments concerned insertion or rewording of phrases, including a reference to respect for national sovereignty.<sup>(5)</sup> By making a series of oral amendments, including insertion of reference to foreign intervention and domination as well as new forms of colonialism, Pakistan withdrew the amendments it had originally submitted in writing.<sup>(1)</sup>

The sponsors, however, categorically rejected a series of amendments proposed by the United States,<sup>(2)</sup> calling them a manoeuvre to create confusion, delay adoption of the text and divert it from its main purpose. The United States remarked that its amendments were intended to highlight the draft's inadequacies, incompleteness and selective approach to women's rights. The proposed amendments suggested insertion, throughout the text, of denunciation of, among others, threats or use of force, arbitrary arrest and detention, totalitarianism, chemical and biological warfare, systematic denial of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and suppression of peaceful political dissent.

In the preamble of the text as presented and revised by the sponsors, the Assembly would have expressed serious concern at the continuing arms race and colonial racist oppression, emphasized the need for a just restructuring of international economic relations and welcomed women's contribution to the strengthening of international peace and security. Member States would have been invited to put into action the principles contained in the operative part of the Declaration.

Article 1 on women's rights would have recommended encouragement of equal participation of women in the political and economic affairs of society, including, as suggested by Australia and New Zealand,<sup>(4)</sup> the decision-making processes.

By article 2, States would have been encouraged to create the necessary prerequisites for women's participation in the struggle for disarmament, through freedom of speech and assembly, as proposed by Australia and New Zealand; the resources released as a result of disarmament were to be used for economic and social development in the developing countries, with special attention to the advancement of women and to the protection of mother and child.

Under article 3, all obstacles to achieving world-wide peace and the happiness and welfare of women were to be eliminated. Among the list of obstacles, proposals by Australia and New Zealand for inclusion of reference to sex discrimination and human rights violations were ac-

cepted, whereas those for the suppression of peaceful political dissent were not.

Article 4 would have had all forms of oppression and inhuman treatment of women considered contrary to the Charter of the United Nations and recognized as a matter of concern to the international community, as suggested by Australia and New Zealand, rather than as crimes against humanity and gross violations of human rights as originally phrased. Comprehensive solidarity and assistance would be rendered to those women who were victims of foreign aggression and racism and who were compelled to live under most adverse conditions.

By article 5, the full sovereign right of every State to establish an economic, social and political order of its own choice free from foreign intervention was to be ensured with a view to safeguarding international peace and creating the socio-economic conditions for women's development.

In part II of the draft Declaration, the Assembly would have called on all States to ensure implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women (p. 979) and adopt programmes for the achievement of the goals of the Declaration, including exchange of experience, ensuring women freedom of thought and expression, and provision of effective legal remedies against violation of their fundamental rights. While a number of amendments, or their essence, by Australia, Morocco and New Zealand were incorporated in part II, a proposal by Australia and New Zealand, for insertion of a paragraph calling for States' dedication to the elimination of all exploitative and dependent relations, including those between women and men, was not accepted by the draft's sponsors.

Under part III, the Assembly and other United Nations bodies would have been called on to review regularly the progress made in promoting the equality of women in respect of their participation in the struggle for peace and for the solution of other vital national and international problems.

In the Third Committee debate, while a number of States, including Afghanistan, Cuba, Democratic Yemen, Ethiopia, the Gambia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Sierra Leone, the Ukrainian SSR, the USSR and Viet Nam, urged adoption of the draft Declaration without delay, the wisdom of the negotiating and drafting procedures used as well as the contents of the text were questioned by many others.

Portugal and the United States asserted that the draft was based on closed bilateral negotia-

tions rather than on multilateral consultations and debate as befitting an international instrument. Belgium, the United Kingdom and the United States questioned the validity of unilateral and selective acceptance or rejection of amendments, as practised by the sponsors, as if the draft were a resolution rather than a declaration.

Observing that no competent body had discussed or endorsed the draft Declaration before its submission to the Third Committee, Australia, Belgium, Pakistan, the United Kingdom (speaking for the member countries of the European Community (EC)) and the United States asserted that the draft should be referred to the Commission on the Status of Women, while Ghana suggested that the Assembly should establish a small joint committee consisting of representatives of the Third Committee and the Sixth (Legal) Committee. Several other countries, including Canada, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, Portugal, Singapore and Spain, also deemed it advisable not to act with haste on the text before detailed consideration took place in a suitable forum. Belgium, Denmark, Ghana, the Netherlands and Pakistan also urged postponement of action on the draft.

Doubts were expressed by Belgium, Canada, Ghana, Japan, the Netherlands, Spain and the United Kingdom about the ideological aspects of the text, its validity as well as its relevance to the question of women. Still others, such as Australia, Morocco, New Zealand, Pakistan and the United States, spoke of omissions and a selective approach to the real problems facing women.

Belgium and the United Kingdom, the latter for the EC members, considered that the text, rather than referring to women's rights, contained didactic and paternalistic expressions and highly debatable assertions; they expressed concern that the draft might perpetuate sex discrimination by implying that women could not claim rights which were not specifically acknowledged as theirs. As political considerations and goals applied equally to both sexes, Ireland proposed replacing the word "women" with more general terms such as "individuals and peoples" in a number of articles.

The need for a declaration in general was questioned by several speakers, such as Canada, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand and the United States. In addition, noting the absence of declarations granting particular rights to particular social groups, the United Kingdom feared the possible consequences of creating a precedent by adopting the draft.

Most Eastern European countries, as well as Cuba, Sierra Leone and Viet Nam, regarded the Declaration as a substantive contribution to-

wards achieving the goals of the Decade for women. Support for the draft was also expressed by others, among them Benin, the Congo and Suriname.

Amendments: <sup>(1)</sup>Pakistan, A/C.3/36/L.84 (withdrawn);

<sup>(2)</sup>United States, A/C.3/36/L.86 (not acted upon).

Draft resolution deferred: <sup>(3)</sup>Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bulgaria, Cape Verde, Congo, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Ethiopia, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Iraq, Jordan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mali, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukrainian SSR, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe, A/C.3/36/L.48/Rev.2 (incorporating some amendments by <sup>(4)</sup>Australia and New Zealand, A/C.3/36/L.85; and amendments by <sup>(5)</sup>Morocco, A/C.3/36/L.76).

Note verbale: <sup>(6)</sup>Czechoslovakia, 20 Oct., A/36/620.

Report: <sup>(7)</sup>S-G, A/36/476 & Add. 1.

Resolution and decisions:

Resolution: <sup>(8)</sup>GA: 32/142, para. 5, 16 Dec. 1977 (YUN 1977, p. 756).

Decisions: GA: <sup>(9)</sup>35/429, 11 Dec. 1980 (YUN 1980, p. 921); <sup>(10)</sup>36/428, 14 Dec. 1981, text following.

Meeting records: GA: 3rd Committee, A/C.3/36/SR.41, 44-48, 50, 51, 53, 58-60, 64, 68, 71, 72 (5 Nov.-3 Dec.); plenary, A/36/PV.97 (14 Dec.).

General Assembly decision 36/428

Adopted without vote

Approved by Third Committee (A/36/789) without vote, 3 December (meeting 71); draft orally proposed by Ethiopia; agenda Item 88 (c).

Draft Declaration on the Participation of Women in the Struggle for the Strengthening of International Peace and for the Solution of Other Vital National and International Problems

At its 97th plenary meeting, on 14 December 1981, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee, appreciating the interest shown in the draft Declaration on the Participation of Women in the Struggle for the Strengthening of International Peace and for the Solution of Other Vital National and International Problems by a large number of Member States and the extensive discussions held on the subject in the Third Committee during the thirty-fifth and thirty-sixth sessions of the Assembly and realizing that, in view of lack of time, the Committee had been unable to conclude these discussions and examine fully all the proposals before it, decided to request the Secretary-General to seek further comments from Member States and to submit a report based on their comments as well as on the proposals submitted so far, with a view to ensuring the early adoption of the draft Declaration during the thirty-seventh session of the Assembly.

Women and science and technology

As requested by the General Assembly in 1979,<sup>(3)</sup> the Secretary-General reported in October 1981<sup>(1)</sup> on the implementation of the resolution adopted by the 1979 United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development<sup>(6)</sup> by which States were invited to facilitate women's participation in the decision-making process related to science and technology and their equal access to training and careers in the field.

Among relevant United Nations activities, the Secretary-General indicated in his report-

which was taken note of by the Assembly on 4 December<sup>(5)</sup> that data were collected through the integrated reporting system on women, established in 1979,<sup>(2)</sup> and that a newly established data bank on the advancement of women possessed information classified by geographical, functional and organizational categories.

In a resolution of 5 June 1981 on its work programme (p. 752), the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development invited its Advisory Committee to give due regard in its deliberations to the effective implementation of the 1979 Conference resolution on women and science and technology.<sup>(4)</sup>

Report: <sup>(1)</sup>S-G, A/36/591.

Resolutions and decisions:

Resolutions: GA: <sup>(2)</sup>33/186, 29 Jan. 1979 (YUN 1978, p. 763); <sup>(3)</sup>34/204, 19 Dec. 1979 (YUN 1979, p. 903).

Decisions: <sup>(4)</sup>Committee on Science and Technology (report, A/36/37): 3(III), sect. IV, para. 6, 5 June 1981.

<sup>(5)</sup>GA: 36/422, para. (c), 4 Dec. (p. 987).

Yearbook reference: <sup>(6)</sup>1979, p. 640.

#### Social indicators on women

Recognizing the importance of a systematic analysis of the global situation of women, the Economic and Social Council, by a resolution adopted without vote on 6 May 1981, expressed the wish that prompt and effective co-operation be instituted between the Advancement of Women Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) (p. 996), the Statistical Office and the Commission on the Status of Women, particularly during the second half of the United Nations Decade for Women.<sup>(1)</sup>

Introducing the draft in the Council's Second (Social) Committee, France said social indicators should be developed for measuring the progress made in promoting the advancement of women. Prior to the Committee action on the text, France orally revised the fourth preambular paragraph by adding a phrase specifying that the work of standardizing terms of reference and harmonizing data collection should be submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women. It also orally revised the operative paragraph to include the Commission in the co-operation originally called for between the Advancement of Women Branch and INSTRAW. On 29 April, the Committee approved without vote the text as orally revised.

In addition, prior to the Council's adoption of the resolution, France orally amended the fourth preambular and the operative paragraphs to include mention of the Statistical Office.

Resolution: <sup>(1)</sup>ESC, 1981/11.6 May, text following.

Meeting records: ESC: 2nd Committee, E/1981/C.2/SR.3-8, 9, 12 (16-29 Apr.); plenary, E/1981/SR.14 (6 May).

#### Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/11

Adopted without vote Meeting 14 6 May 1981

Approved by Second Committee (E/1981/51) without vote, 29 April (meeting 12); draft by France (E/1981/C.2/L.5), orally revised: orally amended In Council by France; agenda Item 9.

##### Social Indicators applicable to studies on women

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General containing proposals for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women,

Recalling resolution 38 of 30 July 1980 of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recognizing the importance of a systematic analysis of the situation of women in the world,

Noting that the work of standardizing terms of reference and harmonizing the collection of data, in the organizations of the United Nations system, should be undertaken promptly by the Advancement of Women Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs. In co-operation with the Statistical Office, and submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women at its twenty-ninth session,

Noting further that the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, the establishment of which has extended the scope of research on the status of women, can provide valuable assistance to the aforementioned Branch, in particular in the preparation of sets of social indicators,

Expresses the wish that prompt and effective co-operation may be instituted between the Advancement of Women Branch, the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, the Statistical Office and the Commission on the Status of Women, whose role must continue to be fundamental, particularly during the second half of the United Nations Decade for Women.

#### Employment of spouses of diplomats and international civil servants

Recalling its previous recommendations on the need to create conditions conducive to the enjoyment of equal rights to work, the General Assembly on 14 December 1981 invited Governments in host countries to consider granting, when appropriate and to the extent possible, working permits for spouses accompanying members of diplomatic missions or consular posts and staff members of international organizations.<sup>(1)</sup> In the preamble, the Assembly also expressed concern over the continued under-representation of women in the professional staffs of international organizations and occasional discrimination against them at the time of recruitment.

The Assembly adopted the resolution without vote, following the Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) Committee's approval of the text on 27 November in like manner. The fourth preambular paragraph, as orally amended by Morocco to add the reference to discrimination in recruitment, was approved in Committee by a vote of 46 to none, with 60 abstentions. After introducing the draft, Sweden had proposed to delete that paragraph altogether; it also orally introduced some changes of wording in the other

preambular paragraphs and revised the operative paragraph, which in the original would have had the Assembly invite Governments to consider favourably working permit applications.

In explanation of positions, Brazil, Chile, Ethiopia and Turkey understood that the granting of working permits would be in conformity with the national legislation of the host State. Belgium would have preferred consideration of the matter in a more appropriate body than the Third Committee, and said granting permits to one particular group might give rise to discrimination between foreigners on the labour market as well as legal problems. Canada joined the consensus on the understanding that the measures referred to would be based on reciprocity. Morocco continued to have reservations on the text as it considered that the operative part should have invited Governments to ensure more effective and greater participation of women in the political decision-making process; also, a paragraph should have been added inviting the Secretary-General and agency heads to recruit women.

Introducing the 23-nation text, Sweden observed that the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations<sup>(2)</sup> and the 1963 Vienna Convention on Consular Relations<sup>(3)</sup> had not excluded the possibility that family members of diplomats might work in the receiving State. Asserting that the question should be solved bilaterally, the USSR considered that the text conflicted with existing regulations under international law, and Pakistan feared it would create difficulties for developing countries. Cyprus and Ethiopia also shared Pakistan's view, and Nigeria questioned the competence of the Third Committee to deal with the serious legal implications of the text.

Resolution: <sup>(1)</sup>GA, 36/130, 14 Dec., text following.

Yearbook references: <sup>(2)</sup>1961, p. 512; <sup>(3)</sup>1963, p. 510.

Meeting records: GA: 3rd Committee, A/C.3/36/SR.41, 44-48, 50, 51, 53, 57, 60, 63 (5-27 Nov.); plenary, A/36/PV.97 (14 Dec.).

General Assembly resolution 36/130

Adopted without vote Meeting 97 14 December 1981

Approved by Third Committee (A/36/789) without vote, 27 November (meeting 63); 23-nation draft (A/C.3/36/L.53), orally revised, and orally amended by Morocco; agenda item 88.

Sponsors: Australia, Barbados, Central African Republic, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, Iceland, Jamaica, Jordan, Lesotho, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Portugal, Sierra Leone, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, United States, Venezuela,

Equal rights to work

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 34/155 of 17 December 1979, in which it called upon Governments to take steps to ensure the effective participation of women in the decision-making process with respect to foreign policy and international economic and political co-operation, including steps to ensure that

they have equal access to diplomatic functions and that they are represented in the United Nations and other international organizations,

Recalling also its resolutions 33/184 of 29 January 1979 and 34/159 of 17 December 1979, in which it recommended that States should envisage in their policies all appropriate measures to create necessary conditions which will enable women to participate in work on an equal footing with men,

Noting that in some countries legal and administrative regulations hamper the possibilities of accompanying spouses of members of diplomatic missions or consular posts and of staff members of intergovernmental organizations to work,

Concerned that women continue to be under-represented in the professional staffs of international organizations, including the United Nations and the specialized agencies, and are not always exempt from discrimination when they are recruited,

Invites Governments in host countries to consider granting, when appropriate and to the extent possible, working permits for spouses accompanying members of diplomatic missions or consular posts and staff members of intergovernmental organizations.

Convention on discrimination against women

The 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women<sup>(2)</sup> entered into force on 3 September 1981, on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit with the Secretary-General of the twentieth instrument of ratification or accession, as stipulated under article 27. The Convention also called for the election, six months after its entry into force, of 18 members of a Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women; however, if at that time 35 instruments of ratification or accession had been deposited, the Committee would comprise 23 members. The reservations made by States at the time of ratification were annexed to the Secretary-General's report on the status of the Convention.<sup>(1)</sup>

By a resolution of 14 December,<sup>(3)</sup> the General Assembly welcomed with great satisfaction the entry into force of the Convention, invited States that had not done so to become parties to it and requested the Secretary-General to report in 1982 on its status.

The resolution was adopted without vote, following its similar approval by the Third Committee on 23 November. Introducing the 24-nation text, Sweden said the Convention was a major step towards achievement of equal rights for women, and the draft reflected the satisfaction with the instrument.

Explaining its position, Colombia welcomed the fact that the draft had been adopted by consensus. Despite joining in the consensus, Morocco expressed reservations, as did Iraq.

During the debate, the Convention's entry into force was welcomed by a number of speakers, among them Argentina, Chile, the Congo, Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, Hungary, Italy, Nepal, Nigeria, Portugal and Zaire. Support for the Convention was also expressed by others, such



as Cape Verde, Grenada, Jamaica, Japan, Sri Lanka, the Sudan and Yugoslavia.

Several countries, including the Comoros, the Congo and India, urged adherence by more Member States. Hungary and Japan trusted that the Convention would soon be a truly universal instrument.

Many speakers, among them Australia and Papua New Guinea, regarded the Convention as a serious instrument with practical implications. New Zealand and Suriname thought it was a solid basis for enhancement of the participation of women in many aspects of life, while Bolivia, the Byelorussian SSR, the Syrian Arab Republic, the USSR and others considered it an important achievement of the United Nations Decade for Women. The German Democratic Republic said the Convention benefited women in all countries, especially those where women's participation in political, economic, social and cultural affairs had not been comprehensively guaranteed. Bulgaria and Denmark, the latter speaking for the Nordic countries, regarded the Convention as a major step towards achieving equal rights for women, and France believed that it brought discrimination against women to the attention of decision-makers and the public at large.

Declaring its support of the goals and objectives of the Convention, Pakistan stated that some provisions must be considered in accordance with its religious belief and its legislation based on the Islamic Sharia. Belgium said it planned to introduce a number of modifications in its domestic legislation with a view to ratifying the Convention without, or with a minimum of, reservations. Yugoslavia stated that ratification would not necessitate adjustments or additions to its national legislation which, in some areas, went even further.

As at 31 December, the following 87 States had signed the Convention (including 6 during 1981, indicated in italics):

Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian SSR, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mexico, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Spain, Sri Lanka,

Sweden, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian SSR, USSR, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

At year's end, the Convention had been ratified or acceded to by the following 32 States (including 21 during 1981, indicated in italics):

Barbados, Bhutan, Byelorussian SSR, Canada, Cape Verde, China, Cuba, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, German Democratic Republic, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mexico, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Ukrainian SSR, USSR, Uruguay.

Report: <sup>(1)</sup>S-G, A/36/295 & Add.1.

Resolutions: GA: <sup>(2)</sup>34/180, annex, 18 Dec. 1979 (YUN 1979, p. 895); <sup>(3)</sup>36/131, 14 Dec. 1981, text following.

Meeting records: GA: 3rd Committee, A/C.3/36/SR.41, 44-48, 50, 51, 53, 58 (5-23 Nov.); plenary, A/36/PV.97 (14 Dec.).

#### General Assembly resolution 36/131

Adopted without vote Meeting 97 14 December 1981

Approved by Third Committee (A/36/724) without vote, 23 November (meeting 58); 24-nation draft (A/C.3/36/L.54); agenda item 89.

Sponsors: Bulgaria, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Nigeria, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Sweden, USSR, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia.

#### Status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The General Assembly,

Considering 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 without distinction of any kind, including any distinction as to sex,

Affirming that women and men should, on the basis of equality, participate and contribute to the social, economic and political processes of 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,

Recalling also its resolution 35/140 of 11 December 1980, Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention,

1. Notes with appreciation that a significant number of Member States have already ratified or acceded to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;

2. Welcomes with great satisfaction the fact that, as a result, the Convention entered into force on 3 September 1981;

3. Notes further that an important number of Member States have signed the Convention;

4. Invites all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention by ratifying or acceding to it;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session a report on the status of the Convention.

## Institute for the advancement of women

### Activities of the Institute

During 1981, work of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), which it had been decided to establish in 1976,<sup>(4)</sup> focused on the development of organizational and administrative procedures aimed at ensuring its readiness to engage in substantive programmes at the earliest possible time. The agreement between the United Nations and the Dominican Republic concerning the arrangements for the establishment of INSTRAW headquarters at Santo Domingo was signed in New York on 31 March 1981 and was later approved by that country's National Congress (p. 998). The Institute's Director assumed her duties in June (p. 997) and participated in a United Nations technical mission to the Dominican Republic in July for consultations.<sup>(2)</sup>

The Institute's expenditure for 1981 was estimated at \$127,656, making a total of \$344,817 for the 1980-1981 biennium. On the basis of tentative estimates as at the end of 1981, the unencumbered balance of the United Nations Trust Fund for INSTRAW amounted to \$2,474,510, of which \$507,846 represented unpaid pledges. In addition, \$337,742 was pledged by Member States at the 1981 United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities, held at United Nations Headquarters in November (p. 997)<sup>(3)</sup>

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION.** By a resolution of 6 May, the Economic and Social Council expressed the hope that INSTRAW would start functioning shortly and requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Council at its first regular session of 1982 a report on the organization, programme and activities of the Institute.<sup>(5)</sup>

The resolution was adopted without vote, following its similar approval on 29 April by the Council's Second (Social) Committee, where it was introduced by Venezuela on behalf of the Group of 77 and orally revised to satisfy the concern originally expressed by France in its withdrawn draft<sup>(1)</sup> with regard to the interruption of the Institute's work for the preceding six months.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION.** Underlining the importance of the Institute's contributions to the advancement of women, the General Assembly, by a resolution of 14 December,<sup>(6)</sup> stressed the urgency of assuring its prompt establishment in the host country, reiterated the guidelines agreed on by the Economic and Social Council in 1976 regarding INSTRAW activities,<sup>(4)</sup> and requested United Nations organs and bodies to

co-operate fully with the Institute. At the same time, Governments were urged to consider making financial contributions or extending co-operation (p. 997).

The Assembly adopted the text without vote, after similar approval by the Third Committee on 19 November. Introducing the 28-nation draft, Argentina said the sponsors wished to make clear the current state of progress in establishing INSTRAW, which had encountered some difficulties and for which funds, appeared to be insufficient. The text was orally revised by the sponsors to add a reference to the importance of INSTRAW contributions to the work of all United Nations bodies concerned with women's advancement.

During the Committee debate on women, a number of States, including Cuba, Democratic Kampuchea, Ethiopia, Nigeria and Pakistan, welcomed the establishment of INSTRAW. Several countries, among them Algeria, Australia and Japan, expressed hope that it would soon be in full operation. Chile, Democratic Kampuchea and others thought it could make a valuable contribution to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women (p. 979). Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, Pakistan and Yugoslavia were of the opinion that INSTRAW could play a useful part in promoting the participation of women in development. Malawi expected it to offer opportunities for practical and action-oriented research, and Jamaica wanted it to investigate women's integration into the major United Nations development programmes. Argentina and Chile called for the co-operation of INSTRAW with United Nations organizations and regional centres.

Draft resolution withdrawn: <sup>(1)</sup>France, E/1981/C.2/L.6.

Reports: <sup>(2)</sup>INSTRAW Board of Trustees, E/1982/11; <sup>(3)</sup>S-G, E/1982/33.

Resolutions: ESC: <sup>(4)</sup>1998(LX), 12 May 1976 (YUN 1976, p. 620); <sup>(5)</sup>1981/13, 6 May 1981, text following. <sup>(6)</sup>GA: 36/128, 14 Dec., text following.

Meeting records: ESC: 2nd Committee, E/1981/C.2/SR/3-8, 9, 10, 12 (16-29 Apr.); plenary, E/1981/SR.14 (6 May). GA: 3rd Committee, A/C.3/36/SR.41, 44-48, 50, 51, 53, 57(5-19 Nov.); plenary, A/36/PV.97 (14 Dec.).

### Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/13

Adopted without vote Meeting 14 6 May 1981

Approved by Second Committee E/1981/51) without vote, 29 April (meeting 12); draft by Venezuela. for Group of 77 E/1981/C.2/L.11), orally revised; agenda Item 9.

#### International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Woman

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 31/135 of 16 December 1976. In which the Assembly approved the establishment of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

Recalling, in particular, General Assembly resolution 35/134 of 11 December 1980, In which, inter alia, the Assembly urged the Secretary-General to appoint the Director of the

International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and expressed the desire that the necessary consultations concerning the agreement with the Government of the Dominican Republic would be expeditiously concluded.

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

1. Expresses its satisfaction at the conclusion of the agreement between the Government of the Dominican Republic and the United Nations concerning the installation at Santo Domingo of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women;

2. Welcomes the appointment of the Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women;

3. Expresses its hope that the Institute will start functioning shortly;

4. Expresses also its hope that a date will be set for a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women during the first quarter of 1982;

5. Calls upon all Member States to contribute or increase their contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, both financially and in kind;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1982 a report on the organization, programme and activities of the Institute.

#### General Assembly resolution 36/128

Adopted without vote Meeting 97 14 December 1981

Approved by Third Committee (A/36/789) without vote. 19 November (meeting 57); 28-nation draft (A/C.3/36/L.51), orally revised; agenda item 88.

Sponsors: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Morocco, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

#### International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 31/135 of 16 December 1976, in which it approved the establishment of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

Further recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/13 of 6 May 1981, in which the Council, inter alia, took note of the progress made towards the full establishment of the Institute,

Convinced that the Institute can, with adequate resources, make a valuable contribution to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, as well as to realizing the objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,

1. Insists on the urgency of assuring the prompt establishment of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women in the host country;

2. Reiterates the guidelines set out in Economic and Social Council resolution 1998(LX) of 12 May 1976 regarding the activities of the Institute, in particular the need for close collaboration with the regional centres and institutes which have similar objectives;

3. Underlines the importance of the contributions of the Institute to the work of all United Nations bodies, agencies and institutions involved with the advancement of women, in particular the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat;

4. Urges all Governments to consider contributing financially to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women or co-operating in other ways with the Institute in

order to assure its regular and effective financing so that it can plan the expansion of its programmes;

5. Requests the regional commission, the specialized agencies and other organs and bodies in the United Nations system to co-operate fully with the Institute in their respective fields of competence.

#### Appointment of the Director

Following consultations with Member States and taking into account the views of the Institute's Board of Trustees on suitable candidates, the Secretary-General approved the appointment of Dunja Pastizzi-Ferencic of Yugoslavia as Director of INSTRAW.<sup>(1)</sup> The Economic and Social Council welcomed the appointment in its resolution on INSTRAW of 6 May 1981,<sup>(2)</sup> and the Director took up her duties in June.

Report: <sup>(1)</sup>S-G, E/1981/33.

Resolution: <sup>(2)</sup>ESC, 1981/13, para. 2, 6 May (see above).

#### Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees of INSTRAW did not meet in 1981 despite its original intention to do so in January or February. No firm date had been set for the 1981 meeting in view of the impending appointment of the Director (see above). Consultations on the date and venue of the Board's session were to be conducted between its President and the Director upon the latter's appointment, and the postponement of the session was expected to enable the Director to prepare, among other things, a proposed revised work programme for INSTRAW covering the balance of the 1980-1981 biennium (p. 996).<sup>(1)</sup>

The Economic and Social Council, in its 6 May resolution on INSTRAW,<sup>(2)</sup> expressed the hope that the Board of Trustees would meet during the first quarter of 1982.

Report: <sup>(1)</sup>S-G, E/1981/33.

Resolution: <sup>(2)</sup>ESC, 1981/13, para. 4, 6 May (see above).

#### Contributions to the Institute

For 1981, a total of \$334,913 was pledged by 14 Member States to the United Nations Trust Fund for INSTRAW, of which \$205,074 had been collected from 10 States by 31 December; at that date, pledges for 1982 amounted to \$350,879 (see table on next page). As estimated by the Secretary-General,<sup>(1)</sup> the unencumbered balance of the Trust Fund stood at \$2,474,510, including unpaid pledges totalling \$507,846.

A call for contributions to the Trust Fund, both financially and in kind, was made by the Economic and Social Council on 6 May<sup>(2)</sup> and repeated on 14 December by the General Assembly,<sup>(3)</sup> which hoped that INSTRAW would thus be assured of regular and effective financing so that it could plan the expansion of its programmes.

Report: <sup>(1)</sup>S-G, E/1982/33.

Resolutions: <sup>(2)</sup>ESC, 1981/13, para. 5, 6 May (see above); <sup>(3)</sup>GA, 36/128, para. 4, 14 Dec. (see above).

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING  
INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN, 1981 AND 1982

(as at 31 December 1981; in US dollar equivalent)

Country	1981 payment	1982 pledge
Austria	11,800	11,800
Bolivia	5,051	
Brazil	3,000	3,000
Chile	3,000	
Denmark		50,000
France	67,797	106,195
Japan	100,000	
Mexico	5,627	5,758
Nigeria	3,623	
Norway		168,067
Pakistan	5,051	5,051
Trinidad and Tobago		1,008
Turkey	125	
Total	205,074	350,879

Location of the Institute

Consultations initiated in 1979<sup>(4)</sup> with the Dominican Republic led to the signing in New York on 31 March 1981 of the agreement be-

tween the United Nations and the host country concerning arrangements for the establishment of INSTRAW headquarters at Santo Domingo.

The Economic and Social Council, in its 6 May resolution on INSTRAW,<sup>(3)</sup> expressed satisfaction at the conclusion of the agreement. A draft by France, later withdrawn, would have had the Council also express gratitude to the host Government.<sup>(4)</sup>

In July, a United Nations technical mission, with the participation of the Institute's Director, visited the host country for consultations on matters relating to implementation of the agreement. By a note verbale of 3 November, the Dominican Republic informed the Secretary-General that its National Congress had on 18 August approved the agreement and its annex(\*).

Draft resolution withdrawn: <sup>(1)</sup>France, E/1981/C.2/L.6.

Report: <sup>(2)</sup>S-G, E/1982/33.

Resolution: <sup>(3)</sup>ESC, 1981/13, para. 1, 6 May (p. 997).

Yearbook reference: <sup>(4)</sup>1979, p. 901.