

**REPORT OF THE WORLD CONFERENCE
TO REVIEW AND APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS
OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN:
EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE**

Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985



UNITED NATIONS
New York, 1986

NOTE

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A/CONF.116/28/Rev.1

UNITED NATIONS PUBLICATION

Sales No. E.85.IV.10

03000

ISBN 92-1-130104-1

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Chapter I

DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE

1. At its 18th, 19th and 20th (closing) plenary meetings on 25 and 26 July 1985 the Conference adopted the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women (sect. A below) and at its 17th and 20th plenary meetings it adopted the resolution and decisions (sect. B below) the text of which is set out in this chapter.

A. THE NAIROBI FORWARD-LOOKING STRATEGIES FOR THE
ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

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INTRODUCTION

A. Historical background

Paragraph 1

The founding of the United Nations after the victory in the Second World War and the emergence of independent States following decolonization were some of the important events in the political, economic and social liberation of women. The International Women's Year, the World Conferences held at Mexico City in 1975 and Copenhagen in 1980, and the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace contributed greatly to the process of eliminating obstacles to the improvement of the status of women at the national, regional and international levels. In the early 1970s, efforts to end discrimination against women and to ensure their equal participation in society provided the impetus for most initiatives taken at all of those levels. Those efforts were also inspired by the awareness that women's reproductive and productive roles were closely linked to the political, economic, social, cultural, legal, educational and religious conditions that constrained the advancement of women and that factors intensifying the economic exploitation, marginalization and oppression of women stemmed from chronic inequalities, injustices and exploitative conditions at the family, community, national, subregional, regional and international levels.

Paragraph 2

In 1972, the General Assembly, in its resolution 3010 (XXVII), proclaimed 1975 International Women's Year, to be devoted to intensified action to promote equality between men and women, to ensure the full integration of women in the total development effort and to increase women's contribution to the strengthening of world peace. The World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year, 1/ adopted by the World Conference of the International Women's Year at Mexico City in 1975, was endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 3520 (XXX). The General Assembly, in that resolution, proclaimed 1976-1985 the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace. In its resolution 33/185, the General Assembly decided upon the sub-theme "Employment, Health and Education" for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, to be held at Copenhagen to review and evaluate the progress made in the first half of the Decade.

Paragraph 3

In 1980, at the mid-point of the Decade, the Copenhagen World Conference adopted the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, 2/ which further elaborated on the existing obstacles and on the existing international consensus on measures to be taken for the advancement of women. The Programme of Action was endorsed by the General Assembly that year in its resolution 35/136.

Paragraph 4

Also in 1980, the General Assembly, in its resolution 35/56, adopted the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and reaffirmed the recommendations of the Copenhagen World Conference (General Assembly resolution 35/56, annex, para. 51). In the Strategy, the importance of participation of women in the development process, as both agents and

beneficiaries, was stressed. Also, the Strategy called for appropriate measures to be taken in order to bring about profound social and economic changes and to eliminate the structural imbalances that compounded and perpetuated women's disadvantages in society.

Paragraph 5

The strategies contained in the World Plan of Action and in the Programme of Action were important contributions towards enlarging the perspective for the future of women. In most areas, however, further action is required. In this connection the General Assembly confirmed the goals and objectives of the Decade - equality, development and peace - stressed their validity for the future and indicated the need for concrete measures to overcome the obstacles to their achievement during the period 1986-2000.

Paragraph 6

The Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women during the Period from 1986 to the Year 2000 set forth in the present document present concrete measures to overcome the obstacles to the Decade's goals and objectives for the advancement of women. Building on principles of equality also espoused in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 3/ the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 4/ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 5/ the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 6/ and the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation, 7/ the Forward-looking Strategies reaffirm the international concern regarding the status of women and provide a framework for renewed commitment by the international community to the advancement of women and the elimination of gender-based discrimination. The efforts for the integration of women in the development process should be strengthened and should take into account the objectives of a new international economic order and the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade.

Paragraph 7

The Nairobi World Conference is taking place at a critical moment for the developing countries. Ten years ago, when the Decade was launched, there was hope that accelerated economic growth, sustained by growing international trade, financial flows and technological developments, would allow the increased participation of women in the economic and social development of those countries. These hopes have been belied owing to the persistence and, in some cases, the aggravation of an economic crisis in the developing countries, which has been an important obstacle that endangers not only the pursuance of new programmes in support of women but also the maintenance of those that were already under way.

Paragraph 8

The critical international economic situation since the end of the 1970s has particularly adversely affected developing countries and, most acutely, the women of those countries. The overall picture for the developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, the drought-stricken and famine-stricken areas of Africa, the debt-ridden countries and the low-income countries, has reached a critical point as a result of structural imbalances and the continuing critical international economic situation. The situation calls for an increased commitment

to improving and promoting national policies and multilateral co-operation for development in support of national programmes, bearing in mind that each country is responsible for its own development policy. The gap between the developed and developing countries, particularly the least developed among them, instead of narrowing, is widening further. In order to stem such negative trends and mitigate the current difficulties of the developing countries, which affect women the most, one of the primary tasks of the international community is to pursue with all vigour the efforts directed towards the establishment of a New International Economic Order founded on equity, sovereign equality, interdependence and common interest.

B. Substantive background of the Forward-looking Strategies

Paragraph 9

The three objectives of the Decade - equality, development and peace - are broad, interrelated and mutually reinforcing, so that the achievement of one contributes to the achievement of another.

Paragraph 10

The Copenhagen World Conference interpreted equality as meaning not only legal equality, the elimination of de jure discrimination, but also equality of rights, responsibilities and opportunities for the participation of women in development, both as beneficiaries and as active agents.

Paragraph 11

Equality is both a goal and a means whereby individuals are accorded equal treatment under the law and equal opportunities to enjoy their rights and to develop their potential talents and skills so that they can participate in national political, economic, social and cultural development and can benefit from its results. For women in particular, equality means the realization of rights that have been denied as a result of cultural, institutional, behavioural and attitudinal discrimination. Equality is important for development and peace because national and global inequities perpetuate themselves and increase tensions of all types.

Paragraph 12

The role of women in development is directly related to the goal of comprehensive social and economic development and is fundamental to the development of all societies. Development means total development, including development in the political, economic, social, cultural and other dimensions of human life, as well as the development of the economic and other material resources and the physical, moral, intellectual and cultural growth of human beings. It should be conducive to providing women, particularly those who are poor or destitute, with the necessary means for increasingly claiming, achieving, enjoying and utilizing equality of opportunity. More directly, the increasingly successful participation of each woman in societal activities as a legally independent agent will contribute to further recognition in practice of her right to equality. Development also requires a moral dimension to ensure that it is just and responsive to the needs and rights of the individual and that science and technology are applied within a social and economic framework that ensures environmental safety for all life forms on our planet.

Paragraph 13

The full and effective promotion of women's rights can best occur in conditions of international peace and security where relations among States are based on the respect for the legitimate rights of all nations, great and small, and peoples to self-determination, independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and the right to live in peace within their national borders.

Peace depends on the prevention of the use or threat of the use of force, aggression, military occupation, interference in the internal affairs of others, the elimination of domination, discrimination, oppression and exploitation, as well as of gross and mass violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Peace includes not only the absence of war, violence and hostilities at the national and international levels but also the enjoyment of economic and social justice, equality and the entire range of human rights and fundamental freedoms within society. It depends upon respect for the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as well as international covenants and the other relevant international instruments on human rights, upon mutual co-operation and understanding among all States irrespective of their social political and economic systems and upon the effective implementation by States of the fundamental human rights standards to which their citizens are entitled.

It also embraces the whole range of actions reflected in concerns for security and implicit assumptions of trust between nations, social groups and individuals. It represents goodwill toward others and promotes respect for life while protecting freedom, human rights and the dignity of peoples and of individuals. Peace cannot be realized under conditions of economic and sexual inequality, denial of basic human rights and fundamental freedoms, deliberate exploitation of large sectors of the population, unequal development of countries, and exploitative economic relations. Without peace and stability there can be no development. Peace and development are interrelated and mutually reinforcing.

In this respect special attention is drawn to the final document of the tenth special session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament encompassing all measures thought to be advisable in order to ensure that the goal of general and complete disarmament under effective international control is realized. This document describes a comprehensive programme of disarmament, including nuclear disarmament, which is important not only for peace but also for the promotion of the economic and social development of all, particularly in the developing countries, through the constructive use of the enormous amount of material and human resources otherwise expended on the arms race.

Peace is promoted by equality of the sexes, economic equality and the universal enjoyment of basic human rights and fundamental freedoms. Its enjoyment by all requires that women be enabled to exercise their right to participate on an equal footing with men in all spheres of the political, economic and social life of their respective countries, particularly in the decision-making process, while exercising their right to freedom of opinion, expression, information and association in the promotion of international peace and co-operation.

Paragraph 14

The effective participation of women in development and in the strengthening of peace, as well as the promotion of the equality of women and men, require

concerted multi-dimensional strategies and measures that should be people-oriented. Such strategies and measures will require continual upgrading and the productive utilization of human resources with a view to promoting equality and producing sustained, endogenous development of societies and groups of individuals.

paragraph 15

The three goals of the Decade - equality, development and peace - are inextricably linked to the three sub-themes - employment, health and education. They constitute the concrete basis on which equality, development and peace rest. The enhancement of women's equal participation in development and peace requires the development of human resources, recognition by society of the need to improve women's status, and the participation of all in the restructuring of society. It involves, in particular, building a participatory human infrastructure to permit the mobilization of women at all levels, within different spheres and sectors. To achieve optimum development of human and material resources, women's strengths and capabilities, including their great contribution to the welfare of families and to the development of society, must be fully acknowledged and valued. The attainment of the goals and objectives of the Decade requires a sharing of this responsibility by men and women and by society as a whole and requires that women play a central role as intellectuals, policy-makers, decision-makers, planners, and contributors and beneficiaries of development.

paragraph 16

The need for women's perspective on human development is critical since it is in the interest of human enrichment and progress to introduce and weave into the social fabric women's concept of equality, their choices between alternative development strategies and their approach to peace, in accordance with their aspirations, interests and talents. These things are not only desirable in themselves but are also essential for the attainment of the goals and objectives of the Decade.

Paragraph 17

The review and appraisal of progress achieved and obstacles encountered at the national level in the realization of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace (see A/CONF.116/5 and Add.1-14) identifies various levels of experience. Despite the considerable progress achieved and the increasing participation of women in society, the Decade has only partially attained its goals and objectives. Although the earlier years of the Decade were characterized by relatively favourable economic conditions in both the developed and developing countries, deteriorating economic conditions have slowed efforts directed towards promoting the equal participation of women in society and have given rise to new problems. With regard to development, there are indications that in some cases, although the participation of women is increasing, their benefits are not increasing proportionately.

Paragraph 18

Many of the obstacles discussed in the Forward-looking Strategies were identified in the review and appraisal (see A/CONF.116/5 and Add.1-14). The overwhelming obstacles to the advancement of women are in practice caused by varying combinations of political and economic as well as social and cultural factors. Furthermore, the social and cultural obstacles are sometimes aggravated

by political and economic factors such as the critical international economic situation and the consequent adjustment programmes, which in general entail a high social cost. In this context, the economic constraints due in part to the prevailing macro-economic factors have contributed to the aggravation of economic conditions at the national level. Moreover, the devaluation of women's productive and reproductive roles, as a result of which the status of women continued to be regarded as secondary to that of men, and the low priority assigned to promoting the participation of women in development are historical factors that limit women's access to employment, health and education, as well as to other sectoral resources, and to the effective integration of women in the decision-making process. Regardless of gains, the structural constraints imposed by a socio-economic framework in which women are second-class persons still limit progress. Despite changes in some countries to promote equity in all spheres of life, the "double burden" for women of having the major responsibility for domestic tasks and of participating in the labour force remains. For example, several countries in both the developed and developing world identify as a major obstacle the lack of adequate supportive services for working women.

Paragraph 19

According to responses from the developing countries, particularly the least developed, to the United Nations questionnaire to Governments (see A/CONF.116/5 and Add.1-14), poverty is on the increase in some countries and constitutes another major obstacle to the advancement of women. The exigencies created by problems of mass poverty, compounded by scarce national resources, have compelled Governments to concentrate on alleviating the poverty of both women and men rather than on equality issues for women. At the same time, because women's secondary position increases their vulnerability to marginalization, those belonging to the lowest socio-economic strata are likely to be the poorest of the poor and should be given priority. Women are an essential productive force in all economies; therefore it is particularly important in times of economic recession that programmes and measures designed to raise the status of women should not be relaxed but rather intensified.

Paragraph 20

To economic problems, with their attendant social and cultural implications, must be added the threat to international peace and security resulting from violations of the principles of the United Nations Charter. This situation, affecting inter alia the lives of women, constitutes a most serious obstacle to development and thus hinders the fulfilment of the Forward-looking Strategies.

Paragraph 21

What is now needed is the political will to promote development in such a way that the strategy for the advancement of women seeks first and foremost to alter the current unequal conditions and structures that continue to define women as secondary persons and give women's issues a low priority. Development should now move to another plane in which women's pivotal role in society is recognized and given its true value. That will allow women to assume their legitimate and core positions in the strategies for effecting the changes necessary to promote and sustain development.

C. Current trends and perspectives to the year 2000

Paragraph 22

In the absence of major structural changes or technological breakthroughs, it can be predicted that up to the year 2000 recent trends will, for the most part, be extended and adjusted. The situation of women, as it evolves during the period 1986-2000, will also cause other changes, establishing a process of cause and effect of great complexity. Changes in women's material conditions, consciousness and aspirations, as well as societal attitudes towards women, are themselves social and cultural processes having major implications and a profound influence on institutions such as the family. Women's advancement has achieved a certain momentum that will be affected by the social and economic changes of the next 15 years, but it will also continue to exist as a force to be reckoned with. Internal processes will exercise a major influence in the economic sphere, but the state of the global economic system and of the political, social, cultural, demographic and communication processes directly affected by it will invariably have a more profound impact on the advancement of women.

Paragraph 23

At the beginning of the Decade there was an optimistic outlook for development, but during the early 1980s the world economy experienced a widespread recession due, inter alia, to sharp inflationary pressures that affected regions and some groups of countries, irrespective of their level of development or economic structure. During the same period, however, the countries with centrally planned economies as a group experienced stable economic growth. The developed market economy countries also experienced growth after the recession.

Despite the recovery in the developed market economy countries which is being felt in the world economy, the immediate outlook for recovery in developing countries, especially in the low-income and the least developed countries, remains bleak, particularly in view of their enormous public and private external debts and the cost of servicing that debt, which are an evident manifestation of this critical situation. This heavy burden has serious political, economic and social consequences for them. No lasting recovery can be achieved without rectifying the structural imbalances in the context of the critical international economic situation and without continued efforts towards the establishment of a new international economic order. The present situation clearly has serious repercussions for the status of women, particularly underprivileged women, and for human resource development.

Women, subject to compound discrimination on the basis of race, colour, ethnicity and national origin, in addition to sex, could be even more adversely affected by deteriorating economic conditions.

Paragraph 24

If current trends continue, the prospects for the developing world, particularly the low-income and least developed countries, will be sombre. The overall growth in the developing countries as currently projected will be lower in the period 1980-2000 than that experienced in the period 1960-1980. In order to reverse this outlook and thereby promote the advancement of women, policies should be reoriented and reinforced to promote world trade, in particular so as to promote better access for the exports of developing countries. Similarly, policies should

be pursued in other areas which would also promote growth and development in developing countries, for example, in respect of further lowering interest rates and pursuit of non-inflationary growth policies.

Paragraph 25

It is feared that, if there is slow growth in the world economy, there will inevitably be negative implications for women since, as a result of diminished resources, action to combat women's low position, in particular, their high rates of illiteracy, low levels of education, discrimination in employment, their unrecognized contribution to the economy and their special health needs, may be postponed. A pattern of development promoting just and equitable growth on the basis of justice and equality in international economic relations could make possible the attainment of the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy, which could make a significant improvement in the status of women while enhancing women's effective contribution to development and peace. Such a pattern of development has its own internal dynamics that would facilitate an equitable distribution of resources and is conducive to promoting sustained, endogenous development, which will reduce dependence.

Paragraph 26

It is very important that the efforts to promote the economic and social status of women should rely in particular on the development strategies that stem from the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy and the principles of a new international economic order. These principles include, inter alia, self-reliance, collective self-reliance, the activation of indigenous human and material resources. The restructuring of the world economy, viewed on a long-term basis, is to the benefit of all people - women and men of all countries.

Paragraph 27

According to estimates and projections of the International Labour Office, women constitute 35 per cent of the world's labour force, and this figure is likely to increase steadily to the year 2000. Unless profound and extensive changes are made, the type of work available to the majority of women, as well as the rewards, will continue to be low. Women's employment is likely to be concentrated in areas requiring lower skills and lower wages and minimum job security. While women's total input of labour in the formal and informal sector will surpass that of men by the year 2000, they will receive an unequal share of the world's assets and income. According to recent estimates, it seems that women have sole responsibility for the economic support of a large number of the world's children, approximately one third and higher in some countries, and the numbers seem to be rising. Forward-looking strategies must be progressive, equitable and designed to support effectively women's roles and responsibilities as they evolve up to the year 2000. It will continue to be necessary to take specific measures to prevent discrimination and exploitation of their economic contribution at national and international levels.

Paragraph 28

During the period from 1986 to the year 2000, changes in the natural environment will be critical for women. One area of change is that of the role of women as intermediaries between the natural environment and society with respect to agro-ecosystems, as well as the provision of safe water and fuel supplies and the

closely associated question of sanitation. The problem will continue to be greatest where water resources are limited - in arid and semi-arid areas - and in areas experiencing increasing demographic pressure. In a general manner, an improvement in the situation of women could bring about a reduction in mortality and morbidity as well as better regulation of fertility and hence of population growth, which would be beneficial for the environment and, ultimately, for women, children and men.

Paragraph 29*

The issues of fertility rates and population growth should be treated in a context that permits women to exercise effectively their rights in matters pertaining to population concerns, including the basic right to control their own fertility which forms an important basis for the enjoyment of other rights, as stated in the report of the International Population Conference held at Mexico City in 1984. 8/

Paragraph 30

It is expected that the ever-expanding communications network will be better attuned than before to the concerns of women and that planners in this field will provide increasing information on the objectives of the Decade - equality, development and peace - on the Forward-looking Strategies, and on the issues included in the subtheme - employment, health and education. All channels, including computers, formal and non-formal education and the media, as well as traditional mechanisms of communication involving the cultural media of ritual, drama, dialogue, oral literature and music, should be used.

Paragraph 31

Political and governmental factors that are likely to affect prospects for the achievement of progress by women during the period 1986-2000 will depend in large measure upon the existence or absence of peace. If widespread international tensions continue, with threats not only of nuclear catastrophe but also of localized conventional warfare, then the attention of policy-makers will be diverted from tasks directly and indirectly relevant to the advancement of women and men, and vast resources will be further applied to military and related activities. This should be avoided and these resources should be directed to the improvement of humanity.

Paragraph 32

To promote their interests effectively, women must be able to enjoy their right to take part in national and international decision-making processes, including the right to dissent publicly and peacefully from their Government's policies, and to mobilize to increase their participation in the promotion of peace within and between nations.

The Holy See delegation reserved its position with respect to Paragraph 29 because it had not joined in the consensus at the International Conference on Population (Mexico City, 1984) and did not agree with the substance of Paragraph 29.

Paragraph 33

There is no doubt that, unless major measures are taken, numerous obstacles will continue to exist which retard the participation of women in political life, in the formulation of policies that affect them and in the formulation of national women's policies. Success will depend in large measure upon whether or not women can unite to help each other to change their poor material circumstances and secondary status and to obtain the time, energy and experience required to participate in political life. At the same time, improvements in health and educational status, legal and constitutional provisions and networking will increase the effectiveness of the political action taken by women so that they can obtain a much greater share in political decision-making than before.

Paragraph 34

In some countries and in some areas, women have made significant advances, but overall progress has been modest during the Decade, as is evident from the review and appraisal. During this period, women's consciousness and expectations have been raised, and it is important that this momentum should not be lost, regardless of the poor performance of the world economy. The changes occurring in the family, in women's roles and in relationships between women and men may present new challenges requiring new perspectives, strategies and measures. At the same time, it will be necessary to build alliances and solidarity groups across sexual lines in an attempt to overcome structural obstacles to the advancement of women.

Paragraph 35*

The World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the objectives of the International Women's Year, 1/ the Declaration of Mexico on the Equality of Women and their Contribution to Development and Peace, 1975, 9/ regional plans of action, the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, 2/ and the sub-theme - employment, health and education - the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation 7/ and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women 6/ remain valid and therefore constitute the basis for the strategies and concrete measures to be pursued up to the year 2000. The continuing relevance of the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace - and of its sub-theme - health, education and employment - should be stressed, as should the implementation of the relevant recommendations of the 1975 Plan of Action and the 1980 Programme of Action, so as to ensure the complete integration of women in the development process and the effective realization of the objectives of the Decade. The challenge now is for the international community to ensure that the achievements of the Decade become strong building blocks for development and to promote equality and peace, especially for the sake of future generations of women. The obstacles of the next 15 years must be met through concerted global, regional and national efforts. By the year 2000 illiteracy should have been eliminated, life expectancy for all women

* Reservations to paragraph 35 were formulated by Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and United States of America. The United States reserved its position on the reference in paragraph 35 to the Declaration of Mexico on the Equality of Women and their Contribution to Development and Peace, 1975.

increased to at least 65 years of good quality life and opportunities for self-supporting employment made available. Above all, laws guaranteeing equality for women in all spheres of life must by then be fully and comprehensively implemented to ensure a truly equitable socio-economic framework within which real development can take place. Forward-looking Strategies for the advancement of women at the regional level should be based on a clear assessment of demographic trends and development forecasts that provide a realistic context for their implementation.

Paragraph 36

The Forward-looking Strategies and multidimensional measures must be pursued within the framework of a just international society in which equitable economic relations will allow the closing of the gap that separates the industrialized countries from the developing countries. In this regard, all countries are called upon to show their commitment as was decided in General Assembly resolution 34/138 and, therefore, to continue informal consultations on the launching of global negotiations, as decided by the General Assembly in decision 39/454.

D. Basic approach to the formulation of the Forward-looking Strategies

Paragraph 37

It is necessary to reiterate the unity, inseparability and interdependence of the objectives of the Decade - equality, development and peace - as regards the advancement of women and their full integration in economic, political, social and cultural development, for which purpose the objectives should remain in effect in the operational strategies for the advancement of women to the year 2000.

Paragraph 38

The Forward-looking Strategies are intended to provide a practical and effective guide for global action on a long-term basis and within the context of the broader goals and objectives of a new international economic order. Measures are designed for immediate action, with monitoring and evaluation occurring every five years, depending on the decision of the General Assembly. Since countries are at various stages of development, they should have the option to set their own priorities based on their own development policies and resource capabilities. What may be possible for immediate action in one country may require more long-range planning in another, and even more so in respect of countries which are still under colonialism, domination and foreign occupation. The exact methods and procedures for implementing measures will depend upon the nature of the political process and the administrative capabilities of each country.

Paragraph 39

Some measures are intended to affect women and others directly and are designed to make the societal context less obstructive and more supportive of their progress. These measures would include the elimination of sex-based stereotyping, which is at the root of continuing discrimination. Measures to improve the situation of women are bound to have a ripple effect in society, since the advancement of women is without doubt a pre-condition for the establishment of a just and progressive society.

Paragraph 40

The feasibility of policies, programmes and projects concerning women will be affected not only by their numbers and socio-economic heterogeneity but also by the different life-styles of women and by the constant changes in their life cycle.

Paragraph 41

The Forward-looking Strategies not only suggest measures for overcoming obstacles that are fundamental and operational, but also identify those that are emerging. Thus, the strategies and measures presented are intended to serve as guidelines for a process of continuous adaptation to diverse and changing national situations at speeds and modes determined by overall national priorities, within which the integration of women in development should rank high. The Forward-looking Strategies, acknowledging existing and potential obstacles, include separate basic strategies for the achievement of equality, development and peace. In line with the recommendations of the Commission on the Status of Women, acting as the Preparatory Body for the Conference at its second session, particular attention is given to "especially vulnerable and underprivileged groups of women, such as rural and urban poor women; women in areas affected by armed conflicts, foreign intervention and international threats to peace; elderly women; young women; abused women; destitute women; women victims of trafficking and women in involuntary prostitution; women deprived of their traditional means of livelihood; women who are sole supporters of families; physically and mentally disabled women; women in detention; refugee and displaced women; migrant women; minority women; and indigenous women". 10/

Paragraph 42

Although addressed primarily to Governments, international and regional organizations, and non-governmental organizations, an appeal is made to all women and men in a spirit of solidarity. In particular, it is addressed to those women and men who now enjoy certain improvements in their material circumstances and who have achieved positions where they may influence policy-making, development priorities and public opinion to change the current inferior and exploited condition of the majority of women in order to serve the goals of equality for all women, their full participation in development, and the achievement and strengthening of peace.

I. EQUALITY

A. Obstacles

Paragraph 43

One of the objectives of the Decade entails the full observance of the equal rights of women and the elimination of de jure and de facto discrimination. This is a critical first step towards human resource development. In developing countries inequality is, to a great extent, the result of underdevelopment and its various manifestations, which in turn are aggravated by the unjust distribution of the benefits of the international economy. The United Nations system, particularly the Commission on the Status of Women, has worked for four decades to establish international standards and to identify and propose measures to prevent discrimination on the basis of sex. Although much progress has been made in

legislation, measures are necessary for effective implementation and enforcement. Legislative enactment is only one element in the struggle for equality, but an essential one as it provides the legitimate basis for action and acts as a catalyst for societal change.

Paragraph 44*

The inequality of women in most countries stems to a very large extent from mass poverty and the general backwardness of the majority of the world's population caused by underdevelopment, which is a product of imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, apartheid, racism, racial discrimination and of unjust international economic relations. The unfavourable status of women is aggravated in many countries, developed and underdeveloped, by de facto discrimination on the grounds of sex.

Paragraph 45

One of the fundamental obstacles to women's equality is that de facto discrimination and inequality in the status of women and men derive from larger social, economic, political and cultural factors that have been justified on the basis of physiological differences. Although there is no physiological basis for regarding the household and family as essentially the domain of women, for the devaluation of domestic work and for regarding the capacities of women as inferior to those of men, the belief that such a basis exists perpetuates inequality and inhibits the structural and attitudinal changes necessary to eliminate such inequality.

Paragraph 46

Women, by virtue of their gender, experience discrimination in terms of denial of equal access to the power structure that controls society and determines development issues and peace initiatives. Additional differences, such as race, colour and ethnicity, may have even more serious implications in some countries, since such factors can be used as justification for compound discrimination.

Paragraph 47

Fundamental resistance creates obstacles, which have wide-ranging implications for the objectives of the Decade. Discrimination promotes an uneconomic use of women's talents and wastes the valuable human resources necessary for development and for the strengthening of peace. Ultimately, society is the loser if the talents of women are under-utilized as a result of discrimination.

Paragraph 48

The sharp contrasts between legislative changes and effective implementation of these changes are a major obstacle to the full participation of women in society. De facto and indirect discrimination, particularly by reference to marital or family status, often persists despite legislative action. The law as a course does not automatically benefit all women equally, owing to the socio-economic inequalities determining women's knowledge of and access to the law,

The United States reserved its position on paragraph 44 because it did not agree that the obstacles listed should be considered the main reasons for the inequality of women in most countries.

as well as their ability to exercise their full legal rights without fear of reprimand or intimidation. The lack or inadequacy of the dissemination of information on women's rights and the available recourse to justice has hampered, in many instances, the achievement of expected results.

Paragraph 49

Some legislative changes are made without a thorough understanding of the relationship between existing legal systems. In practice, however, certain aspects of the law - for instance, customary provisions - may be in operation in societies with multiple and conflicting legal systems. Emerging and potential obstacles resulting from possible contradictions should be anticipated so that preventive measures can be taken. When passing new legislation, whatever its subject-matter, all possible care should be taken to ensure that it implies no direct or indirect discrimination so that women's right to equality is fully respected in law.

Paragraph 50

In some countries, discriminatory legislative provisions in the social, economic and political spheres still exist, including civil, penal and commercial codes and certain administrative rules and regulations. Civil codes in some instances have not yet been adequately studied to determine action for repealing those laws that still discriminate against women and for determining, on the basis of equality, the legal capacity and status of women, married women in particular, in terms of nationality, inheritance, ownership and control of property, freedom of movement and the custody and nationality of children. Above all, there is still a deeply rooted resistance on the part of conservative elements in society to the change in attitude necessary for a total ban on discriminatory practices against women at the family, local, national and international levels.

B. Basic strategies

Paragraph 51

The political commitment to establish, modify, expand or enforce a comprehensive legal base for the equality of women and men and on the basis of human dignity must be strengthened. Legislative changes are most effective when made within a supportive framework promoting simultaneous changes in the economic, social, political and cultural spheres, which can help bring about a social transformation. For true equality to become a reality for women, the sharing of power on equal terms with men must be a major strategy.

Paragraph 52

Governments should take the relevant steps to ensure that both men and women enjoy equal rights, opportunities and responsibilities so as to guarantee the development of their individual aptitudes and capacities and enable women to participate as beneficiaries and active agents in development.

Paragraph 53

Changes in social and economic structures should be promoted which would make possible the full equality of women and their free access to all types of development as active agents and beneficiaries, without discrimination of any kind, and to all types of education, training and employment. Special attention should be paid to implementing this right to the maximum extent possible for young women.

Paragraph 54

In order to promote equality of women and men, Governments should ensure, for both women and men, equality before the law, the provision of facilities for equality of educational opportunities and training, health services, equality in conditions and opportunities of employment, including remuneration, and adequate social security. Governments should recognize and undertake measures to implement the right of men and women to employment on equal conditions, regardless of marital status, and their equal access to the whole range of economic activities.

Paragraph 55

Effective institutions and procedures must be established or strengthened to monitor the situation of women comprehensively and identify the causes, both traditional and new, of discrimination and to help formulate new policies and effectively carry out strategies and measures to end discrimination. These arrangements and procedures must be integrated within a coherent policy for development but cannot wait indefinitely for such a policy to be formulated and implemented.

Paragraph 56

The obstacles to the equality of women created by stereotypes, perceptions of and attitudes towards women should be totally removed. Elimination of these obstacles will require, in addition to legislation, education of the population at large through formal and informal channels, including the media, non-governmental organizations, political party platforms and executive action.

Paragraph 57

Appropriate governmental machinery for monitoring and improving the status of women should be established where it is lacking. To be effective, this machinery should be established at a high level of government and should be ensured adequate resources, commitment and authority to advise on the impact on women of all government policies. Such machinery can play a vital role in enhancing the status of women, *inter alia*, through the dissemination of information to women on their rights and entitlements, through collaborative action with various ministries and other government agencies and with non-governmental organizations and indigenous women's societies and groups.

Paragraph 58

Timely and reliable statistics on the situation of women have an important role to play in the elimination of stereotypes and the movement towards full equality. Governments should help collect statistics and make periodic assessment identifying stereotypes and inequalities, in providing concrete evidence concerning many of the harmful consequences of unequal laws and practices and in measuring progress in the elimination of inequities.

Paragraph 59

The sharing of domestic responsibilities by all members of the family and the recognition of women's informal and invisible economic contributions in the mainstream of society should be developed as complementary strategies for the elimination of women's secondary status, which has fostered discrimination.

C. Measures for the implementation of the basic strategies
at the national level

1. Constitutional and legal

Paragraph 60

Governments that have not yet done so are urged to sign the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women 5/ and to take all the necessary steps to ensure its ratification, or their accession to it. They should consider the possibility of establishing appropriate bodies charged with reviewing the national legislation concerned and with drawing up recommendations thereon to ensure that the provisions of the Convention and of the other international instruments to which they are parties that are relevant to the role, status and material circumstances of women are complied with.

Paragraph 61

Governments that have not yet done so should establish appropriate institutional procedures whereby the application of a revised set of laws and administrative measures may be effectively enforced from the village level up and may be adequately monitored so that individual women may, without obstruction or cost to themselves, seek to have discriminatory treatment redressed. Legislation that concerns women as a group should also be effectively enforced and monitored so that areas of systemic or de facto discrimination against women can be redressed. To this end, positive action policy should be developed.

Paragraph 62

Agrarian reform measures have not always ensured women's rights even in countries where women predominate in the agricultural labour force. Such reforms should guarantee women's constitutional and legal rights in terms of access to land and other means of production and should ensure that women will control the products of their labour and their income, as well as benefits from agricultural inputs, research, training, credits and other infrastructural facilities.

Paragraph 63

National research institutions, both governmental and private, are urged to undertake investigations of the problems associated with the relationship between the law and the role, status and material circumstances of women. These should be integrated into the curricula of relevant educational institutions in an attempt to promote general knowledge and awareness of the law.

Paragraph 64

In the past decade there have been significant advances in the development of statistical concepts and methods for measuring inequality between women and men. The capabilities of national institutions concerned with statistics and women's issues should be improved to implement these concepts and methods in the regular statistical programmes of countries and to make effective use of these statistics in the policy-planning process. Training for producers and users of statistics on women should play a key role in this process.

Paragraph 65

In-depth research should be undertaken to determine instances when customary law may be discriminatory or protective of women's rights and the extent to which the interfaces between customary and statutory law may retard progress in the implementation of new legislative measures. Particular attention should be paid to double standards in every aspect of life, with a view to abolishing them.

Paragraph 66

Law-reform committees with equal representation of women and men from Governments and from non-governmental organizations should be set up to review all laws, not only as a monitoring device but also with a view to determining research-related activities, amendments and new legislative measures.

Paragraph 67

Employment legislation should ensure equity and provide benefits for women not only in the conventional and formal labour force but also in the informal sector, particularly with regard to migrant and service workers, by providing minimum wage standards, insurance benefits, safe working conditions and the right to organize. Opportunities for similar guarantees and benefits should also be extended to women making vital economic contributions in activities involving food production and processing, fisheries and food distribution through trade. These benefits should also pertain to women working in family enterprises and, if possible, to other self-employed women in an effort to give due recognition to the vital contribution of all these informal and invisible economic activities to the development of human resources.

Paragraph 68

Civil codes, particularly those pertaining to family law, should be revised to eliminate discriminatory practices where these exist and wherever women are considered minors. The legal capacity of married women should be reviewed in order to grant them equal rights and duties.

Paragraph 69*

Such social and economic development should be encouraged as would secure the participation of women as equal partners with men in all fields of work, equal access to all positions of employment, equal pay for work of equal value and equal opportunities for education and vocational training, and would co-ordinate the legislation on the protection of women at work with the need for women to work and highly productive producers and managers of all political, economic and social affairs and would develop branches of the social services to make domestic duties easier for women and men.

* The United States reserved its position on paragraphs 69, 72 and 137 specifically because it did not agree with the concept of "equal pay for work of equal value" and maintained the principle of "equal pay for equal work".

Paragraph 70

Measures for the implementation of legislation relating to working conditions for women must be taken.

Paragraph 71

Legislative and/or other measures should be adopted and implemented to secure for men and women the same right to work and to unemployment benefits, as well as to prohibit, through, *inter alia*, the imposition of sanctions, dismissal on the grounds of pregnancy or of maternity leave and discrimination in dismissals on the grounds of marital status. Legislative and other measures should be adopted and implemented to facilitate the return to the labour market of women who have left it for family reasons and to guarantee the right of women to return to work after maternity leave.

Paragraph 72

Governments should continue to take special action to institute programmes that would inform women workers of their rights under legislation and other remedial measures. The importance of freedom of association and the protection of the right to organize should be emphasized, this being particularly relevant to the position of women in employment. Special measures should be taken to ratify and implement in national legislation the relevant conventions and recommendations of the International Labour Organisation concerning the rights of women as regards access to equal employment opportunities, equal pay for work of equal value, equal working conditions, job security and maternity protection.

Paragraph 73

Marriage agreements should be based on mutual understanding, respect and freedom of choice. Careful attention should be paid to the equal participation and valuation of both partners so that the value of housework is considered equivalent of financial contributions.

Paragraph 74

The right of all women, in particular married women, to own, administer, sell or buy property independently should be guaranteed as an aspect of their equality and freedom under the law. The right to divorce should be granted equally to both partners under the same conditions, and custody of children decided in a non-discriminatory manner with full awareness of the importance of the input from both parents in the maintenance, rearing and socialization of children. Women should not forfeit their right to custody of their children or to any other benefits and freedoms simply because they have initiated a divorce. Without prejudice to the religious and cultural traditions of countries, and taking into account the *de facto* situations, legal or other appropriate provisions should be made to eliminate discrimination against single mothers and their children.

Paragraph 75

Appropriate action is necessary to ensure that the judiciary and all paralegal personnel are fully aware of the importance of the achievement by women of rights set out in internationally agreed instruments, constitutions and the law. Appropriate forms of in-service training and retraining should be designed and carried out for this purpose, with special attention given to the recruitment and training of women.

Paragraph 76

Special attention should be given in criminology training to the particular situation of women as victims of violent crimes, including crimes that violate women's bodies and result in serious physical and psychological damage. Legislation should be passed and laws enforced in every country to end the degradation of women through sex-related crimes. Guidance should be given to law enforcement and other authorities on the need to deal sensibly and sensitively with the victims of such crimes.

2. Equality in social participation

Paragraph 77

A comprehensive and sustained public campaign should be launched by all Governments, in close collaboration with non-governmental organizations, women's pressure groups, where they exist, and research institutions, as well as the media, educational institutions and traditional institutions of communication, to challenge and abolish all discriminatory perceptions, attitudes and practices by the year 2000. Target groups should include policy-makers and decision-makers, legal technical advisers, bureaucrats, labour and business leaders, business persons, professionals and the general public.

Paragraph 78

By the year 2000, all Governments should have adequate comprehensive and coherent national women's policies to abolish all obstacles to the full and equal participation of women in all spheres of society.

Paragraph 79

Governments should take all appropriate measures to ensure to women, on equal terms with men and without discrimination, the opportunity to represent their Government at all levels on delegations to subregional, regional and international meetings. More women should be appointed as diplomats and to decision-making posts within the United Nations system, including posts in fields relating to peace and development activities. Support services, such as educational facilities and day care, for families of diplomats and other civil servants stationed abroad, of United Nations officials, as well as employment of spouses at the duty station, wherever possible, should be strongly encouraged.

Paragraph 80

As future parents, young people and children should be educated and mobilized to act as stimulators for and monitors of changes in attitudes towards women at all levels of society, particularly with regard to the need for greater flexibility in the assignment of roles between women and men.

Paragraph 81

Research activities should be promoted to identify discriminatory practices in education and training and to ensure quality at those two levels. One priority for research should be the impact of sexual discrimination on the development of human resources.

Paragraph 82

Governments and private institutions are urged to include in the curricula of all schools, colleges and universities courses and seminars on women's history and roles in society and to incorporate women's issues in the general curriculum and to strengthen research institutions in the area of women's studies by promoting indigenous research activities and collaboration.

Paragraph 83

New teaching methods should be encouraged, especially audio-visual techniques, to demonstrate clearly the equality of the sexes. Programmes, curricula and standards of education and training should be the same for females and males. Textbooks and other teaching materials should be continuously evaluated, updated and, where necessary, redesigned, rewritten to ensure that they reflect positive, dynamic and participatory images of women and to present men actively involved in all aspects of family responsibilities.

Paragraph 84

Governments are urged to encourage the full participation of women in the whole range of occupations, especially in fields previously regarded as male preserves, in order to break down occupational barriers and taboos. Employment equity programmes should be developed to integrate women into all economic activities on an equal basis with men. Special measures designed to redress the imbalance imposed by centuries of discrimination against women should be promoted to accelerate de facto equality between men and women. Those measures should not be considered discriminatory or entail the maintenance of unequal or separate standards. They are to be discontinued when the objectives of equality of opportunity and treatment have been achieved. Governments should ensure that their public service is an exemplary equal opportunity employer.

Paragraph 85

High priority should be given to substantial and continuing improvement in the portrayal of women in the mass media. Every effort should be made to develop attitudes and to produce materials that portray positive aspects of women's roles and status in intellectual and other activities as well as egalitarian relations of sexes. Steps also should be taken to control pornography, other obscene portrayals of women and the portrayal of women as sex objects. In this regard all measures should be taken to ensure that women participate effectively in relevant councils and review bodies regarding mass media, including advertisement, and in the implementation of decisions of these bodies.

3. Equality in political participation and decision-making

Paragraph 86

Governments and political parties should intensify efforts to stimulate and ensure equality of participation by women in all national and local legislative bodies and to achieve equity in the appointment, election and promotion of women to high posts in executive, legislative and judiciary branches in these bodies. At the local level, strategies to ensure equality of women in political participation should be pragmatic, should bear a close relationship to issues of concern to women in the locality and should take into account the suitability of the proposed measures to local needs and values.

Paragraph 87

Governments and other employers should devote special attention to the broader and more equitable access and inclusion of women in management in various forms of popular participation, which is a significant factor in the development and realization of all human rights.

Paragraph 88

Governments should effectively secure participation of women in the decision-making processes at a national, state and local level through legislative and administrative measures. It is desirable that governmental departments establish a special office in each of them, headed preferably by a woman, to monitor periodically and accelerate the process of equitable representation of women. Special activities should be undertaken to increase the recruitment, nomination and promotion of women, especially to decision-making and policy-making positions, by publicizing posts more widely, increasing upward mobility and so on, until equitable representation of women is achieved. Reports should be compiled periodically on the numbers of women in public service and on their levels of responsibility in their areas of work.

Paragraph 89

With respect to the increase in the number of couples in which both partners are employed in the public service, especially the foreign service, Governments are urged to consider their special needs, in particular the couple's desire to be assigned to the same duty station, with a view to reconciling family and professional duties.

Paragraph 90

Awareness of women's political rights should be promoted through many channels, including formal and informal education, political education, non-governmental organizations, trade unions, the media and business organizations. Women should be encouraged and motivated and should help each other to exercise their right to vote and to be elected and to participate in the political process at all levels on equal terms with men.

Paragraph 91

Political parties and other organizations such as trade unions should make a deliberate effort to increase and improve women's participation within their ranks. They should institute measures to activate women's constitutional and legal guarantees of the right to be elected and appointed by selecting candidates. Equal access to the political machinery of the organizations and to resources and tools for developing skills in the art and tactics of practical politics, as well as effective leadership capabilities, should be given to women. Women in leadership positions also have a special responsibility to assist in this field.

Paragraph 92

Governments that have not already done so should establish institutional arrangements and procedures whereby individual women, as well as representatives of types of women's interest groups, including those from the most vulnerable, privileged and most oppressed groups, may participate actively in all aspects of the formulation, monitoring, review and appraisal of national and local policies, issues and activities.

II. DEVELOPMENT

A. Obstacles

Paragraph 93

The United Nations Decade for Women has facilitated the identification and overcoming of obstacles encountered by Member States in integrating women into society effectively and in formulating and implementing solutions to current problems. The continuation of women's stereotyped reproductive and productive roles, justified primarily on physiological, social and cultural grounds, has subordinated them in the general as well as sectoral spheres of development, even where some progress has been achieved.

Paragraph 94*

There are coercive measures of an economic, political and other nature that are promoted and adopted by certain developed States and are directed towards exerting pressure on developing countries, with the aim of preventing them from exercising their sovereign rights and of obtaining from them advantages of all kinds, and furthermore affect possibilities for dialogue and negotiation. Such measures, which include trade restrictions, blockades, embargoes and other economic sanctions incompatible with the principles of the United Nations Charter and in violation of multilateral or bilateral commitments, have adverse effects on the economic, political and social development of developing countries and therefore directly affect the integration of women in development, since that is directly related to the objective of general social, economic and political development.

Paragraph 95**

One of the main obstacles to the effective integration of women in the process of development is the aggravation of the international situation, resulting in a continuing arms race, which now may spread also to outer space. As a result, immense material and human resources needed for development are wasted. Other major obstacles to the implementation of goals and objectives set by the United Nations in the field of the advancement of women include imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, expansionism, apartheid and all other forms of racism and racial discrimination, exploitation, policies of force and all forms of manifestations of foreign occupation, domination and hegemony, and the growing gap between the levels of economic development of developed and developing countries.

Paragraph 96

The efforts of many countries to implement the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women were undermined by a series of grave economic crises that

* The United States abstained in the vote on paragraph 94 because of unacceptable language relating to economic measures by developed countries against developing States.

** The United States reserved its position on paragraph 95 because it did not agree with the listing of those obstacles categorized as being major impediments to the advancement of women.

have had severe repercussions, especially for many developing countries because of their generally greater vulnerability to external economic factors as well as because the main burden of adjustment to the economic crises has been borne by the developing countries, pushing the majority of them towards economic collapse.

Paragraph 97

The worsening of the social situation in many parts of the world, and particularly in Africa, as a result of the disruptive consequences of the economic crisis had a great negative impact on the process of effective and equal integration of women in development. This adverse social situation reflects the lack of implementation of relevant United Nations conventions, declarations and resolutions in the social and economic fields, and of the objectives and overall development goals adopted and reaffirmed in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade.

Paragraph 98*

The lack of political will of certain developed countries to eliminate obstacles to the practical realization of such fundamental documents adopted by the United Nations as the Declaration on Social Progress and Development (General Assembly resolution 2542 (XXIV)), the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States (General Assembly resolution 3281 (XXIX)), the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order (General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI), respectively), the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade (General Assembly resolution 35/56, annex), aimed at the restructuring of international economic relations on a just and democratic basis, should be counted among the main reasons for the conservation of the unfavourable and unequal position of women from the point of view of development, especially in the developing countries.

Paragraph 99

The last years of the Decade have witnessed a deterioration of the general economic situation in the developing countries. The financial, economic and social crisis of the developing world has worsened the situation of large sectors of the population, especially women. In particular, the decline in economic activity is having a negative impact on an already unbalanced distribution of income, as well as on the high levels of unemployment, which affect women more than men.

Paragraph 100**

Protectionism against developing countries' exports in all its forms, the deterioration in the terms of trade, monetary instability, including high interest rates and the inadequate flow of official development assistance have aggravated the development problems of the developing countries, and consequently have complicated the difficulties hampering the integration of women in the development process.

* The United States requested a vote on paragraph 98 and voted against the paragraph.

** The United States reserved its position on paragraph 100 because it did not accept the underlying philosophy of the paragraph as it concerned the economic situation in debtor and developing countries.

One of the principal obstacles now confronting the developing countries is their gigantic public and private external debt, which constitutes a palpable expression of the economic crisis and has serious political, economic and social consequences for these countries. The amount of the external debt obliges the developing countries to devote enormous sums of their already scarce export income to the servicing of the debt, which affects their peoples' lives and possibilities of development, with particular effects on women. In many developing countries there is a growing conviction that the conditions for the payment and servicing of the external debt cause those countries enormous difficulties and that the adjustment policies traditionally imposed are inadequate and lead to a disproportionate social cost.

The negative effects of the present international economic situation on the least developed countries have been particularly grave and have caused serious difficulties in the process of integrating women in development.

The growth prospects of the low-income countries have seriously deteriorated owing to the reduction in international economic co-operation, particularly the inadequate flow of official development assistance and the growing trade protectionism in the developed countries, which restricts the capacity of the low-income countries to attain the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women.

This situation is even more grave in the developing countries that are afflicted by drought, famine and desertification.

Paragraph 101

Despite significant efforts in many countries to transfer tasks traditionally performed by women to men or to public services, traditional attitudes still continue to persist and in fact have contributed to the increased burden of work placed on women. The complexity and multidimensional aspects of changing sex roles and norms and the difficulty of determining the specific structural and organizational requirements of such a change have hindered the formulation of measures to alter sex roles and to develop appropriate perspectives on the image of women in society. Thus, despite gains made by a few women, for the majority subordination in the labour force and in society has continued, through the exploitative conditions under which women often work have become more visible.

Paragraph 102

The effective participation of women in development has also been impeded by the difficult international economic situation, the debt crisis, poverty, continued population growth, rising divorce rates, increasing migration, and the growing incidence of female-headed households. Yet, neither the actual expansion of employment for women nor the recognition that women constitute a significant proportion of producers has been accompanied by social adjustments to ease women's burden of child and household care. The economic recession led to a reduction in investments, particularly in those services that allow greater societal sharing of the social and economic costs of child care and housework.

Paragraph 103

Insufficient awareness and understanding of the complex and multifaceted relationships between development and the advancement of women have continued to make policy, programme and project formulation difficult. While during the earlier

part of the Decade the belief that economic growth would automatically benefit women was more widely shared, an evaluation of the experience of the Decade has shed considerable doubt on this over-simplified premise. Consequently, the need to understand better the relationship between development and the advancement of women and to gather, analyse and disseminate information for the more effective formulation of policies, programmes and projects has become greater.

Paragraph 104

Although throughout history and in many societies women have been sharing similar experiences, in the developing countries the problems of women, particularly those pertaining to their integration in the development process, are different from the problems women face in the industrialized countries and are often a matter of survival. Failure to recognize these differences leads, *inter alia*, to neglect the adverse effect of the insufficient progress made towards improvement in national policies or programmes and the present international economic situation as well as the interrelationships that exist between the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and the objectives of equality, development and peace.

Paragraph 105

The lack of political will and commitment continued to retard action to promote effective participation by women in development. Exclusion of women from policy-making and decision-making made it difficult for women and women's organizations to include in their preferences and interests the largely male-dominated choices of progress and development. Furthermore, because the issue of women in development has often been perceived as a welfare problem, it has received low priority, viewed simply as a cost to society rather than as a contribution. Thus, the specific formulation of targets, programmes and projects concerning women and development has often received little attention, awaiting the attainment of development rather than being instrumental to it. This, in turn, caused a parallel weakness in the institutional, technical and material resources devoted to the promotion of activities for effective participation by women in development.

Paragraph 106

Appropriate national machinery for the effective integration of women in the development process has been either insufficient or lacking. Where the machinery exists, it often lacks the resources, focus, responsibility and authority to be effective.

B. Basic strategies

Paragraph 107

The commitment to remove obstacles to the effective participation of all women in development as intellectuals, policy-makers and decision-makers, planners, contributors and beneficiaries should be strengthened according to the specific problems of women in different regions and countries and the needs of different categories of women in them. That commitment should guide the formulation and implementation of policies, plans, programmes and projects, with the awareness that development prospects will be improved and society advanced through the full and effective participation of women.

Paragraph 108

Different socio-economic and cultural conditions are to be taken into account when identifying the foremost obstacles to the advancement of women. The current economic situation and the imbalances within the world monetary and financial system need adjustment programmes to overcome the difficulties. These programmes should not adversely affect the most vulnerable segments of society among whom women are disproportionately represented.

Paragraph 109

Development, being conceived as a comprehensive process, must be characterized by the search for economic and social objectives and goals that guarantee the effective participation of the entire population, especially women, in the process of development. It is also necessary to work in favour of the structural changes needed for the fulfilment of these aspirations. In line with these concerns, one should endeavour to speed up social and economic development in developing countries; accelerate the development of the scientific and technological capabilities of those countries; promote an equitable distribution of national income; and eradicate absolute poverty, experienced disproportionately by women and children, with the shortest possible delay by applying an overall strategy that, on the one hand, eliminates hunger and malnutrition and, on the other, works towards the construction of more just societies, in which women may reach their full development.

Paragraph 110

As the primary objective of development is to bring about sustained improvement in the well-being of the individual and of society and to bestow benefits on all, development should be seen not only as a desirable goal in itself but also as an important means of furthering equality of the sexes and the maintenance of peace.

Paragraph 111

Women should be an integral part of the process of defining the objectives and modes of development, as well as of developing strategies and measures for their implementation. The need for women to participate fully in political processes and to have an equal share of power in guiding development efforts and in benefiting from them should be recognized. Organizational and other means of enabling women to bring their interests and preferences into the evaluation and choice of alternative development objectives and strategies should be identified and supported. This would include special measures designed to enhance women's autonomy, bringing women into the mainstream of the development process on an equal basis with men, or other measures designed to integrate women fully in the total development effort.

Paragraph 112

The actual and potential impact on women of macro-economic processes operating at the international and national levels, as well as of financial spatial and physical development policies, should be assessed and appropriate modifications made to ensure that women are not adversely affected. Initial emphasis should be placed on employment, health and education. Priority should be given to the development of human resources, bearing in mind the need to avoid further increases

in the work-load of women, particularly when alternative policies are formulated to deal with the economic and debt crisis.

Paragraph 113

With due recognition of the difficulties involved, Governments, international and regional organizations, and non-governmental organizations should intensify their efforts to enhance the self-reliance of women in a viable and sustained fashion. Because economic independence is a necessary pre-condition for self-reliance, such efforts should above all be focused on increasing women's access to gainful activities. Grass-roots participatory processes and planning approaches using local talent, expertise and resources are vital and should be supported and encouraged.

Paragraph 114

The incorporation of women's issues in all areas and sectors and at the local, national, regional and international levels should be institutionalized. To this end, appropriate machinery should be established or strengthened, and further legislative action taken. Sectoral policies and plans should be developed, and the effective participation of women in development should be integrated both in those plans and in the formulation and implementation of mainstream programmes and projects and should not be confined solely to statements of intent within plans or to small-scale, transitory projects relating to women.

Paragraph 115

The gender bias evident in most development programmes should be eliminated and the prejudices hindering the solution of women's problems removed. Particular attention should be given to the restructuring of employment, health and education systems and to ensuring equal access to land, capital and other productive resources. Emphasis should be placed on strategies to assist women in generating and keeping income, including measures designed to improve women's access to credit. Such strategies must focus on the removal of legal, customary and other barriers and on strengthening women's capacity to use existing credit systems.

Paragraph 116

Governments should seek means to increase substantially the number of women who are decision-makers, policy-makers, managers, professionals and technicians in both traditional and non-traditional areas and sectors. Women should be provided with equal opportunities for access to resources, especially education and training, in order to facilitate their equal representation at higher managerial and professional levels.

Paragraph 117

The role of women as a factor of development is in many ways linked to their involvement in various forms and levels of decision-making and management in economic and social structures, such as worker participation in management, industrial democracy, worker self-management, trade unions and co-operatives. The development of these forms of participation, which have an impact on the development and promotion of working and living conditions, and the inclusion of women in these forms of participation on an equal footing with men is of crucial importance.

Paragraph 118

The relationships between development and the advancement of women under specific socio-cultural conditions should be studied locally to permit the effective formulation of policies, programmes and projects designed for stable and equitable growth. The findings should be used to develop social awareness of the need for effective participation of women in development and to create realistic images of women in society.

Paragraph 119

It is vital that the link between the advancement of women and socio-economic and political development be emphasized for the effective mobilization of resources for women.

Paragraph 120

The remunerated and, in particular, the unremunerated contributions of women to all aspects and sectors of development should be recognized, and appropriate efforts should be made to measure and reflect these contributions in national accounts and economic statistics and in the gross national product. Concrete steps should be taken to quantify the unremunerated contribution of women to agriculture, food production, reproduction and household activities.

Paragraph 121

Concerted action should be directed towards the establishment of a system of sharing parental responsibilities by women and men in the family and by society. To this end, priority should be given to the provision of a social infrastructure that will enable society to share these responsibilities with families and, simultaneously, to bring about changes in social attitudes so that new or modified gender roles will be accepted, promoted and become exercisable. Household tasks and parental responsibilities, including decision-making regarding family size and child spacing, should be re-examined with a view to a better sharing of responsibilities between men and women and therefore, be conducive to the attainment of women's and men's self-reliance and to the development of future human resources.

Paragraph 122

Monitoring and evaluation efforts should be strengthened and directed specifically towards women's issues and should be based on a thorough review and extensive development of improved statistics and indicators on the situation of women as compared with men, over time and in all fields.

Paragraph 123

Appropriate national machinery should be established and should be utilized to integrate women effectively in the development process. To be effective, this machinery should be provided with adequate resources, commitment and authority to encourage and enhance development efforts.

Paragraph 124

Regional and international co-operation, within the framework of technical co-operation among developing countries, should be strengthened and extended to promote the effective participation of women in development.

C. Measures for the implementation of the basic strategies at the national level

1. Overall

Paragraph 125

Appropriate machinery with sufficient resources and authority should be established at the highest level of government as a focal point to ensure that the full range of development policies and programmes in all sectors recognizes women's contribution to development and incorporates strategies to include women and to ensure that they receive an equitable share of the benefits of development.

Paragraph 126

To achieve the goal of development, which is inseparably linked to the goals of equality and peace, Governments should institutionalize women's issues by establishing or strengthening appropriate machinery in all areas and sectors of development. In addition, they should direct specific attention to effecting a positive change in the attitudes of male decision-makers. Governments should ensure the establishment and implementation of legislation and administrative policies and mobilize communications and information systems to create social awareness of the legal rights of women to participate in all aspects of development at all levels and at all stages - that is, planning, implementation and evaluation. Governments should stimulate the formation and growth of women's organizations and women's groups and give financial and organizational support to their activities when appropriate.

Paragraph 127

National resources should be directed so as to promote the participation of women at all levels and in all areas and sectors. Governments should establish national and sectoral plans and specific targets for women in development; equip the machinery in charge of women's issues with political, financial and technical resources; strengthen intersectoral co-ordination in promoting women's participation; and establish institutional mechanisms to address the needs of especially vulnerable groups of women.

Paragraph 128

Governments should recognize the importance of and the need for the full utilization of women's potential for self-reliance and for the attainment of national development goals and should enact legislation to ensure this. Programmes should be formulated and implemented to provide women's organizations, co-operatives, trade unions and professional associations with access to credit and other financial assistance and to training and extension services. Consultative mechanisms through which the views of women may be incorporated in governmental activities should be set up, and supportive ties with women's grass-roots

organizations, such as self-help community development and mutual aid societies and non-governmental organizations committed to the cause of women should be created and maintained to facilitate the integration of women in mainstream development.

Paragraph 129

There should be close co-ordination between Governments, agencies and other bodies at the national and local level. The effectiveness of national machinery, including the relationship between Governments and non-governmental organizations, should be evaluated and strengthened with a view to improving co-operation. Positive experiences and good models should be widely publicized.

Paragraph 130

Governments should compile gender-specific statistics and information and should develop or reorganize an information system to take decisions and action on the advancement of women. They should also support local research activities and local experts to help identify mechanisms for the advancement of women, focusing on the self-reliant, self-sustaining and self-generating social, economic and political development of women.

Paragraph 131

Governmental mechanisms should be established for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of institutional and administrative arrangements and of delivery systems, plans, programmes and projects to promote an equitable participation of women in development.

2. Areas for specific action

Employment

Paragraph 132

Special measures aimed at the advancement of women in all types of employment should be consistent with the economic and social policies promoting full productive and freely chosen employment.

Paragraph 133

Policies should provide the means to mobilize public awareness, political support, and institutional and financial resources to enable women to obtain jobs involving more skills and responsibility, including those at the managerial level, in all sectors of the economy. These measures should include the promotion of women's occupational mobility, especially in the middle and lower levels of the work-force, where the majority of women work.

Paragraph 134

Governments that have not yet done so should ratify and implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and other international instruments relating to the improvement of the condition of women workers.

Paragraph 135

Measures based on legislation and trade union action should be taken to ensure equity in all jobs and avoid exploitative trends in part-time work, as well as the tendency towards the feminization of part-time, temporary and seasonal work.

Paragraph 136

Flexible working hours for all are strongly recommended as a measure for encouraging the sharing of parental and domestic responsibilities by women and men, provided that such measures are not used against the interests of employees. Re-entry programmes, complete with training and stipends, should be provided for women who have been out of the labour force for some time. Tax structures should be revised so that the tax liability on the combined earnings of married couples does not constitute a disincentive to women's employment.

Paragraph 137

Eliminating all forms of employment discrimination, inter alia through legislative measures, especially wage differentials between women and men carrying out work of equal value, is strongly recommended to all parties concerned. Additional programmes should help to overcome still existing disparities in wages between women and men. Differences in the legal conditions of work of women and men should also be eliminated, where there are disadvantages to women, and privileges should be accorded to male and female parents. Occupational desegregation of women and men should be promoted.

Paragraph 138

The public and private sectors should make concerted efforts to diversify and create new employment opportunities for women in the traditional, non-traditional and high productivity areas and sectors in both rural and urban areas through the design and implementation of incentive schemes for both employers and women employees and through widespread dissemination of information. Gender stereotyping in all areas should be avoided and the occupational prospects of women should be enhanced.

Paragraph 139

The working conditions of women should be improved in all formal and informal areas by the public and private sectors. Occupational health and safety and job security should be enhanced and protective measures against work-related health hazards effectively implemented for women and men. Appropriate measures should be taken to prevent sexual harassment on the job or sexual exploitation in specific jobs, such as domestic service. Appropriate measures for redress should be provided by Governments and legislative measures guaranteeing these rights should be enforced. In addition, Governments and the private sector should put in place mechanisms to identify and correct harmful working conditions.

Paragraph 140

National planning should give urgent consideration to the development and strengthening of social security and health schemes and maternity protection measures in keeping with the principles laid down in the ILO maternity protection Convention and maternity protection recommendation and other relevant ILO

conventions and recommendations as a prerequisite to the hastening of women's effective participation in production, and all business and trade unions should seek to promote the rights and compensations of working women and to ensure that appropriate infrastructures are provided. Parental leave following the birth of a child should be available to both women and men and preferably shared between them. Provision should be made for accessible child-care facilities for working parents.

Paragraph 141

Governments and non-governmental organizations should recognize the contribution of older women and the importance of their input in those areas that directly affect their well-being. Urgent attention should be paid to the education and training of young women in all fields. Special retraining programmes including technical training should also be developed for young women in both urban and rural sectors, who lack qualifications and are ill-equipped to enter productive employment. Steps should be taken to eliminate exploitative treatment of young women at work, in line with ILO Convention No. 111 concerning discrimination in respect of employment and occupation, 1958 and ILO Convention No. 122 concerning employment policy, 1964.

Paragraph 142

National planning, programmes and projects should launch a twofold attack on poverty and unemployment. To enable women to gain access to equal economic opportunities, Governments should seek to involve and integrate women in all phases of the planning, delivery and evaluation of multisectoral programmes that eliminate discrimination against women, provide required supportive services and emphasize income generation. An increased number of women should be hired in national planning mechanisms. Particular attention should be devoted to the informal sector since it will be the major employment outlet of a considerable number of underprivileged urban and rural women. The co-operative movement could play an indispensable role in this area.

Paragraph 143

Recognition and application should be given to the fact that women and men have equal rights to work and, on the same footing, to acquire a personal income on equal terms and conditions, regardless of the economic situation. They should be given opportunities in accordance with the protective legislation of each country and especially in the labour market, in the context of measures to stimulate economic development and to promote employment growth.

Paragraph 144

In view of the persistence of high unemployment levels in many countries, Governments should endeavour to strengthen the efforts to cope with this issue and provide more job opportunities for women. Given that in many cases women account for a disproportionate share of total unemployment, that their unemployment rates are higher than those of men and that, owing to lower qualifications, geographical mobility and other barriers, women's prospects for alternative jobs are mostly limited, more attention should be given to unemployment as it affects women. Measures should be taken to alleviate the consequences of unemployment for women in declining sectors and occupations. In particular, training measures must be instituted to facilitate the transition.

Paragraph 145

Although general policies designed to reduce unemployment or to create jobs may benefit both men and women, by their nature they are often of greater assistance to men than to women. For this reason, specific measures should be taken to permit women to benefit equally with men from national policies to create jobs.

Paragraph 146

As high unemployment among youth, wherever it exists, is a matter of serious concern, policies designed to deal with this problem should take into account that unemployment rates for young women are often much higher than those for young men. Moreover, measures aimed at mitigating unemployment among youth should not negatively affect the employment of women in other age groups - for example, by lowering minimum wages. Women should not face any impediment to employment opportunities and benefits in cases where their husbands are employed.

Paragraph 147

Governments should also give special attention to women in the peripheral or marginal labour market, such as those in unstable temporary work or unregulated part-time work, as well as to the increasing number of women working in the informal economy.

Health

Paragraph 148

The vital role of women as providers of health care both inside and outside the home should be recognized, taking into account the following: the creation and strengthening of basic services for the delivery of health care, with due regard to levels of fertility and infant and maternal mortality and the needs of the most vulnerable groups and the need to control locally prevalent endemic and epidemic diseases. Governments that have not already done so should undertake, in co-operation with the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, plans of action relating to women in health and development in order to identify and reduce risks to women's health and to promote the positive health of women at all stages of life, bearing in mind the productive role of women in society and their responsibilities for bearing and rearing children. Women's participation in the achievement of Health for All by the Year 2000 should be recognized, since their health knowledge is crucial in their multiple roles as health providers and health brokers for the family and community, and as informed consumers of adequate and appropriate health care.

Paragraph 149

The participation of women in higher professional and managerial positions in health institutions should be increased through appropriate legislation; training and supportive action should be taken to increase women's enrolment at higher levels of medical training and training in health-related fields. For effective community involvement to ensure the attainment of the World Health Organization's goal of Health for All by the Year 2000 and responsiveness to women's health needs,

women should be represented in national and local health councils and committees. The employment and working conditions of women health personnel and health workers should be expanded and improved at all levels. Female traditional healers and birth attendants should be more fully and constructively integrated in national health planning.

Paragraph 150

Health education should be geared towards changing those attitudes and values and actions that are discriminatory and detrimental to women's and girls' health. Steps should be taken to change the attitudes and health knowledge and composition of health personnel so that there can be an appropriate understanding of women's health needs. A greater sharing by men and women of family and health-care responsibilities should be encouraged. Women must be involved in the formulation and planning of their health education needs. Health education should be available to the entire family not only through the health care system, but also through all appropriate channels and in particular the educational system. To this end, Governments should ensure that information meant to be received by women is relevant to women's health priorities and is suitably presented.

Paragraph 151

Promotive, preventive and curative health measures should be strengthened through combined measures and a supportive health infrastructure which, in accordance with the International Code of Marketing of Breast Milk Substitutes, should be free of commercial pressure. To provide immediate access to water and sanitary facilities for women, Governments should ensure that women are consulted and involved in the planning and implementation of water and sanitation projects, trained in the maintenance of water-supply systems, and consulted with regard to technologies used in water and sanitation projects. In this regard, recommendations arising from the activities generated by the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade and other public health programmes should be taken into account.

Paragraph 152

Governments should take measures to vaccinate children and pregnant women against certain endemic local diseases as well as other diseases as recommended by the vaccination schedule of the World Health Organization and to eliminate any differences in coverage between boys and girls (cf. WHO report BB 75/22). In regions where rubella is prevalent, vaccinations should preferably be given to girls before puberty. Governments should ensure that adequate arrangements are made to preserve the quality of vaccines. Governments should ensure the quality of vaccines. Governments should also ensure the full and informed participation of women in programmes to control chronic and communicable diseases.

Paragraph 153

The international community should intensify efforts to eradicate the trafficking, marketing and distribution of unsafe and ineffective drugs and to disseminate information on their ill effects. Those efforts should include educational programmes to promote the proper prescription and informed use of drugs. Efforts should also be strengthened to eliminate all practices detrimental to the health of women and children. Efforts should be made to ensure that all women have access to essential drugs appropriate to their specific needs and as recommended in the WHO List of Essential Drugs as applied in 1978. It is

imperative that information on the appropriate use of such drugs is made widely available to all women. When drugs are imported or exported Governments should use the WHO Certification Scheme on the Quality of Pharmaceutical Products Moving in International Commerce.

Paragraph 154

Women should have access to and control over income to provide adequate nutrition for themselves and their children. Also, Governments should foster activities that will increase awareness of the special nutritional needs of women; provide support to ensure sufficient rest in the last trimester of pregnancy and while breast-feeding; and promote interventions to reduce the prevalence of nutritional diseases such as anaemia in women of all ages, particularly young women, and promote the development and use of locally produced weaning food.

Paragraph 155

Appropriate health facilities should be planned, designed, constructed and equipped to be readily accessible and acceptable. Services should be in harmony with the timing and patterns of women's work, as well as with women's needs and perspectives. Maternal and child-care facilities, including family planning services, should be within easy reach of all women. Governments should also ensure that women have the same access as men to affordable curative, preventive and rehabilitative treatment. Wherever possible, measures should be taken to conduct general screening and treatment of women's common diseases and cancer. In view of the unacceptably high levels of maternal mortality in many developing countries, the reduction of maternal mortality from now to the year 2000 to a minimum level should be a key target for Governments and non-governmental organizations, including professional organizations.

Paragraph 156*

The ability of women to control their own fertility forms an important basis for the enjoyment of other rights. As recognized in the World Population Plan of Action 11/ and reaffirmed at the International Conference on Population, 1984, all peoples and individuals have the basic human right to decide freely and informedly the number and spacing of their children; maternal and child health and family-planning components of primary health care should be strengthened; and family-planning information should be produced and services created. Access to such services should be encouraged by Governments irrespective of their population policies and should be carried out with the participation of women's organizations to ensure their success.

Paragraph 157*

Governments should make available, as a matter of urgency, information, education and the means to assist women and men to take decisions about their desired number of children. To ensure a voluntary and free choice, family-planning information, education and means should include all medically approved and appropriate methods of family planning. Education for responsible parenthood and family-life education should be widely available and should be directed towards

The Holy See delegation reserved its position with respect to Paragraphs 156 to 159 because it did not agree with the substance of those Paragraphs.

both men and women. Non-governmental organizations, particularly women's organizations, should be involved in such programmes because they can be the most effective media for motivating people at that level.

Paragraph 158*

Recognizing that pregnancy occurring in adolescent girls, whether married or unmarried, has adverse effects on the morbidity and mortality of both mother and child, Governments are urged to develop policies to encourage delay in the commencement of childbearing. Governments should make efforts to raise the age of entry into marriage in countries in which this age is still quite low. Attention should also be given to ensuring that adolescents, both girls and boys, receive adequate information and education.

Paragraph 159*

All Governments should ensure that fertility-control methods and drugs conform to adequate standards of quality, efficiency and safety. This should also apply to organizations responsible for distributing and administering these methods. Information on contraceptives should be made available to women. Programmes of incentives and disincentives should be neither coercive nor discriminatory and should be consistent with internationally recognized human rights, as well as with changing individual and cultural values.

Paragraph 160

Governments should encourage local women's organizations to participate in primary health-care activities including traditional medicine, and should devise ways to support women, especially underprivileged women, in taking responsibility for self-care and in promoting community care, particularly in rural areas. More emphasis should be placed on preventive rather than curative measures.

Paragraph 161

The appropriate gender-specific indicators for monitoring women's health that have been or are being developed by the World Health Organization should be widely applied and utilized by Governments and other interested organizations in order to develop and sustain measures for treating low-grade ill health and for reducing high morbidity rates among women, particularly when illnesses are psychosomatic or social and cultural in nature. Governments that have not yet done so should establish focal points to carry out such monitoring.

Paragraph 162

Occupational health and safety should be enhanced by the public and private sectors. Concern with the occupational health risks should cover female as well as male workers and focus among other things on risks endangering their reproductive capabilities and unborn children. Efforts should equally be directed at the health of pregnant and lactating women, the health impact of new technologies and the harmonization of work and family responsibilities.

* The Holy See delegation reserved its position with respect to paragraphs 156 to 159 because it did not agree with the substance of those paragraphs.

Education

Paragraph 163

Education is the basis for the full promotion and improvement of the status of women. It is the basic tool that should be given to women in order to fulfil their role as full members of society. Governments should strengthen the participation of women at all levels of national educational policy and in formulating and implementing plans, programmes and projects. Special measures should be adopted to revise and adapt women's education to the realities of the developing world. Existing and new services should be directed to women as intellectuals, policy-makers, decision-makers, planners, contributors and beneficiaries, with particular attention to the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education (1960). Special measures should also be adopted to increase equal access to scientific, technical and vocational education, particularly for young women; and evaluate progress made by the poorest women in urban and rural areas.

Paragraph 164

Special measures should be taken by Governments and the international organizations, especially UNESCO, to eliminate the high rate of illiteracy by the year 2000, with the support of the international community. Governments should establish targets and adopt appropriate measures for this purpose. While the elimination of illiteracy is important to all, priority programmes are still required to overcome the special obstacles that have generally led to higher illiteracy rates among women than among men. Efforts should be made to promote functional literacy, with special emphasis on health, nutrition and viable economic skills and opportunities, in order to eradicate illiteracy among women and to produce additional material for the eradication of illiteracy. Programmes for legal literacy in low-income urban and rural areas should be initiated and intensified. Raising the level of education among women is important for the general welfare of society and because of its close link to child survival and child spacing.

Paragraph 165

The causes of high absenteeism and drop-out rates of girls in the educational system must be addressed. Measures must be developed, strengthened and implemented that will, *inter alia*, create the appropriate incentives to ensure that women have an equal opportunity to acquire education at all levels, as well as to apply their education in a work or career context. Such measures should include the strengthening of communication and information systems, the implementation of appropriate legislation and the reorientation of educational personnel. Moreover, Governments should encourage and finance adult education programmes for those women who have never completed their studies or were forced to interrupt their studies, owing to family responsibilities, lack of financial resources or early pregnancies.

Paragraph 166

Efforts should be made to ensure that available scholarships and other forms of support from governmental, non-governmental and private sources are expanded and suitably distributed to girls and boys and that boarding and lodging facilities are equally accessible to them.

Paragraph 167

The curricula of public and private schools should be examined, textbooks and other educational materials reviewed and educational personnel retrained in order to eliminate all discriminatory gender stereotyping in education. Educational institutions should be encouraged to expand their curricula to include studies on women's contribution to all aspects of development.

Paragraph 168

The Decade has witnessed the rise of centres and programmes of women's studies in response to social forces and to the need for developing a new scholarship and a body of knowledge on women's studies from the perspective of women. Women's studies should be developed to reformulate the current models influencing the constitution of knowledge and sustaining a value system that reinforces inequality. The promotion and application of women's studies inside and outside and conventional institutions of learning will help to create a just and equitable society in which men and women enjoy equal partnership.

Paragraph 169

Encouragement and incentives, as well as counselling services, should be provided for girls to study scientific, technical and managerial subjects at all levels, in order to develop and enhance the aptitudes of women for decision-making, management and leadership in these fields.

Paragraph 170

All educational and occupational training should be flexible and accessible to both women and men. It should aim to improve employment possibilities and promotion prospects for women including those areas where technologies are improving rapidly, and vocational training programmes, as well as workers' educational schemes dealing with co-operatives, trade unions and work associations, should stress the importance of equal opportunity for women at all levels of work and work-related activities.

Paragraph 171

Extensive measures should be taken to diversify women's vocational education and training in order to extend their opportunities for employment in occupations that are non-traditional or are new to women and that are important to development. The present educational system, which in many countries is sharply divided by sex, with girls receiving instruction in home economics and boys in technical subjects, should be altered. Existing vocational training centres should be opened to girls and women instead of continuing a segregated training system.

Paragraph 172

A fully integrated system of training, having direct linkages with employment needs, pertinent to future employment and development trends should be created and implemented in order to avoid wastage of human resources.

Paragraph 173

Educational programmes to enable men to assume as much responsibility as women in the upbringing of children and the maintenance of the household should be introduced at all levels of the educational system.

food, water and agriculture

Paragraph 174

Women, as key food producers in many regions of the world, play a central role in the development and production of food and agriculture, participating actively in all phases of the production cycle, including the conservation, storage, processing and marketing of food and agricultural products. Women therefore make a vital contribution to economic development, particularly in agriculturally based economies, which must be better recognized and rewarded. Development strategies and programmes, as well as incentive programmes and projects in the field of food and agriculture, need to be designed in a manner that fully integrates women at all levels of planning, implementation, monitoring evaluation in all stages of the development process of a project cycle, so as to facilitate and enhance this key role of women and to ensure that women receive proper benefits and remuneration commensurate with their important contribution in this field. Moreover, women should be fully integrated and involved in the technological research and energy aspects of food and agricultural development.

Paragraph 175

During the Decade, the significant contribution of women to agricultural development has been more widely recognized, particularly their contribution in working hours to agricultural, fishery and forestry production and conservation, and to various parts of the food system. There are indications, however, that poverty and landlessness among rural women will increase significantly by the year 2000. In order to stem this trend, Governments should implement, as a matter of priority, equitable and stable investment and growth policies for rural development to ensure that there is a reallocation of the country's resources which, in many cases, are largely derived from the rural areas but allocated to urban development.

Paragraph 176

Governments should establish multisectoral programmes to promote the productive capacity of rural poor women in food and animal production, create off-farm employment opportunities, reduce their work-load, inter alia, by supporting the establishment of adequate child-care facilities and that of their children, reverse their pauperization, improve their access to all sources of energy, and provide them with adequate water, health, education, effective extension services and transportation within their region. In this connection it should be noted that the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, held at Rome in 1979, 12/ recognized women's vital role in the socio-economic life in both agricultural and non-agricultural activities as a prerequisite for successful rural development policies, planning and programmes, and proposed specific measures for improving their condition, which are still valid. The Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women also included specific measures to improve the situation of women in food and agriculture, which remain a valid guide for action.

Paragraph 177

The General Assembly, in resolution 39/165 on the critical situation of food production and agriculture in Africa, confirmed the growing concern of the international community at the dramatic deterioration in African food and agricultural production and the resulting alarming increase in the number of

people, especially women and children, exposed to hunger, malnutrition and even starvation. Concrete measures and adequate resources for the benefit of African women should be a priority. The international community, particularly donor countries, should be urged to assist African women by continuing and, where possible, by increasing financial assistance to enhance the role of women as food producers, with an emphasis on providing training in food technologies, thereby alleviating the problems of the continent resulting from extended drought and a severe shortage of food. Donor countries should also contribute to the special funds that have been launched by various organizations - for example, the United Nations Development Fund for Women. Emergency assistance should be increased and accelerated to alleviate the suffering of starving and dying women and children under famine conditions in Africa. Furthermore, given the critical food situation in Africa, aggravated *inter alia* by demographic pressures, the international community is urged to give priority to and provide support for the efforts of the African countries to overcome this serious situation. These efforts include the Lagos Plan of Action and the Nairobi Programme of Action, as well as the consultation by African Governments on the role of women in food production and food security.

Paragraph 178

Governments should give priority to supporting effective participation by women in food production and in food security programmes and should develop specific plans of action for this purpose. This would ensure that resources are directed towards women's programmes, that women are integrated in all mainstream rural development projects and that projects are located within technical ministries as well as ministries of social affairs. Governments should promote integrated solutions, such as national food policies, which are diversified according to specific natural regions for the improvement of self-reliance in food production, instead of resorting to palliatives or fragmented remedies.

Paragraph 179

Mechanisms should also include monitoring and evaluation and, where necessary, should modify the allocation of resources between women and men in mixed projects; should restructure rural development schemes to respond to women's needs; should assess women's projects in terms of technical and economic viability, as well as on social grounds; and should develop gender-specific statistics and information that reflect accurately women's contribution to food staples. Women's participation in programmes and projects to promote food security should be enhanced by providing them with opportunities to hold official positions, to receive training in leadership, administration and financial management and to organize on a co-operative basis. Research and experimentation should be conducted on food production and storage techniques to improve traditional knowledge and introduce modern technology.

Paragraph 180

Animal husbandry, fishery and forestry programmes should give greater attention to the effective participation of women as contributors and beneficiaries. Similarly, all other off-farm rural production programmes, as well as rural settlement, health, educational and social service programmes, should secure the participation of women as planners, contributors and beneficiaries.

Paragraph 181

Also important are the dissemination of information to rural women through national information campaigns, using all available media and established women's groups; the exposure of local populations to innovation and creativity through open-air films, talks, visits to areas where needs are similar, and demonstrations of scientific and technological innovations; the participation of women farmers in research and information campaigns; and the involvement of women in technical co-operation among developing countries and the exchange of information.

Paragraph 182

Rural women's access to land, capital, technology, know-how and other productive resources should be secured. Women should be given full and effective rights to land ownership, registration of land titles and allocation of tenancies on irrigation or settlement schemes and should also benefit from land reform. Women's customary land and inheritance rights under conditions of land shortage, land improvement or shifts into cash-cropping should be protected. Implementation of inheritance laws should be modified so that women can inherit a fair share of livestock, agricultural machinery and other property. Women's access to investment finance to increase their productivity and income should be supported by removing legal and institutional restrictions and by promoting women's savings groups and co-operatives and intermediary institutions, as well as training in and assistance with financial management, savings and investments and reallocation of land resources, with priority placed on production, especially of staple foods.

Paragraph 183

Women should be integrated into modern technology programmes that introduce new crops and improved varieties, rotation of crops, mixed farming, mixed and intercropping systems, low-cost soil fertility techniques, soil and water conservation methods and other modern improvements. In this connection, women's involvement in the construction, management and maintenance of irrigation schemes should be promoted.

Paragraph 184

Appropriate food-processing technologies can free women from time- and energy-consuming tasks and thus effect improvements in their health. Appropriate technologies can also increase the productivity and income of women, either directly or by freeing them to engage in other activities. Such technologies should be designed and introduced, however, in a manner that ensures women's access to the new technology and to its benefits and does not displace women from means of livelihood when alternative opportunities are not available. Appropriate labour-saving technologies should utilize local human and material resources and inexpensive sources of energy. The design, testing and dissemination of the technology should be appropriate also to the women who will be the users. Non-governmental organizations can play a valuable role in this process. Appropriate and affordable food-processing technologies should be made widely available to rural women, along with appropriate and affordable storage, marketing and transportation facilities to reduce post-harvest and income losses. Information on improved methods which have been ecologically confirmed of reducing post-harvest food loss and of preserving and conserving food products should be widely disseminated.

Paragraph 185

Financial, technical, advisory and institutional support should be provided to women's organizations and groups to enhance the self-reliance of rural women. Women's co-operatives should be promoted to operate on a larger scale by improving farm input provisions, primary processing and the wholesale marketing of women's production. Comprehensive support should be given to women's organizations to facilitate the acquisition of farm inputs and information and to facilitate the marketing of produce.

Paragraph 186

Governments should set targets for increased extension contracts with rural women, reorient the training of male extension workers and train adequate numbers of female extension workers. Women should be given access to training programmes at different levels that develop various types of skills to widen the range of methods and technologies used for agricultural production.

Paragraph 187

Governments should involve women in the mobilization and distribution of food aid in countries affected by the drought, as well as in the fight against desertification, through large-scale afforestation campaigns (planting of woodlots, collective farms and seedlings).

Paragraph 188

Governments should pay greater attention to the preservation and the maintenance free from pollution of any kind of sources of water supply for irrigation and domestic consumption, applying special remedial measures to relieve the burden placed on women by the task of fetching water. To this end, they should construct wells, bore-holes, dams and locally made water-catchment devices sufficient for all irrigation and domestic needs, including those of livestock. Women should be included by Governments and agencies in all policy planning, implementation and administration of water supply projects and trained to take responsibility for the management of hydraulic infrastructures and equipment and for its maintenance.

Industry

Paragraph 189

The problems related to the industrial development of the developing countries reflect the dependent nature of their economies and the need to promote transformation industries based on domestic agricultural production as a fundamental issue of development. Women are an important part of the agricultural work-force; therefore, there should be special interest in the promotion of the technical training of women in this particular field. In this respect, Governments should take into account the following recommendations:

(a) There should be a link between agriculture and industry;

(b) Steps should be taken to eliminate the particular obstacles to industrialization and to the participation of women in industry, such as energy, the limited markets of some developing countries, the rural exodus, poor infrastructure, a lack of technical know-how, the dependence of the industries of some countries and a lack of financial resources;

to participate in adult education and in-service programmes that teach not only literacy but also saleable income-generating skills, and by encouraging women to participate in collective organizations, including trade unions;

(d) Industrial co-operation among developing countries should be promoted by creating subregional industries;

(e) International organizations and developed countries should assist developing countries in their industrialization effort and the integration of women in that process.

Paragraph 190

Governments should ensure that, at all levels of the planning process, women participate both directly in decision-making and indirectly through effective consultation with the potential beneficiaries of programmes and projects. To this end, resources should be allocated to prepare women, through training, vocational guidance and career counselling and through increased incentives and other support measures, for increased participation in policy-making and decision-making roles and to integrate them by means of special measures at all levels.

Paragraph 191

Women should be viewed as users and agents of change in science and technology, and their technological and managerial skills should be enhanced in order to increase national self-reliance in industrial production and to promote innovations in productive design, product adaptation and production techniques. At the same time, industrial technologies should be applied appropriately to the needs and situations of women so as to free them from time- and energy-consuming tasks.

Paragraph 192

The introduction of advanced technologies in industry in particular, must allow women to enter into sectors from which they have been so far excluded.

Paragraph 193

Governments should direct their efforts to expanding women's employment opportunities in the modern, traditional and self-employed sectors of both the rural and urban economy and to avoiding the exploitation of female labour. Efforts to improve the absolute and relative levels of women's earnings and working conditions should be directed simultaneously to all three sectors.

Paragraph 194

In accordance with accepted international labour standards, particularly, not exclusively, in the field of female employment, appropriate legislation should be adopted and fully implemented at the national level. Specific consideration should be given to the removal of discriminatory practices concerning working conditions, health and safety, and to guaranteeing provisions for maternity benefits and child care. Social security benefits, including unemployment benefits, should be guaranteed to women on an equal footing with men. Recruitment of female workers in existing or new capital-intensive, productivity sectors should be encouraged.

Paragraph 195

Governments should recognize the importance of improving the conditions and structure of the informal sector for national industrial development and the role of women within it. Traditional craft and cottage industries, as well as the small industrial efforts of women, should be supported with credits, training facilities, marketing opportunities and technological guidance. To this end, producers' co-operatives should be supported and women should be encouraged to establish, manage and own small enterprises.

Paragraph 196

Governments should design and promote as well as encourage the design and promotion of programmes and should allocate resources to prepare women to take up traditional and non-traditional industrial activities in organized and small enterprises, as well as in the informal sector, through innovative approaches to training, and should prepare and disseminate training materials and provide training to the trainers. They should support self-employment initiatives and offer guidance and career counselling.

Trade and commercial services

Paragraph 197

Governments should recognize the potential impact of short-term economic adjustment policies on women in the areas of trade and commerce. Government policies should promote the full participation and integration of women in these areas. Alternative sources of finance and new markets should be sought to maintain and increase women's participation in these activities. Not only should appropriate measures be taken to ensure that legal and administrative impediments that prevent women from enjoying effective and equal access to finance and credit are removed but in addition positive measures such as loan guarantees, technical advice and marketing development services should be introduced.

Paragraph 198

Governments should also recognize the positive contribution of women traders to local and national economies and should adopt policies to assist and organize these women. The infrastructure and management of markets, transportation and social services should be improved to increase the efficiency, security and income of women traders and to reduce their work-load and the hazards to their health, as well as to avoid wastage of marketable produce. Training opportunities in bookkeeping, finance, packaging, standardization and processing technology should be provided to women traders. Such training should also aim at opening up employment opportunities to these women in other marketing and credit institutions. Governments should design innovative mechanisms to provide women traders with access to credit and to encourage the establishment and reinforcement of women's trade associations.

Paragraph 199

Efforts should be made to encourage enterprises to train women in economic sectors that traditionally have been closed to them, to promote diversification of women's employment and to eliminate gender bias from labour markets.

Science and technology

Paragraph 200

The full and effective participation of women in the decision-making and implementation process related to science and technology, including planning and setting priorities for research and development, and the choice, acquisition, adaptation, innovation and application of science and technology for development should be enhanced. Governments should reassess their technological capabilities and monitor current processes of change so as to anticipate and ameliorate any adverse impact on women, particularly adverse effects upon the quality of job.

Paragraph 201

The involvement of women in all of the peaceful uses of outer space should be enhanced, and effective measures should be undertaken to integrate women into all levels of decision-making and the implementation of such activities. In all countries special efforts should be made by Governments and non-governmental organizations to provide women and women's organizations with information on the peaceful uses of outer space. Special incentives should be provided to enable women to obtain advanced education and training in areas related to outer space in order to expand their participation in the application of outer space technology for peaceful uses, especially in the high-priority development areas of water, health, energy, food production and nutrition. To achieve these goals, increased opportunities and encouragement should be given to women to study science, mathematics and engineering at the university level and to girls to study mathematics and science at the pre-university level.

Paragraph 202

Women with appropriate skills should be employed at managerial and professional levels and not restricted to service-level jobs. Special measures should be taken to improve working conditions for women in the science and technology fields, to eliminate discriminatory classification of jobs and to protect the right of women to promotion. Efforts should be made to ensure that women obtain their fair share of jobs at all levels in new technology industries.

Paragraph 203

Major efforts should be undertaken and effective incentives created to increase the access of women to both scientific and technological education and training. To achieve these goals, efforts should be made by Governments and women themselves to enhance, where necessary, the change of attitudes towards women's performance in scientific fields.

Paragraph 204

The potential and actual impact of science and technology on the developments that affect women's integration into the various sectors of the economy, as well as their health, income and status, should be assessed. Relevant findings should be integrated in policy formulation to ensure that women benefit fully from available technologies and that any adverse effects are minimized.

Paragraph 205

Efforts in the design and delivery of appropriate technology to women should be intensified, and attention should be given to the achievement of the best possible standard in such technologies. In particular, the implications of advances in medical technology for women should be carefully examined.

Communications

Paragraph 206

In view of the critical role of this sector in eliminating stereotyped images of women and providing women with easier access to information, the participation of women at all levels of communications policy and decision-making and in programme design, implementation and monitoring should be given high priority. The media's portrayal of stereotyped images of women and also that of the advertising industry can have a profoundly adverse effect on attitudes towards and among women. Women should be made an integral part of the decision-making concerning the choice and development of alternative forms of communication and should have an equal say in the determination of the content of all public information efforts. The cultural media, involving ritual, drama, dialogue, oral literature and music, should be integrated in all development efforts to enhance communication. Women's own cultural projects aimed at changing the traditional images of women and men should be promoted and women should have equal access to financial support. In the field of communication, there is ample scope for international co-operation regarding information related to the sharing of experience by women and to projecting activities concerning the role of women in development and peace in order to enhance the awareness of both accomplishments and the tasks that remain to be fulfilled.

Paragraph 207

The enrolment of women in publicly operated mass communication networks and in education and training should be increased. The employment of women within the sector should be promoted and directed towards professional, advisory and decision-making positions.

Paragraph 208

Organizations aimed at promoting the role of women in development as contributors and beneficiaries should be assisted in their efforts to establish effective communications and information networks.

Housing, settlement, community development and transport

Paragraph 209

Governments should integrate women in the formulation of policies, programmes and projects for the provision of basic shelter and infrastructure. To this end, enrolment of women in architectural, engineering and related fields should be encouraged, and qualified women graduates in these fields should be assigned to professional and policy-making and decision-making positions. The shelter and infrastructural needs of women should be assessed and specifically incorporated in housing, community development, and slum and squatter projects.

Paragraph 210

Women and women's groups should be participants in and equal beneficiaries of housing and infrastructure construction projects. They should be consulted in the choice of design and technology of construction and should be involved in the management and maintenance of the facilities. To this end, women should be provided with construction, maintenance and management skills and should be participants in related training and educational programmes. Special attention must be given to the provision of adequate water to all communities, in consultation with women.

Paragraph 211

Housing credit schemes should be reviewed and women's direct access to housing construction and improvement credits secured. In this connection, programmes aimed at increasing the possibilities of sources of income for women should be promoted and existing legislation or administrative practices endangering women's ownership and tenancy rights should be revoked.

Paragraph 212

Government efforts for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless ^{13/} should incorporate assessments of the shelter needs of women and encourage the design and implementation of innovative projects that will increase women's access to services and finance. In these efforts special attention should be paid to women who are the sole supporters of their families. Low-cost housing and facilities should be designed for such women.

Paragraph 213

All measures to increase the efficiency of land, water and air transportation should be formulated with due regard to women as producers and consumers. All national and local decisions concerning transportation policies, including subsidies, pricing, choice of technology for construction and maintenance, and means of transport, should consider women's needs and should be based on consideration of the possible impact on the employment, income and health of women.

Paragraph 214

Women's roles as operators and owners of means of transport should be promoted through greater access to credit for women and other appropriate means and equal consideration with regard to the allocation of contracts. This is particularly important for women's groups and collectives, especially in rural areas, that are usually well organized but are cut off from serviceable means of transport and communication.

Paragraph 215

Rural transportation planning in developing countries should aim at reducing the heavy burden on women who carry agricultural produce, water and fuelwood as loads. In exploring modes of transportation, efforts should be made to avoid loss of income and employment for women by introducing costs that may be too high for them.

Paragraph 216

In the choice of modes of transportation and the design of transport routes, the increasing ratio of women whose income is essential for family survival should be taken into account.

Paragraph 217

In the design and choice of both commercial and appropriate vehicular technology, the needs of women, especially those with young children, should be taken into consideration. Institutional support to give women access to appropriate vehicles should be provided.

Energy

Paragraph 218

Measures developed to rationalize energy consumption and to improve energy systems, especially of hydrocarbons, and to increase technical training should be formulated with a view to women as producers, users and managers of energy sources.

Paragraph 219

In conventional and non-conventional national energy programmes, women should be integrated as contributors and beneficiaries with a view to their needs, as determined by specific socio-cultural factors at local and national levels and in both rural and urban contexts. Assessment of new energy sources, energy technologies and energy-delivery systems should specifically consider the reduction of the drudgery that constitutes a large part of the work of poor urban and rural women.

Paragraph 220

The grass-roots participation of women in energy-needs assessment, technology and energy conservation, management and maintenance efforts should be supported.

Paragraph 221

Priority should be given to substituting energy for muscle in the performance of the industrial and domestic work of women without loss of their jobs and tasks to men. In view of the high percentage of domestic use in total energy consumption in low-income countries, the implications of increasing energy costs, and the current threats posed by inflation, immediate attention should be directed towards action concerning adapted technologies, fuel conservation and improved or new sources of energy, such as biomass, solar and wind energy, geothermal and nuclear energy, as well as mini-hydroelectric power plants. Improved stoves should be designed and disseminated to reduce the drudgery involved in the collection of fuel by women.

Paragraph 222

In order to prevent depletion of the forest areas on which most rural women rely for much of their energy needs and income, innovative programmes, such as farm woodlot development, should be initiated with the involvement of both women and men. In the commercialization of fuelwood energy, measures should be taken to

avoid the loss of women's income to middlemen and urban industries. Development of fuelwood plantations, diffusion of fast-growing varieties of trees and technologies for more efficient production of charcoal should be accelerated with a view to poor rural and urban women being the major beneficiaries. The use of solar energy and biogas should be promoted with due regard to affordability, as well as to use and management by women who are the principal consumers.

Paragraph 223

The involvement of women at all levels of decision-making and implementation of energy-related decisions including peaceful use of nuclear energy should be enhanced. Special efforts should be made by Governments and non-governmental organizations to provide women and women's organizations with information on all sources and uses of energy, including nuclear energy. Special incentives should be provided to enable women to obtain advanced levels of education and training in all energy-related areas in order to expand their participation in decision-making relating to the application of nuclear technology for peaceful uses especially in high priority development areas of water, health, energy, food production and nutrition. To achieve these goals, increased opportunities and encouragement should be given to women to study science, mathematics and engineering at the university level and for girls to study mathematics and science at the pre-university level.

Environment

Paragraph 224

Deprivation of traditional means of livelihood is most often a result of environmental degradation resulting from such natural and man-made disasters as droughts, floods, hurricanes, erosion, desertification, deforestation and inappropriate land use. Such conditions have already pushed great numbers of poor people into marginal environments where critically low levels of water supplies, shortages of fuel, over-utilization of grazing and arable lands and population density have deprived them of their livelihood. Most seriously affected are women in drought-afflicted arid and semi-arid areas and in urban slums and squatter settlements. These women need options for alternative means of livelihood. Women must have the same opportunity as men to participate in the wage-earning labour force in such programmes as irrigation and tree planting and in other programmes aimed to upgrade urban and rural environments. Urgent steps need to be taken to strengthen the machinery for international economic co-operation in the exploration of water resources and the control of desertification and other environmental disasters.

Paragraph 225

Efforts to improve sanitary conditions, including drinking water supplies, in communities should be strengthened, especially in urban slums and squatter settlements and in rural areas, with due regard to relevant environmental factors. These efforts should be extended to include improvements of the home and the work environment and should be effected with the participation of women at all levels in planning and implementation process.

Paragraph 226

Awareness by individual women and all types of women's organizations of environmental issues and the capacity of women and men to manage their environment

and sustain productive resources should be enhanced. All sources of information dissemination should be mobilized to increase the self-help potential of women in conserving and improving their environment. National and international emphasis on ecosystem management and the control of environmental degradation should be strengthened and women should be recognized as active and equal participants in this process.

Paragraph 227

The environmental impact of policies, programmes and projects on women's health and activities, including their sources of employment and income, should be assessed and the negative effects eliminated.

Social services

Paragraph 228

Governments are urged to give priority to the development of social infrastructure, such as adequate care and education for the children of working parents, whether such work is carried out at home, in the fields or in factories, to reduce the "double burden" of working women in both urban and rural areas. Likewise they are urged to offer incentives to employers to provide adequate child-care services which meet the requirements of parents regarding opening hours. Employers should allow either parent to work flexible hours in order to share the responsibilities of child care. Simultaneously, Governments and non-governmental organizations should mobilize the mass media and other means of communication to ensure public consensus on the need for men and society as a whole to share with women the responsibilities of producing and rearing children, who represent the human resource capabilities of the future.

Paragraph 229

Governments should further establish ways and means of assisting women consumers through the provision of information and the creation of legislation that will increase consumer consciousness and protect consumers from unsafe goods, dangerous drugs, unhealthy foods and unethical and exploitative marketing practices.* Non-governmental organizations should work towards establishing strong and active organizations for consumer protection.

Paragraph 230

Public expenditure directed towards health, education and training and towards providing health-care and child-care services for women should be increased.

Paragraph 231

Governments should undertake effective measures, including mobilizing community resources, to identify, prevent and eliminate all violence, including family violence, against women and children and to provide shelter, support and reorientation services for abused women and children. These measures should notably be aimed at making women conscious that maltreatment is not an incurable

* The General Assembly adopted guidelines for consumer protection in resolution 39/248 of 9 April 1985.

phenomenon, but a blow to their physical and moral integrity, against which they have the right (and the duty) to fight, whether they are themselves the victims or the witnesses. Beyond these urgent protective measures for maltreated women and children, as well as repressive measures for the authors of this maltreatment, it would be proper to set in motion long-term supportive machineries of aid and guidance for maltreated women and children, as well as the people, often men, who maltreat them.

III. PEACE

A. Obstacles

Paragraph 232

The threat to peace resulting from continuing international tension and violations of the United Nations Charter, resulting in the unabated arms race, in particular in the nuclear field, as well as wars, armed conflicts, external domination, foreign occupation, acquisition of land by force, aggression, imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, apartheid, gross violation of human rights, terrorism, repression, the disappearance of persons and discrimination on the basis of sex are major obstacles to human progress, specifically to the advancement of women.

Paragraph 233

Such obstacles, some of which occur with increasing frequency, continually reinforce and are reinforced by historically established hostile attitudes, ignorance and bigotry between countries, ethnic groups, races, sexes, socio-economic groups and by lack of tolerance and respect for different cultures and traditions. Their negative effects are increased by poverty, tensions in international economic and political relations which are often aggravated, as well as by the arms race, both nuclear and conventional. The arms race in particular diverts resources which could be used for developmental and humanitarian purposes, hinders national and international development efforts and further handicaps the well-being of the poorest nations and the most disadvantaged segments of the population.

Paragraph 234

Despite the achievements of the Decade, women's involvement in governmental and non-governmental activities, decision-making processes related to peace, mobilization efforts for peace, education for peace and peace research remains limited. Their participation in the struggle to eradicate colonialism, neo-colonialism, imperialism, totalitarianism including fascism and similar ideologies, alien occupation, foreign domination, aggression, racism, racial discrimination, apartheid and other violations of human rights has often gone unnoticed.

Paragraph 235

Universal and durable peace cannot be attained without the full and equal participation of women in international relations, particularly in decision-making concerning peace, including the processes envisaged for the peaceful settlement of disputes under the Charter of the United Nations nor without overcoming the obstacles mentioned in paragraph 232.

Paragraph 236

Full equality between women and men is severely hampered by the threats to international peace and security, lack of satisfying progress in the field of disarmament, including the spread of the arms race to outer space, violation of the principle of the right of peoples under alien and colonial domination and foreign occupation to self-determination and independence and respect for the national sovereignty and territorial integrity of States as well as justice, equality and mutual benefit in international relations.

Paragraph 237

It is evident that women all over the world have manifested their love for peace and their wish to play a greater role in international co-operation, amity and peace among different nations. All obstacles at national and international levels in the way of women's participation in promoting international peace and co-operation should be removed as soon as possible.

Paragraph 238

It is equally important to increase women's understanding and awareness of constructive negotiations aimed at reaching positive results for international peace and security. Governments should take measures to encourage the full and effective participation of women in negotiations on international peace and security. The rejection of the use of force or of the threat of the use of force and foreign interference and intervention should become widespread.

B. Basic strategies

Paragraph 239

The main principles and directions for women's activities aimed at strengthening peace and formulated in the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation 7/ should be put into practice. The Declaration calls for Governments, the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations, relevant institutions and individuals to strengthen women's participation in this sphere and it provides the overall framework for such activities.

Paragraph 240

Women and men have an equal right and the same vital interest in contributing to international peace and co-operation. Women should participate fully in all efforts to strengthen and maintain international peace and security and to promote international co-operation, diplomacy, the process of détente, disarmament in the nuclear field in particular, and respect for the principle of the Charter of the United Nations, including respect for the sovereign rights of States, guarantees of fundamental freedoms and human rights, such as recognition of the dignity of the individual and self-determination, and freedom of thought, conscience, expression, association, assembly, communication and movement without distinction as to race, sex, political and religious beliefs, language or ethnic origin. The commitment to remove the obstacles to women's participation in the promotion of peace should be strengthened.

Paragraph 241

In view of the fact that women are still very inadequately represented in national and international political processes dealing with peace and conflict settlement, it is essential that women support and encourage each other in their initiatives and action relating either to universal issues, such as disarmament and the development of confidence-building measures between nations and people, or to specific conflict situations between or within States.

Paragraph 242

There exist situations in several regions of the world where the violation of principles of non-use of force, non-intervention, non-interference, non-aggression and the right to self-determination endangers international peace and security and creates massive humanitarian problems which constitute an impediment to the advancement of women and hence to the full implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies. In regard to these situations strict adherence to and respect for the cardinal principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and implementation of relevant resolutions consistent with the principles of the Charter are an imperative requirement with a view to seeking solutions to such problems, thereby ensuring a secure and better future for the people affected, most of whom are invariably women and children.

Paragraph 243

Since women are one of the most vulnerable groups in the regions affected by armed conflicts, special attention has to be drawn to the need to eliminate obstacles to the fulfilment of the objectives of equality, development and peace and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

Paragraph 244

One of the important obstacles to achieving international peace is the persistent violation of the principles and objectives of the Charter of the United Nations and the lack of political will of Governments of some countries to promote constructive negotiations aimed at decreasing international tension on the issues that seriously threaten the maintenance of international peace and security. For this reason, the strategies in this field should include the mobilization of women in favour of all acts and actions that tend to promote peace, in particular, the elimination of wars and danger of nuclear war.

Paragraph 245

Immediate and special priority should be given to the promotion and the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to sex, the full application of the rights of peoples to self-determination and the elimination of colonialism, neo-colonialism, apartheid, all forms of racism and racial discrimination, oppression and aggression, foreign occupation, as well as domestic violence and violence against women.

Paragraph 246

In South-West Asia women and children have endured serious suffering owing to violation of the Charter of the United Nations, leading, among other things, to a vast problem of refugees in neighbouring countries.

Paragraph 247

The situation of violence and destabilization that exists in Central America constitutes the most serious obstacle to the achievement of peace in the region and thus hinders the fulfilment of the Forward-looking Strategies vital to the advancement of women. In this regard and to promote conditions favourable to the objectives of the Strategies, it is important to reiterate the principles of non-intervention and self-determination, as well as the non-use of force or rejection of the threat of use of force in the solution of conflicts in the region. Therefore, the validity of the United Nations resolutions that establish the right of all sovereign States in the area to live in peace, free from all interference in their internal affairs, should be reaffirmed. It is necessary to support the negotiated political solutions and the peace proposals that the Central American States adopt under the auspices of the Contadora Group, as the most viable alternative for the solution of the crisis in Central America for the benefit of their people. In this sense it is important that the five Central American Governments speed up their consultations with the Contadora Group with the aim of bringing to a conclusion the negotiation process with the early signing of the Contadora Act on Peace and Co-operation in Central America (see A/39/562-S/16775, annex).

Paragraph 248

Women have played and continue to play an important role in the self-determination of peoples, including through national liberation, in accordance with the United Nations Charter. Their efforts should be recognized and commended and used as one basis for their full participation in the construction of their countries, and in the creation of humane and just social and political systems. Women's contribution in this area should be ensured by their equal access to political power and their full participation in the decision-making process.

Paragraph 249

Strategies at the national, regional and the global levels should be based on a clear recognition that peace and security, self-determination and national independence are fundamental for the attainment of the three objectives of the Decade: equality, development and peace.

Paragraph 250

Safeguarding world peace and averting a nuclear catastrophe is one of the most important tasks today in which women have an essential role to play, especially by supporting actively the halting of the arms race followed by arms reduction and the attainment of a general and complete disarmament under effective international control, and thus contributing to the improvement of their economic position. Irrespective of their socio-economic system, the States should strive to avoid confrontation and to build friendly relations instead, which should be also supported by women.

Paragraph 251

Peace requires the participation of all members of society, women and men alike, in rejecting any type of intervention in the domestic affairs of States, whether it is openly or covertly carried out by other States or by transnational corporations. Peace also requires that women and men alike should promote respect

for the sovereign right of a State to establish its own economic, social and political system without undergoing political and economic pressures or coercion of any type.

paragraph 252

There exists a relationship between the world economic situation, development and the strengthening of international peace and security, disarmament and the relaxation of international tension. All efforts should be made to reduce global expenditures on armaments and to reach an agreement on the internationally agreed disarmament goals in order to prevent the waste of immense material and human resources, some part of which might otherwise be used for development, especially of the developing countries, as well as for the improvement of standards of living and well-being of people in each country. In this context, particular attention should be given to the advancement of women, including to the participation of women in the promotion of international peace and co-operation and the protection of mothers and children who represent a disproportionate share of the most vulnerable group, the poorest of the poor.

paragraph 253

Women's equal role in decision-making with respect to peace and related issues should be seen as one of their basic human rights and as such should be enhanced and encouraged at the national, regional and international levels. In accordance with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, all existing impediments to the achievement by women of equality with men should be removed. To this end, efforts should be intensified at all levels to overcome prejudices, stereotyped thinking, denial to women of career prospects and appropriate educational possibilities, and resistance by decision-makers to the changes that are necessary to enable equal participation of women with men in the international and diplomatic service.

paragraph 254

Mankind is confronted with a choice: to halt the arms race and proceed to disarmament or face annihilation. The growing opposition of women to the danger of, especially a nuclear war, which will lead to a nuclear holocaust, and their support for disarmament must be respected. States should be encouraged to ensure unhindered flow and access to information, including to women, with regard to various aspects of disarmament to avoid dissemination of false and tendentious information concerning armaments and to concentrate on the danger of the escalation of the arms race and on the need for general and complete disarmament under effective international control. The resources released as a result of disarmament measures should be used to help promote the well-being of all peoples and improve economic and social conditions of the developing countries. Under such conditions, States should pay increased attention to the urgent need to improve the situation of women.

paragraph 255

Peace education should be established for all members of society, particularly children and young people. Values, such as tolerance, racial and sexual equality, respect for and understanding of others, and good-neighbourliness should be developed, promoted and strengthened.

Paragraph 256

Women of the world, together with men, should, as informal educators and socialization agents, play a special role in the process of bringing up younger generations in an atmosphere of compassion, tolerance, mutual concern and trust, with an awareness that all people belong to the same world community. Such education should be part of all formal and informal educational processes as well as of communications, information and mass-media systems.

Paragraph 257

Further action should be taken at family and neighbourhood levels, as well as at national and international levels, to achieve a peaceful social environment compatible with human dignity. The questions of women and peace and the meaning of peace for women cannot be separated from the broader question of relationships between women and men in all spheres of life and in the family. Discriminatory practices and negative attitudes towards women should be eliminated and traditional gender norms changed to enhance women's participation in peace.

Paragraph 258

Violence against women exists in various forms in everyday life in all societies. Women are beaten, mutilated, burned, sexually abused and raped. Such violence is a major obstacle to the achievement of peace and the other objectives of the Decade and should be given special attention. Women victims of violence should be given particular attention and comprehensive assistance. To this end, legal measures should be formulated to prevent violence and to assist women victims. National machinery should be established in order to deal with the question of violence against women within the family and society. Preventive policies should be elaborated, and institutionalized forms of assistance to women victims provided.

C. Women and children under apartheid

Paragraph 259*

Women and children under apartheid and other racist minority régimes suffer from direct inhumane practices such as massacres and detention, mass population removal, separation from families and immobilization in reservations. They are subjected to the detrimental implications of the labour migrant system pass laws and of relegation to the homelands where they suffer disproportionately from poverty, poor health and illiteracy. The Programme of Action of the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (1978) 14/ provides an overall framework for action. Its objective is to eradicate apartheid and to enable black African people in South Africa to enjoy their full sovereign rights in their country. Governments that have not already done so are urged to sign and ratify the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid of 30 November 1973. 15/

* The United States voted against paragraph 259 because of its opposition to the references in the eighth and ninth subparagraphs to the imposition of sanctions and aid to liberation movements.

Full international assistance should be given to the most oppressed group under apartheid - women and children. The United Nations system, Governments and non-governmental organizations should identify the basic needs of women and children under apartheid and other racist minority régimes, including women in refugee camps in southern Africa, and provide them with adequate legal, humanitarian, medical and material assistance as well as education, training and employment.

Assistance should be given to women's sections in national liberation movements in order to strengthen their work for women's equal opportunities, education and training so as to prepare them to play an important political role in the present struggle and in nation-building after liberation.

The Forward-looking Strategies should take into account the destabilizing effects of apartheid on the economic infrastructure of neighbouring independent African States, which impede the development of the subregion.

Institutionalized apartheid in South Africa and Namibia as realized in the day-to-day political, legal, social and cultural life remains an enormous obstacle and hindrance to advancement, equality and peace in the African region.

The Forward-looking Strategies should aim at the speedy and effective implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978) concerning the independence of Namibia. The total and unconditional liberation of Namibia should be a major objective of the Forward-looking Strategies, which should also aim at the improvement of the condition of women and children.

The United Nations and the international community must strengthen their resolve to see the abhorrent apartheid system eradicated and Namibia freed from the forces of occupation. Owing to South Africa's position in the international political and economic structure, the international community has the greatest responsibility to ensure that peace and human dignity are restored to southern Africa.

In addition to measures already taken, further effective measures, including sanctions, should be taken to terminate all collaboration with the racist régime of South Africa in the political, military, diplomatic and economic fields with a view to eliminating untold misery and loss of life of the oppressed people, the majority of whom are black women and children.

The international community must insist upon the effective implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978) concerning the independence of Namibia and all the United Nations resolutions calling for sanctions against South Africa, its isolation and abandonment of its racist policies. All efforts should be made for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of South African forces from Angola.

The international community must condemn the direct aggression committed by the armed forces of the racist régime of South Africa against the front-line countries as well as the recruitment, training and financing of mercenaries and of armed bandits who massacre women and children and who are used to overthrow the legitimate Governments of these countries by reason of their support for the people of South Africa and Namibia.

The international community should provide greater moral and material assistance to all the bodies struggling to remove apartheid, especially the

national liberation movements - the African National Congress of South Africa, the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania and the South West Africa People's Organization - the African front-line States, the Organization of African Unity, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and non-governmental organizations.

Women, together with their Governments, should strengthen their commitment to the eradication of apartheid and support to their struggling sisters in all possible ways. To this end, women and women's organizations should keep themselves constantly informed about the situation of women and children under apartheid, disseminate information widely and build up awareness in their countries about the situation by organizing national solidarity and support committees where these do not yet exist as a means to educate the public about the evils of apartheid and its brutal oppression of women and children in South Africa and Namibia.

D. Palestinian women and children

Paragraph 260*

For more than three decades, Palestinian women have faced difficult living conditions in camps and outside, struggling for the survival of their families and the survival of the Palestinian people who were deprived of their ancestral lands and denied the inalienable rights to return to their homes and their property, their right to self-determination, national independence and sovereignty (see A/CONF.116/6). Palestinian women are vulnerable to imprisonment, torture, reprisals and other oppressive practices by Israel in the occupied Arab territories. The confiscation of land and the creation of further settlements has affected the lives of Palestinian women and children. Such Israeli measures and practices are a violation of the Geneva Convention. 16/ The Palestinian woman as part of her nation suffers from discrimination in employment, health care and education.

The situation of violence and destabilization which exists in southern Lebanon and the Golan Heights put Arab women and children who are living under Israeli occupation in severe situations. Lebanese women are also suffering from discrimination and detention. Therefore, all relevant United Nations resolutions, in particular Security Council resolutions 497 (1981), 508 (1982) and 509 (1982), should be implemented.

The implementation of the Programme of Action for the Achievement of Palestinian Rights 17/ should be kept under review and co-ordinated between the United Nations units and agencies concerned, with emphasis on the role of Palestinian women in preserving their national identity, traditions and heritage and in the struggle for sovereignty. Palestinian people must recover their rights to self-determination and the right to establish an independent State in accordance with all relevant United Nations resolutions. The special and immediate needs of Palestinian women and children should be identified and appropriate provision made. United Nations projects should be initiated to help Palestinian women in the

* The United States voted against this paragraph because of its strong objection to the introduction of tendentious and unnecessary elements into the Forward-looking Strategies document which have only a nominal connection with the unique concerns of women.

fields of health, education, and vocational training. Their living conditions inside and outside the occupied territories should be studied by the appropriate United Nations units and agencies assisted, as appropriate, by specialized research institutes from various regions. The results of these studies should be given broad publicity to promote actions at all levels. The international community should exert all efforts to stop the establishment of new Israeli settlements in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Palestinian women should be allowed to enjoy security in a liberated homeland also in accordance with United Nations resolutions.

E. Women in areas affected by armed conflicts, foreign intervention and threats to peace

Paragraph 261

Armed conflicts and emergency situations impose a serious threat to the lives of women and children, causing constant fear, danger of displacement, destruction, devastation, physical abuse, social and family disruption, and abandonment. Sometimes these result in complete denial of access to adequate health and educational services, loss of job opportunities and overall worsening of material conditions.

Paragraph 262

International instruments, ongoing negotiations and international discussions aimed at the limitation of armed conflicts, such as the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 and the First Additional Protocol to the Geneva Conventions of 1949, adopted in 1977, provide a general framework for the protection of civilians in times of hostilities and the basis of provisions of humanitarian assistance and protection to women and children. Measures proposed in the 1974 Declaration on the Protection of Women and Children in Emergency and Armed Conflict (General Assembly resolution 3318 (XXIX)) should be taken into account by Governments.

F. Measures for the implementation of the basic strategies at the national level

1. Women's participation in efforts for peace

Paragraph 263

Governments should follow the overall framework of action for disarmament as provided by the Final Document of the tenth special session of the General Assembly, which was devoted to disarmament (resolution S-10/2). Women's participation in the World Disarmament Campaign and their contribution to education for disarmament should be supported.

Paragraph 264

Publicity should be given by Governments and non-governmental organizations to main treaties concluded in the field of arms control and disarmament, and to other relevant documents. More should be done to mobilize women to overcome social apathy and helplessness in relation to disarmament and to generate wide support for implementation of these agreements. Publicity should also be given to the Declaration by the General Assembly of 1986 as the International Year of Peace, 18/ and the participation of women in the programme for the Year should be encouraged.

Paragraph 265

Non-governmental organizations should be encouraged to play an active role in promoting the restoration of peace in areas of conflict, in accordance with United Nations resolutions.

Paragraph 266

Women should be able to participate actively in the decision-making process related to the promotion of international peace and co-operation. Governments should take the necessary measures to facilitate this participation by institutional, educational and organizational means. Emphasis should be given to the grass-roots participation and co-operation of women's organizations with other non-governmental organizations in this process.

Paragraph 267

Governments which have not done so should undertake all appropriate measures to eliminate existing discriminatory practices towards women and to provide them with equal opportunities to join, at all levels, the civil service, to enter the diplomatic service and to represent their countries as members of delegations to national, regional and international meetings, including conferences on peace, conflict resolution, disarmament, and meetings of the Security Council and other United Nations bodies.

Paragraph 268

Women should be encouraged and given financial support to take university courses in government, international relations and diplomacy in order to obtain the necessary professional qualifications for careers in fields relating to peace and international security.

Paragraph 269

Governments should encourage women's participation in the promotion of peace at decision-making levels by providing information on opportunities for such participation in public service and by promoting equitable representation of women in governmental and non-governmental bodies and activities.

Paragraph 270

Non-governmental organizations should provide opportunities for women to learn how to develop self-reliance and leadership capabilities in order to promote peace, disarmament, human rights and international co-operation more effectively. They should emphasize the participation of women from trade unions and organizations in rural areas that have not as yet received sufficient attention and should make periodic assessments of strategies for women's participation in the promotion of peace at all levels, including the highest decision-making levels.

Paragraph 271

National machinery should be established to deal with the question of domestic violence. Preventive policies should be elaborated and institutionalized economic and other forms of assistance and protection for women and child victims should be provided. Legislative measures should be strengthened and legal aid provided.

2. Education for peace

Paragraph 272

Governments, non-governmental organizations, women's groups and the mass media should encourage women to engage in efforts to promote education for peace in the family, neighbourhood and community. Special attention should be given to the contribution of women's grass-roots organizations. The multiple skills and talents of women artists, journalists, writers, educators and civic leaders can contribute to promoting ideas of peace if encouraged, facilitated and supported.

Paragraph 273

Special attention should be given to the education of children for life in peace within an atmosphere of understanding, dialogue and respect for others. In this respect, suitable concrete action should be taken to discourage the provision of children and young persons with games and publications and other media promoting the notion of favouring war, aggression, cruelty, excessive desire for power and other forms of violence, within the broad processes of the reparation of society for life in peace.

Paragraph 274

Governments, educational institutions, professional associations and non-governmental organizations should co-operate to develop a high-quality content for and to achieve widespread dissemination of books and programmes on education for peace. Women should take an active part in the preparation of those materials, which should include case studies of peaceful settlements of disputes, non-violent movements and passive resistance and the recognition of peace-seeking individuals.

Paragraph 275

Governments should create the conditions that would enable women to increase their knowledge of the main problems in contemporary international relations. Information should be widely and freely disseminated among women, thereby contributing to their full understanding of those problems. All existing obstacles and discriminatory practices regarding women's civil and political education should be removed. Opportunities should be provided for women to organize and choose studies, training programmes and seminars related to peace, disarmament, education for peace and the peaceful settlement of disputes.

Paragraph 276

The participation of women in peace research, including research on women and peace, should be encouraged. Existing barriers to women researchers should be removed and appropriate resources provided for peace researchers. Co-operation amongst peace researchers, government officials, non-governmental organizations and activists should be encouraged and fostered.

IV. AREAS OF SPECIAL CONCERN

Paragraph 277

There is an increasing number of categories of women who, because of their special characteristics, are experiencing not only the common problems indicated under the separate themes but also specific difficulties due to their socio-economic and health condition, age, minority status or a combination of these factors. Moreover, in many countries increasing demographic pressure, deteriorating rural conditions, curtailment of subsistence agriculture and difficult political conditions have been exacerbated by the current economic recession, leading to the dislocation of large sections of populations. In this process women experience particular difficulties and are often the more vulnerable because of their traditional lack of access to development opportunities.

Paragraph 278

The special groups of women identified below are extremely diverse, and their problems vary tremendously from one country to another. No single strategy or set of measures can apply adequately to all cases, and the present document is therefore limited to highlighting their special circumstances and the need for each country, as well as the international community, to give these issues the necessary attention. The basic strategy must remain one of fundamentally changing the economic conditions that produce such deprivation and of upgrading women's low status in society, which accounts for their extreme vulnerability to such conditions, especially to poverty. This is aggravated by the increase in drug-dependence, which adversely affects all sectors of society, including women. Building an organizational base for such change is a crucial strategy that can provide a rallying point for solidarity among women. Measures needed to provide immediate emergency assistance should be supplemented by longer-term efforts to enable women to break out of these situations. In many cases, permanent solutions to these issues can only be found through the broader efforts directed towards the reallocation of resources and decision-making power and towards the elimination of inequality and injustice.

Paragraph 279

There is a need to recognize the survival mechanisms already developed by these women as basic strategies in their own right and to build on them. A first priority would be to strengthen their organization capabilities by providing physical, financial and human resources, as well as education and training. Also of extreme importance is the need to revitalize these women's aspirations in order to eliminate the chronic despair that characterizes their daily lives.

Paragraph 280

The economic, social, cultural and political conditions of those groups of women should be improved basically by the implementation of the measures proposed for the attainment of equality, development and peace for women in general. Additional efforts should be directed towards ensuring the gainful and productive inclusion of these women in mainstream development and in political activities. Priority emphasis should be placed upon income-generating opportunities and for the independent and sustained improvement of their condition and by the full integration and active participation of women as agents and beneficiaries of development.

Paragraph 281

Policies, programmes and projects aimed at or incorporating especially vulnerable and underprivileged groups of women should recognize the particular difficulties of removing the multiple obstacles facing such groups and should place equal emphasis on addressing the social, economic and human dimensions of their vulnerability and their underprivileged positions. Measures needed to provide them with immediate assistance should be supplemented by comprehensive long-term plans to achieve lasting solutions to their problems. These will usually necessitate global efforts in resolving the special problems of vulnerable groups, of which women are a significant part.

Paragraph 282

Basic to all efforts to improve the condition of these women should be the identification of their needs and hence the gathering of gender-specific data and economic indicators sensitive to conditions of extreme poverty and oppression. Such data should contain spatial, socio-economic and longitudinal characteristics and should be designed specifically for use in policy, programme and project formulation and implementation. Monitoring efforts at national, subregional, regional and international levels should be intensified.

A. Women in areas affected by drought

Paragraph 283

During the Decade, the phenomenon of drought and desertification grew and developed incessantly, no longer affecting merely some localities in a single country but several entire countries. The scale and persistence of drought constitutes a grave threat, particularly for the countries of the Sahel, in which famine and a far-reaching deterioration of the environment set in as a result of the desertification process. Hence, despite the considerable efforts of the international community, the living conditions of the peoples, particularly those of women and children, which were already precarious, have become particularly miserable.

In view of that situation steps should be taken to promote concerted programmes between the countries concerned for combating drought and desertification. Efforts should be intensified for the formulation and implementation of programmes aimed at food security and self-sufficiency, in particular by the optimum control and exploitation of hydro-geological resources.

A distinction should be made between emergency aid and productive activities. Emergency aid should be intensified when necessary and as far as ever possible directed towards development aid.

Measures should be adopted to take into account women's contribution to production, involve them more closely in the design, implementation and evaluation of the programmes envisaged and ensure ample access for them to the means of production and processing and preservation techniques.

B. Urban poor women

Paragraph 284

Urbanization has been one of the major socio-economic trends over the past few decades and is expected to continue at an accelerating rate. Although the situation varies considerably from one region to another, it can generally be expected that by the year 2000 close to half the number of women in the world will be living in urban areas. In developing countries, the number of urban women could nearly double by the year 2000, and it is envisaged that there could be a considerable increase in the number of poor women among them.

Paragraph 285

To deal effectively with the issue, Governments should organize multi-sectoral programmes with emphasis on economic activities, elimination of discrimination and the provision of supportive services and, inter alia, adequate child-care facilities and, where necessary, workplace canteens to enable women to gain access to economic, social and educational opportunities on an equal basis with men. Particular attention should be devoted to the informal sector, which constitutes a major outlet for employment of a considerable number of urban poor women.

C. Elderly women

Paragraph 286

The International Plan of Action on Aging adopted by the World Assembly on Aging in 1982 ^{19/} emphasized both the humanitarian and developmental aspects of aging. The recommendations of the Plan of Action are applicable to women and men with a view to providing them with protection and care, and ensuring their involvement and participation in social life and development. However, the Plan of Action recognizes a number of specific areas of concern for elderly women since their longer life expectancy frequently means an old age aggravated by economic need and isolation for both unmarried women and widows, possibly with little or no prospect of paid employment. This applies particularly to those women whose lifetimes were spent in unpaid and unrecognized work in the home with little or no access to a pension. If women have an income, it is generally lower than men's, partly because their former employment status has in the majority of cases been broken by maternity and family responsibilities. For this reason, the Plan of Action also noted the need for long-term policies directed towards providing social insurance for women in their own right. Governments and non-governmental organizations should, in addition to the measures recommended, explore the possibilities of employing elderly women in productive and creative ways and encouraging their participation in social and recreational activities.

It is also recommended that the care of elderly persons, including women, should go beyond disease orientation and should include their total well-being. Further efforts, in particular primary health care, health services and suitable accommodation and housing as strategies should be directed at enabling elderly women to lead a meaningful life as long as possible, in their own home and family and in the community.

Women should be prepared early in life, both psychologically and socially, to face the consequences of longer life expectancy. Although, while getting older, professional and family roles of women are undergoing fundamental changes, aging,

as a stage of development, is a challenge for women. In this period of life, women should be enabled to cope in a creative way with new opportunities. The social consequences arising from the stereotyping of elderly women should be recognized and eliminated. The media should assist by presenting positive images of women, particularly emphasizing the need for respect because of their past and continuing contributions to society.

Attention should be given to studying and treating the health problems of aging, particularly in women. Research should also be directed towards the investigation and slowing down of the process of premature aging due to a lifetime of stress, excessive work-load, malnutrition and repeated pregnancy.

D. Young women

Paragraph 287

Initiatives begun for the 1985 International Youth Year should be extended and expanded so that young women are protected from abuse and exploitation and assisted to develop their full potential. Girls and boys must be provided with equal access to health, education and employment to equip them for adult life. Both girls and boys should be educated to accept equal responsibilities for parenthood.

Urgent attention should be paid to the educational and vocational training of young women in all fields of occupation, giving particular emphasis to those who are socially and economically disadvantaged. Self-employed young women and girls should be assisted to organize co-operatives and ongoing training programmes to improve their skills in production, marketing and management techniques. Special training programmes should also be developed for teenage mothers and girls who have dropped out of school and are ill equipped to enter productive employment.

Steps should be taken to eliminate exploitative treatment of young women at work in line with ILO Convention No. 111 concerning discrimination in respect of employment and occupation, 1958 and ILO Convention No. 122 concerning employment policy, 1964. Legislative measures guaranteeing young women their rights should be enforced.

Governments should recognize and enforce the rights of young women to be free from sexual violence, sexual harassment and sexual exploitation. In particular, governments should recognize that many young women are victims of incest and sexual abuse in the family, and should take steps to assist the victims and to prevent abuse by education, by improving the status of women and by appropriate action against offenders. Young women should be educated to assert their rights. Particular attention should also be given to sexual harassment and exploitation in employment, especially those areas of employment such as domestic service, where sexual harassment and exploitation are most prevalent.

Governments must also recognize their obligation to provide housing for young women who because of unemployment and low incomes suffer special problems in obtaining housing. Homeless young women are particularly vulnerable to sexual exploitation.

In the year 2000 women aged 15-24 will constitute over 8 per cent of both rural and urban populations in developing countries. The great majority of these will be out of school and in search of jobs. For those employed, frequent exploitation, long working hours and stress have serious implications for their

health. Low nutritional levels and unplanned and repeated pregnancies are also aggravating factors.

E. Abused women

Paragraph 288

Gender-specific violence is increasing and Governments must affirm the dignity of women, as a priority action.

Governments should therefore intensify efforts to establish or strengthen forms of assistance to victims of such violence through the provision of shelter, support, legal and other services.

In addition to immediate assistance to victims of violence against women in the family and in society, Governments should undertake to increase public awareness of violence against women as a societal problem, establish policies and legislative measures to ascertain its causes and prevent and eliminate such violence, in particular by suppressing degrading images and representations of women in society, and finally encourage the development of educational and re-educational measures for offenders.

F. Destitute women

Paragraph 289

Destitution is an extreme form of poverty. It is estimated that its effects on large segments of the population in developing and developed countries are on the increase. Forward-looking Strategies to promote the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace at the national and international levels are the basis for dealing with this problem. In addition strategies already specified for the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and the new international economic order are suggested in these recommendations. Governments should therefore ensure that the special needs and concerns of destitute women are given priority in the above-mentioned strategies. Moreover, efforts being undertaken for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless (1987) should focus attention on the particular situation of women commensurate with their relative needs.

G. Women victims of trafficking and involuntary prostitution

Paragraph 290

Forced prostitution is a form of slavery imposed on women by procurers. It is, inter alia, a result of economic degradation that alienates women's labour through processes of rapid urbanization and migration resulting in underemployment and unemployment. It also stems from women's dependence on men. Social and political pressures produce refugees and missing persons. Often these include vulnerable groups of women who are victimized by procurers. Sex tourism, forced prostitution and pornography reduce women to mere sex objects and marketable commodities.

Paragraph 291

States Parties to the United Nations Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others should implement the provisions dealing with the exploitation of women as prostitutes. Urgent consideration should also be given to the improvement of international measures to combat trafficking in women for the purposes of prostitution. Resources for the prevention of prostitution and assistance in the professional, personal and social reintegration of prostitutes should be directed towards providing economic opportunities, including training, employment, self-employment and health facilities for women and children. Governments should also endeavour to co-operate with non-governmental organizations to create wider employment possibilities for women. Strict enforcement provisions must also be taken at all levels to stem the rising tide of violence, drug abuse and crime related to prostitution. The complex and serious problems of the exploitation of and violence against women associated with prostitution call for increased and co-ordinated efforts by police agencies internationally.

H. Women deprived of their traditional means of livelihood

Paragraph 292

The excessive and inappropriate exploitation of land by any party for any purpose, inter alia, by transnational corporations, as well as natural and man-made disasters are among the predominant causes of deprivation of traditional means of livelihood. Droughts, floods, hurricanes and other forms of environmental hazards, such as erosion, desertification and deforestation, have already pushed poor women into marginal environments. At present the pressures are greatest in drought-afflicted arid and semi-arid areas. Urban slums and squatter settlements are also seriously affected. Critically low levels of water supplies, shortage of fuel, over-utilization of grazing and arable lands, and population density are all factors that deprive women of their livelihood.

Paragraph 293

National and international emphasis on ecosystem management should be strengthened, environmental degradation should be controlled and options provided for alternative means of livelihood. Measures should be established to draw up national conservation strategies aimed at incorporating women's development programmes, among which are irrigation and tree planting and also orientation in the area of agriculture, with women constituting a substantial part of the wage-earning labour force for those programmes.

I. Women who are the sole supporters of families

Paragraph 294

Recent studies have shown that the number of families in which women are the sole supporters is on the increase. Owing to the particular difficulties (social, economic and legal) which they face, many such women are among the poorest people concentrated in urban informal labour markets and they constitute large numbers of rural unemployed and marginally employed. Those with very little economic, social and moral support face serious difficulties in supporting themselves as well

as in bringing up their children alone. This has serious repercussions for society in terms of the quality, character, productivity and human resource capabilities of its present and future citizenry.

Paragraph 295

The assumptions that underlie a large part of the relevant legislation, regulations and household surveys that confine the role of supporter and head of household to men hinder women's access to credit, loans and material and non-material resources. Changes are needed in these areas to secure for women equal access to resources. There is a need to eliminate terms such as "head of household" and introduce others that are comprehensive enough to reflect women's role appropriately in legal documents and household surveys to guarantee the rights of these women. In the provision of social services, special attention has to be given to the needs of these women. Governments are urged to ensure that women with sole responsibility for their families receive a level of income and social support sufficient to enable them to attain or maintain economic independence and to participate effectively in society. To this end, the assumptions that underlie policies, including research used in policy development, and legislation that confines the role of supporter or head of household to men should be identified and eliminated. Special attention, such as accessible, quality child care, should be given to assisting those women in discharging their domestic responsibilities and to enabling them to participate in and benefit from education, training programmes and employment. The putative father should be made to assist in the maintenance and education of those children born out of wedlock.

J. Women with physical and mental disabilities

Paragraph 296

It is generally accepted that women constitute a significant number of the estimated 500 million people who are disabled as a consequence of mental, physical or sensory impairment. Many factors contribute to the rising numbers of disabled persons, including war and other forms of violence, poverty, hunger, nutritional deficiencies, epidemics and work-related accidents. The recognition of their human dignity and human rights and the full participation by disabled persons in society is still limited, and this presents additional problems for women who may have domestic and other responsibilities. It is recommended that Governments should adopt the Declaration on the Rights of Disabled Persons (1975) and the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons (1982) which provide an overall framework for action and also refer to problems specific to women that have not been fully appreciated by society because they are still not well known or understood. Community-based occupational and social rehabilitation measures, support services to help them with their domestic responsibilities, as well as opportunities for the participation of such women in all aspects of life should be provided. The rights of intellectually disabled women to obtain health information and advice and to consent to or refuse medical treatment should be respected; similarly, the rights of intellectually disabled minors should be respected.

K. Women in detention and subject to penal law

Paragraph 297

One of the major areas of current concern in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice is the need for equal treatment of women by the criminal justice system. In the context of changing socio-economic and cultural conditions some improvements have taken place but more need to be made. The number of women in detention has increased over the Decade and this trend is expected to continue. Women deprived of freedom are exposed to various forms of physical violence, sexual and moral harassment. The conditions of their detention are often below acceptable hygienic standards and their children are deprived of maternal care. The recommendations of the Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, held at Caracas, in 1980, 20/ and the principles of the Caracas Declaration with special reference to the "fair and equal treatment of women", should be taken into account in designing and implementing concrete measures at the national and international levels. The proportions of indigenous women imprisoned in some countries is a matter of concern.

L. Refugee and displaced women and children

Paragraph 298

The international community recognizes a humanitarian responsibility to protect and assist refugees and displaced persons. In many cases refugee and displaced women are exposed to a variety of difficult situations affecting their physical and legal protection as well as their psychological and material well-being. Problems of physical debility, physical safety, emotional stress and socio-psychological effects of separation or death in the family, as well as changes in women's roles, together with limitations often found in the new environment including lack of adequate food, shelter, health care and social services call for specialized and enlarged assistance. Special attention has to be offered to women with special needs. Furthermore, the potential and capacities of refugee and displaced women should be recognized and enhanced.

Paragraph 299

It is recognized that a lasting solution to the problems of refugees and displaced women and children should be sought in the elimination of the root causes of the flow of refugees and durable solutions should be found leading to their voluntary return to their homes in conditions of safety and honour and their full integration in the economic, social and cultural life of their country of origin in the immediate future. Until such solutions are achieved, the international community, in an expression of international solidarity and burden-sharing, should continue providing relief assistance and also launching special relief programmes taking into account the specific needs of refugee women and children in countries of first asylum. Similarly, relief assistance and special relief programmes should also continue to be provided to returnees and displaced women and children. Legal, educational, social, humanitarian and moral assistance should be offered as well as opportunities for their voluntary repatriation, return or resettlement. Steps should also be taken to promote accession by Governments to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and to implement, on a basis of equity for all refugees, provisions contained in this Convention and its 1967 Protocol.

M. Migrant women

Paragraph 300

The Decade has witnessed the increasing involvement of women in all forms of migration, including rural-rural, rural-urban and international movements of a temporary, seasonal or permanent nature. In addition to their lack of adequate education, skills and resources, migrant women may also face severe adjustment problems due to differences in religion, language, nationality, and socialization as well as separation from their original families. Such problems are often accentuated for international migrants as a result of the openly-expressed prejudices and hostilities, including violation of human rights in host countries. Thus recommendations of the World Population Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women pertaining to migrant women should be implemented and expanded in view of the anticipated increase in the scope of the problem. It is also urgent to conclude the elaboration of the draft International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and their Families, as agreed by the General Assembly in the relevant resolutions.

Paragraph 301

The situation of migrant women, who are subject to double discrimination as women and as migrants, should be given special attention by the Governments of host countries, particularly with respect to protection and maintenance of family unity, employment opportunities and equal pay, equal conditions of work, health care, benefits to be provided in accordance with the existing social security rights in the host country, and racial and other forms of discrimination. Particular attention should also be given to the second generation of migrant women, especially with regard to education and professional training, to allow them to integrate themselves in their countries of adoption and to work according to their education and skills. In this process, loss of cultural values of their countries of origin should be avoided.

N. Minority and "indigenous" women

Paragraph 302

Some women are oppressed as a result of belonging to minority groups or populations which have historically been subjected to domination and suffered dispossession and dispersal. These women suffer the full burden of discrimination based on race, colour, descent, ethnic and national origin and the majority experienced serious economic deprivation. As women, they are therefore doubly disadvantaged. Measures should be taken by Governments in countries in which there are minority and indigenous populations to respect, preserve and promote all of their human rights, their dignity, ethnic, religious, cultural and linguistic identity and their full participation in societal change.

Paragraph 303

Governments should ensure that the fundamental human rights and freedoms as enshrined in relevant international instruments are fully guaranteed also to women belonging to minority groups and indigenous populations. Governments in countries in which there are indigenous and minority populations should ensure respect for

the economic, social and cultural rights of these women and assist them in the fulfilment of their family and parental responsibilities. Specific measures should address dietary deficiencies, high levels of infant and maternal mortality and other health problems, lack of education, housing and child care. Vocational, technical, professional and other training should be provided to enable these women to secure employment or to participate in income-generating activities and projects, and to secure adequate wages, occupational health and safety and their other rights as workers. As far as possible, Governments should ensure that these women have access to all services in their own languages.

Paragraph 304

Women belonging to minority groups or indigenous populations should be fully consulted and should participate in the development and implementation of programmes affecting them. The Governments of countries where minorities and indigenous populations exist should take proper account of the work of bodies such as the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, in particular its Working Group which is developing a set of international standards to protect the rights of indigenous populations. The General Assembly should consider the advisability of designating an international year of indigenous and traditional cultures in order to promote international understanding and to emphasize the distinctive role of women in sustaining the identity of their people.

V. INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL CO-OPERATION

A. Obstacles

Paragraph 305

Insufficient attention has been devoted during the Decade at the international level and in some regions to the need to advance the status of women in relation to the goals and objectives of the Decade - equality, development and peace. International tensions, arms race, threat of nuclear war, failure to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms and failure to observe the principles of the United Nations Charter as well as global economic recession and other critical situations combined with dissatisfaction due to inadequate progress in multilateral and international co-operation since the Copenhagen World Conference has substantially affected the scope and ability for international and regional co-operation including the role of the United Nations. The progress in the developing world has slackened or in some cases turned negative under conditions of serious indebtedness, economic and monetary instability, resource constraints and unemployment. This has also affected prospects for economic and technical co-operation among developing countries, particularly with regard to women. Nevertheless some progress has been made in terms of achieving equality between women and men, and a greater appreciation of the role of women in development and peace which should also contribute toward effective international co-operation.

Paragraph 306

International and regional organizations have been called upon during the Decade to advance the position of their women staff and to extend hiring practices to include qualified women. The results have been highly uneven and in some cases the situation has actually worsened during the Decade in the face of resource

constraints and other limiting criteria, such as geographical distribution and attitudinal barriers. In particular, women are absent from the senior management levels, which seriously limits their influence on decision-making.

Paragraph 307

In order to institutionalize interorganizational exchanges of information and co-operation in relation to women's advancement, several United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and regional bodies have designated, in response to pressures applied during the Decade, focal points for women's activities. However, in many cases, insufficient tenure and resources accompanied those actions, thus limiting their long-term effectiveness. Moreover, activities that promote the integration of women in development have often been confined to these focal points and have not been integrated into all organizational planning and programme activities. Progress has also been limited in this area by the inadequate training of many of the staff members of international agencies and organizations with respect to the centrality of women's role in development.

Paragraph 308

International and regional co-operation strategies must be formulated on the premise that effective development requires the full integration of women in the development process as both agents and beneficiaries. Development agencies should take full cognizance of women as a development resource. This requires that all international and regional development institutions adopt explicit policies in this regard and put in place the management systems necessary to ensure the effective implementation and evaluation of these policies in the full range of their programmes and activities. Such policies should incorporate the principles endorsed in the Forward-looking Strategies of Implementation for the Advancement of Women. Strong and visible commitment to and interest in integrating women in the development process should be demonstrated by the senior-level management of development agencies.

B. Basic strategies

Paragraph 309

Effective consultative and reporting arrangements are required to collect information on action taken to implement the Forward-looking Strategies and on successful ways and means used to overcome obstacles. Monitoring and evaluation should, therefore, be carried out at international, regional and subregional levels based on national-level monitoring, including input from non-governmental organizations.

Paragraph 310

Technical co-operation, training and advisory services should promote endogenous development and self-reliance with greater emphasis on economic and technical co-operation among developing countries. The special needs of women should be periodically assessed and methods developed to integrate women's concerns into the planning and evaluation of development activities. The participation of women in the formulation of technical co-operation policies and programmes should be ensured.

Paragraph 311

International, regional and subregional institutional co-ordination should be strengthened, particularly in relation to the exchange of information on the advancement of women and the establishment of collaborative arrangements to undertake activities with interrelated components.

Paragraph 312

Research and policy analysis should focus greater attention on the economic role of women in society, including access to economic resources such as land and capital. Research and policy analysis related to women should be action-oriented without losing sight of key analytical considerations. Further investment in evolving adequate gender-specific data is also required.

Paragraph 313

Steps should be taken to increase the participation of women in international, regional and subregional level activities and decision-making, including those directly or indirectly concerned with the maintenance of peace and security, the role of women in development and the achievement of equality between women and men.

Paragraph 314

Information on progress in achieving the goals of the Decade and on implementing the Forward-looking Strategies should be widely disseminated in the period from 1985 to the year 2000 at international, regional, subregional and national levels, based on experience gained during the Decade. Greater reliance is needed on audio-visual communications and expansion of networks for disseminating information on programmes and activities for women. Discriminatory, stereotyped and degrading images of women must be eliminated in the media.

Paragraph 315

On the basis of the results of the review and appraisal in the United Nations system that indicated the need for continued efforts to ensure the recruitment, promotion and retention of women, all United Nations bodies, the regional commissions and the specialized agencies should take all measures necessary to achieve an equitable balance between women and men staff members at managerial and professional levels in all substantive areas, as well as in field posts, with particular attention to promoting equitable regional representation of women. Women should be appointed to decision-making and management posts within the United Nations system in order to increase their participation in activities at the international and regional levels, including such areas as equality, development and peace.

Paragraph 316

In view of the difficulties of spouses of United Nations officials in securing employment at the various duty stations, the United Nations is urged to make every possible effort to provide the establishment of educational facilities and day care centres for families of officials in order to facilitate the employment of spouses at these duty stations.

C. Measures for the implementation of the basic strategies

1. Monitoring

Paragraph 317

The implementation of the goals and objectives of the Decade - equality, development and peace - and of the Forward-looking Strategies should be monitored during the period 1986 to the year 2000. Monitoring at the international level should be based on reviews, at the regional, subregional and national levels, of action taken, resources allocated and progress achieved. The national reviews should take the form of a response to a regular statistical reporting request from the United Nations Secretariat, which should include indicators of the situation of women. The statistical reporting basis should be developed by the Statistical Commission, in consultation with the Commission on the Status of Women. The United Nations Secretariat should compile the results of such monitoring in consultation with the appropriate bodies of Governments, including national machinery established to monitor and improve the status of women. The action taken and progress achieved at the national level should reflect consultation with non-governmental organizations and integration of their concerns at all levels of government planning, implementation and evaluation, as appropriate.

Paragraph 318

The specialized agencies and other United Nations organizations, including the regional commissions, should establish monitoring capabilities and procedures to analyse the situation of women in their sectoral or geographical areas, and submit their reports regularly to their respective governing bodies and to the Commission on the Status of Women, which is the main intergovernmental body within the United Nations system concerned with women.

Paragraph 319

The Commission on the Status of Women should consider on a regular basis reports on the progress made and concrete measures implemented at national, regional and international levels to advance the status of women in relation to the goals of the Decade - equality, development and peace - and the sub-theme - employment, health and education - and the strategies and measures to the year 2000. The United Nations system should continue to carry out a comprehensive and critical review of progress achieved in implementing the provisions of the World Plan of Action and of the Programme for the Second Half of the Decade. The central role in carrying out this review and appraisal should be played by the Commission on the Status of Women. The Commission should also monitor progress in the implementation of international standards, codes of conduct, strategies, conventions and covenants as they pertain to women. In view of this important function, high-level expertise and representation on the Commission should be given priority, including officials with substantive policy responsibilities for the advancement of women.

Paragraph 320

The preparation of new instruments and strategies such as the overall strategies for international development, should pay specific, appropriate attention to the advancement of women. Intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations system, particularly those concerned with the monitoring, review and

appraisal of the existing instruments, strategies, plans and programmes that may be of direct or indirect relevance to women, are urged as a matter of priority to develop explicit policies and reviewable plans of action for the integration of women in their regular work programmes.

Paragraph 321

The methods and procedures employed for collecting information from Governments, regional commissions, non-governmental organizations and other international organizations and bodies should be streamlined and based on guidelines to be discussed by the Commission on the Status of Women.

2. Technical co-operation, training and advisory services

Paragraph 322

Measures of technical co-operation, training and advisory services directed towards improving women's status at the international, interregional and regional levels, including co-operation among developing countries, need some impetus. This would require the re-ordering of principles for the allocation of resources as well as targeted financial, material and human resource assistance. Notwithstanding resource constraints, the United Nations should continue the important role of reinforcing these increased benefits for women.

Paragraph 323

Technical co-operation should be approached with a new concept that will break the cycle of dependency, emphasize local needs, and use local materials and resources as well as local creativity and expertise and be based on the full integration of women as agents and beneficiaries in all technical co-operation activities. Local associations and mechanisms should be oriented to play a more active role in planning and policy-making. Emphasis should be given to broader access by women to capital for self-help projects, income-generating activities, enterprise development and projects designed to reduce the drudgery in work performed by women. Innovative demonstration projects, particularly with respect to the integration of women in non-traditional sector activities, should be an essential element in technical co-operation activities.

Paragraph 324

Agencies which do not have specific guidelines or project procedures relating to women in development interlinked with the other aims of the period up to the year 2000 should ensure that they are developed. Such guidelines and procedures should apply to all aspects of the project cycle. Existing guidelines and procedures have to be applied more vigorously and consistently; in particular, each project document should contain a strategy to ensure that the project has a positive impact on the situation of women.

Paragraph 325

Substantive staff training is needed to enhance the ability of staff to recognize and deal with the centrality of women's role in development, and adequate resources must be made available for this purpose. Implementation of policies concerning women is the responsibility of the particular organization as a whole. Responsibility is not merely a matter of personal persuasion. Systems should be developed which allocate responsibility and accountability.

Paragraph 326

Governments should strengthen and improve their institutional arrangements for technical co-operation so that policy is effectively linked to local-level implementing mechanisms, and should promote sustained, endogenous development. In these efforts Governments may wish to make use of the accumulated experience, activities and resources of the whole United Nations system.

Paragraph 327

While technical co-operation should be focused equally on women and men, the incorporation of women's needs and aspirations in the formulation and review of technical co-operation policies and programmes should be ensured and the potential negative effects on women of technical assistance should be minimized. Technical co-operation and women must be linked to overall national development objectives and priorities, and technical assistance plans and programmes should be managed so as to ensure the full integration of activities specific to women. As a standard component of technical co-operation policies, women should be full and equal participants in technical co-operation projects and activities. The needs of especially vulnerable and underprivileged groups of women should be addressed in the technical co-operation programmes.

Paragraph 328

Participation of non-governmental organizations as a means to enhance the relevance and impact of technical co-operation activities of benefit to women should be encouraged.

Paragraph 329

In allocating multilateral and bilateral assistance, agencies, in consultation with recipient Governments, should establish measurable and reviewable plans of action, with goals and time frames. They should also give adequate impetus to sustained and real increases in the flow of resources for technical co-operation activities of benefit to women, including greater mobilization of resources from non-governmental sources and the private sector. Bilateral and multilateral aid agencies should give special consideration to assisting the least developed countries in their efforts to integrate women in development. In this regard, particular attention should be given to projects in the fields of health, education and training, and the creation of employment opportunities for women, especially in rural areas.

Paragraph 330

Bilateral and multilateral aid agencies should take a corporate-wide response to the integration of women in development. Bilateral aid agencies' policies for women in development should involve all parts of donors' organizations and programmes, including participation of multilateral and bilateral programmes, training, technical assistance and financial aid. Policies for women in development should be incorporated into all applicable aid and agency procedures relating to sectoral and project levels.

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Paragraph 331

In order to enable women to define and defend their own interests and needs, the United Nations system and aid agencies should provide assistance for programmes and projects which strengthen women's autonomy, in particular in the integration process.

Paragraph 332

International non-governmental organizations, including such organizations as trade unions, should be encouraged to involve women in their day-to-day work and to increase their attention to women's issues. The capacity of non-governmental organizations at all levels to reach women and women's groups should receive greater recognition and support. The potential role of those non-governmental organizations could be fully utilized by international and governmental agencies involved in development co-operation.

Paragraph 333

Technical and advisory assistance should be provided by the United Nations system at the national level to improve systematically statistical and other forms of gender-specific indicators and information that can help redirect policy and programmes for the more effective integration of women in development as contributors and beneficiaries.

Paragraph 334

Technical co-operation among developing countries should be strengthened in the service of women at all levels and in all sectors of activity, focusing particularly on promoting the exchange of experience, expertise, technology and know-how, as well as on diffusing innovative organizational models suitable for strengthening the self-reliance of women. The urgent need for information flows to facilitate the process of integrating women in development, and the need for relevant, transferable and appropriate information should be a priority of regional co-operation within the framework of technical co-operation among developing countries. Regional co-operation to assist disadvantaged groups of women should also be promoted in this context.

Paragraph 335

Technical assistance should be given by the United Nations system and other international and non-governmental organizations to women involved in the promotion of international peace and co-operation.

Paragraph 336

The United Nations system should continue to strengthen training programmes for women, in particular in the least developed countries, through fellowships and other means of assistance, particularly in the fields of economic planning, public affairs and public administration, business management and accounting, and farming and labour relations, and in scientific, engineering and technical fields. It is necessary to support and expand technical and economic activities for women by means of collaboration with international development assistance agencies. In this respect, the United Nations Development Fund for Women is particularly recognized for its innovative contribution in the area of development and technical assistance

for disadvantaged women, and its continuation and expansion beyond the Decade is considered of vital importance to the development needs of women.

Paragraph 337

The participation of women in technical assistance monitoring, planning, programming, evaluation and follow-up missions should be promoted, and guidelines should be developed and applied to assess the relevance and impact of development assistance projects on women. The United Nations funding agencies, such as the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme, as well as the World Bank, should ensure that women benefit from and participate in all projects and programmes funded by them.

3. Institutional co-ordination

Paragraph 338

System-wide co-ordination of work on issues relating to women needs to be strengthened. The Economic and Social Council should be encouraged to play a more forceful and dynamic role in reviewing and co-ordinating all relevant United Nations activities in the field of women's issues. Regular consultations between United Nations agencies and organizations should be institutionalized in conjunction with meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women in order to exchange information on programme activities and co-ordinate future planning and programming with a view to ensuring adequate resource-allocation that would facilitate action and limit the unnecessary duplication of activities.

Paragraph 339

Future medium-term plans of the United Nations and the specialized agencies should contain intersectoral presentations of the various programmes dealing with issues of concern to women. In order to achieve greater coherence and efficiency of the policies and programmes of the United Nations system related to women and development, the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and in conformity with Economic and Social Council resolution 1985/46 of 31 May 1985, should take the initiative in formulating a system-wide medium-term plan for women and development.

Paragraph 340

The Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, in particular the Branch for the Advancement of Women, should continue to serve as the focal point for co-ordination of, consultation on, promotion of and advice on matters relevant to women in the United Nations system and to co-ordinate information on system-wide activities related to the future implementation of the goals and objectives of the Decade and the Forward-looking Strategies. In this context, the United Nations system should explore ways and means of developing further collaboration between its organizations, including the regional commissions, the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women, in particular in connection with the holding of United Nations world conferences on women on a regular basis, if necessary, for example every five years. It is recommended that at least one world conference be held during

the period between 1985 and the year 2000, taking into account that the General Assembly will take the decision on the holding of the conference in each case within existing financial resources.

Paragraph 341

Existing sectoral inter-agency task forces in the United Nations system should always include issues related to the advancement of women in their agenda.

Paragraph 342

Inter-agency co-ordination should be complemented where possible by networking, particularly in the fields of information, research, training and programme development, in order to facilitate the availability of data and information in these fields and the exchange of experience with national machinery.

Paragraph 343

Resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly, of governing bodies of the specialized agencies and of other organizations which promote the improvement of the status of women should be implemented. All institutions within the United Nations system that have not yet established special internal arrangements and procedures with respect to women's policies are urged to take the necessary measures to do so.

Paragraph 344

International machineries that promote and support education for peace should co-ordinate their efforts and include the role of women in promoting peace in their curricula. Particular attention should be paid to the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation adopted by the General Assembly in 1982. The University for Peace should play a leading role in this regard.

4. Research and policy analysis

Paragraph 345

Institutes of women's affairs at the regional level should be strengthened or, where they do not exist, their establishment should be considered for the promotion of regional collaboration in undertaking research and analyses on emerging women's issues in order to facilitate and promote regional and international co-operation and understanding in this field.

Paragraph 346

Measures should be taken by the United Nations system to strengthen the capabilities of the United Nations Secretariat to provide assistance to Governments and other international organizations and bodies concerned with integrating women in policy formulation and in assessing the impact of development policies on women. The Branch for the Advancement of Women should act as the focal point for coordinating the exchange of information, providing advice on matters related to the advancement of women and monitoring and evaluating the progress of other bodies in that connection. The United Nations should develop guidelines for this purpose based on comparative analyses of experience world wide.

Paragraph 347

Guidelines should also be developed by the United Nations for action to remove gender-specific discriminatory perceptions, attitudes and behaviour based on models of successful initiatives.

Paragraph 348

The United Nations system should undertake research and prepare guidelines, case studies and practical approaches on integrating women on an equal basis with men into political life. Training programmes for and consultations between women already engaged in political life should be organized.

Paragraph 349

Research should be carried out and a report prepared by the United Nations, in consultation with other organizations and specialized agencies and in co-operation with Governments, on establishing effective institutional arrangements at the national level for the formulation of policies on women, including guidelines and summaries of national case studies.

Paragraph 350

United Nations agencies and, in particular, the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, as part of its regular programme of work, should undertake in-depth research on the positive and negative effects of legislative change, the persistence of *de facto* discrimination and conflicts between customary and statutory laws. In carrying out this research, full use should be made of the work of the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Paragraph 351

In the context of the Third United Nations Development Decade and any subsequent decade, the implications for women of international decisions especially pertaining to international trade and finance, agriculture and technology transfer should be assessed by the United Nations system in consultation with the appropriate international organizations, bodies and research institutes, including the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and any others established by the United Nations University. The lack of reliable data prevents the assessment of relative improvements in women's status in the various sectors. It is therefore essential that the Statistical Commission, the Commission on the Status of Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women should co-operate at the institutional level in the collection, analysis, utilization and dissemination of statistical data on the question of women. The data base on women's role in national, regional and international economic activities should be further developed by the United Nations in co-operation with Governments, specialized agencies and the regional commissions of the United Nations system.

Paragraph 352

The United Nations regional commissions, with a view to integrating women's concerns at all levels in each commission's overall programme of work, should

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undertake further research on the status of women in their regions to the year 2000 by developing the necessary data base and indicators and by drawing upon inputs from the national and local levels, including perspectives on and by women at the grass-roots level. To this end, the regional commissions should include in their annual reports an analysis of changes in the situation of women in their regions.

paragraph 353

It is also necessary to strengthen the activities of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women which performs an important role in the field of research, training, information and communication, and to request States and appropriate organizations, in particular, the organizations of the United Nations system, to continue to collaborate with the Institute in its work for the improvement of the status of women. The Institute should continue its work in appraising and evaluating what has been done by Governments and the United Nations system in promoting the status of women and it should be given increased voluntary financial support.

Paragraph 354

The United Nations should incorporate within its activities related to the World Disarmament Campaign the preparation of a study on the specific consequences of the arms race and modern warfare for women in general, especially aged or pregnant women and young children. Such a study should be given wide publicity in order to mobilize researchers, politicians and non-governmental organizations, as well as women themselves, for the promotion of disarmament.

Paragraph 355

The United Nations system and other intergovernmental, governmental and non-governmental organizations should encourage women, women's organizations and all the appropriate governmental bodies from different countries to discuss and study various aspects of promoting peace and other related issues in order to increase knowledge, facilitate understanding and develop friendly relations between countries and peoples. Exchange visits among women from different countries, and meetings and seminars in which women participate fully should be organized at regional and international levels.

5. Participation of women in activities at the international and regional levels and in decision-making

Paragraph 356

The United Nations system should take all necessary measures to achieve an equitable balance between women and men staff members at managerial and professional levels in all substantive areas, as well as in field posts. Regular reporting to the General Assembly, the governing bodies of the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and the Commission on the Status of Women on the establishment and implementation of targets for the equal representation of women in professional posts should be continued.

Paragraph 357

Women and women's organizations from different countries should be encouraged to discuss and study various aspects of promoting peace and development issues in

order to increase knowledge, facilitate understanding and develop friendly relations between countries and peoples. Exchange visits of women from different countries and meetings with full participation by women should be encouraged.

Paragraph 358

In order to ensure that programmes and activities of concern to women are given the necessary attention and priority, it is essential that women should participate actively in the planning and formulation of policies and programmes and in decision-making and appraisal processes in the United Nations. To this end, international, regional and national organizations have been called upon during the Decade to advance the status of their female staff and to increase the number of women recruited. In the absence of overall targets and effective mechanisms for their achievement, however, greater efforts are needed to ensure the recruitment, promotion and career development of women. All bodies and organizations of the United Nations system should therefore take all possible measures to achieve the participation of women on equal terms with men at all levels by the year 2000. To achieve this goal, the secretariats of the United Nations and all the organizations and bodies within the system should take special measures, such as the preparation of a comprehensive affirmative action plan including provisions for setting intermediate targets and for establishing and supporting special mechanisms - for example, co-ordinators - to improve the status of women staff. Progress made to implement those measures should be reported to the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on the Status of Women on a regular basis.

Paragraph 359

Women should be assured of the opportunity to participate in international, regional and subregional meetings and seminars, including those organized by the United Nations system, particularly those related to equality, development and peace, including peace education, and those directed to promoting the role of women in development through research activities, seminars and conferences to exchange experience and expertise. Similarly, women Parliamentarians should always be included in delegations to inter-parliamentary meetings organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and regional inter-parliamentary organizations.

Paragraph 360

The participation of women in promoting peace and in the struggle against the obstacles to peace at the international level should be encouraged. Networking of women at high decision-making levels related to peace and disarmament, including women leaders, peace researchers and educators, should also be encouraged in connection with United Nations system activities such as the International Year of Peace (1986). "Women and peace" should be a separate item in the programme for that Year.

Paragraph 361

In order to provide a firm basis for the integration of issues of concern to women in the overall development process, a greater effort is needed to define such issues and to develop useful models for action in socio-cultural, economic and political contexts. Work in this area can be undertaken in the national and regional research institutions, as well as in the United Nations and other international agencies. In this context, attention should also be given to increasing the planning capabilities of women.

Paragraph 362

Special efforts should be made at both the national and regional levels to ensure that women have equal access to all aspects of modern science and technology, particularly in educational systems. The use of science and technology can be a powerful instrument for the advancement of women. Special research to evolve appropriate technology for rural women should be carried out, and existing and new technology should be disseminated as widely as possible. The co-ordination of such activities in the regions should be the responsibility of the regional commissions, in co-operation with other intergovernmental bodies and agencies that deal with the status of women and technology.

paragraph 363

Governments and non-governmental organizations should organize regular training programmes that are aimed at improving the status of women workers and widening women's access to and improving their performance in managerial positions in the sectors of employment or self-employment. In this connection, the United Nations is urged to support programmes on network and exchange of expertise in vocational training being carried out by regional and subregional organizations.

Paragraph 364

Regional and subregional groups have an important role to play in strengthening the roles of women in development. Existing regional and subregional information systems on women should be reinforced. A stronger data and research base on women should be developed in the developing countries and in the regional commissions, in collaboration with the appropriate specialized agencies, and the sharing of information and research data should be encouraged. Information systems at the national level should be strengthened or, where they do not exist, should be established.

Paragraph 365

International, regional, subregional and national organizations should be strengthened through the injection of additional human and financial resources and through the placement of more women at policy- and decision-making levels.

6. Information dissemination

Paragraph 366

International programmes should be designed and resources allocated to support national campaigns to improve public consciousness of the need for equality between women and men and for eliminating discriminatory practices. Special attention should be given to information about the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Paragraph 367

Studies must be carried out by the United Nations system on sex stereotyping in advertising and in the mass media, especially degrading images of women in articles and programmes disseminated world wide. Steps should be taken to promote the elimination or reduction of sex stereotyping in the media.

Paragraph 368

In order to promote peace, social justice and the advancement of women, wide publicity should be given by the United Nations to legal instruments and the United Nations resolutions and reports relating to women and the objectives of the Decade, that is, equality, development and peace. The mass media, including United Nations radio and television, should disseminate information on the role of women in achieving these objectives, particularly in promoting co-operation and understanding among peoples and the maintenance of international peace and security. Cultural mechanisms of communication should also be used to disseminate the importance of the concepts of peace and international understanding for the advancement of women.

Paragraph 369

It is essential that women be trained in the use of audio-visual forms of information dissemination, including visual display units and computers, and participate more actively in developing programmes on the advancement of women and for women at the international, regional, subregional and national levels.

Paragraph 370

The present United Nations weekly radio programme and co-production of films on women should be continued with adequate provision for distributing them in different languages.

Paragraph 371

The Joint United Nations Information Committee should continue to include women's issues in its programmes of social and economic information. Adequate resources should be made available for these activities.

Paragraph 372

Governments and the organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, are urged to give the Forward-looking Strategies the widest publicity possible and to ensure that their content is translated and disseminated in order to make authorities and the public in general, especially women's grass-root organizations, aware of the objectives of that document and of the recommendations contained therein.

Notes

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

2/ Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 24-30 July 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3), chap. I, sect. A.

3/ General Assembly resolution 227 A (III).

4/ General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Notes (continued)

- 5/ Ibid.
- 6/ General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.
- 7/ General Assembly resolution 37/63, annex.
- 8/ Report of the International Conference on Population, 1984, Mexico City, 6-14 August 1984 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.XIII.8), chap. I, sect. A, para. 1.
- 9/ Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year ..., chap. I.
- 10/ Report of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the Preparatory Body for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace on its second session (A/CONF.116/PC/19), chap. I, draft decision I, para. 2 (h).
- 11/ Report of the United Nations World Population Conference, 1974, Bucharest, 19-30 August 1974 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.XIII.3), chap. I.
- 12/ Report of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, Rome, 12-20 July 1979 (WCARRD/REP) (Rome, FAO, 1979), Programme of Action, sect. IV.
- 13/ General Assembly resolution 36/71.
- 14/ Report of the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, Geneva, 14-25 August 1978 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.XIV.2), chap. II.
- 15/ General Assembly resolution 3086 (XXVIII).
- 16/ Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949 (United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, No. 973, p. 287).
- 17/ Report of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine, Geneva, 29 August-7 September 1983 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.I.21), chap. I, sect. B.
- 18/ General Assembly resolution 37/16.
- 19/ Report of the World Assembly on Aging, Vienna, 26 July-6 August 1982 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.16), chap. VI, sect. A.
- 20/ See United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.IV.4.

B. RESOLUTION AND DECISIONS

Resolution

1. Expression of gratitude to the host country

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Having met in Nairobi at the invitation of the Government of Kenya from the 15th to the 26th of July 1985,

Having reviewed and evaluated the progress made and obstacles encountered during the United Nations Decade for Women,

Expressing the hope that the outcome of this Conference will strengthen and improve the situation of women throughout the world,

1. Respectfully presents its gratitude to His Excellency the President of Kenya, the Honourable Daniel T. arap Moi, for having graced the opening meeting of the Conference with his presence, for having made the inaugural address and for his personal concern for the successful outcome of the Conference,

2. Expresses its profound gratitude to the Government of Kenya for having made it possible for the Conference to be held in Nairobi and for the excellent facilities, staff and services so graciously placed at its disposal,

3. Requests the Government of Kenya to convey to the City of Nairobi and to the people of Kenya the gratitude of the Conference, for the hospitality and warm welcome extended to the participants,

4. Decides that the document on the Forward-looking Strategies adopted by the Conference shall be known as "The Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women".

Decisions

2. Credentials of the representatives to the Conference

At its 17th plenary meeting, on 25 July 1985, the Conference approved the report of the Credentials Committee (A/CONF.116/21).

3. Draft resolutions and a draft declaration on which no action was taken by the Conference

At its 20th plenary meeting, on 26 July 1985, the Conference decided that the text of the draft resolutions and a draft declaration on which it had not taken any action owing to lack of time, would be reproduced in an annex to the report of the Conference and would be brought to the attention of the General Assembly for consideration and action as appropriate.

Chapter II

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE CONFERENCE

2. In pursuance of General Assembly resolutions 3276 (XXIX) and 3277 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974 and at the invitation of the Government of Mexico, the World Conference of the International Women's Year - the first such conference held under United Nations auspices - was held in Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975, in the course of the year which had been proclaimed "International Women's Year" by General Assembly resolution 3010 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972.

3. The Conference adopted as its principal decisions the Declaration of Mexico on the Equality of Women and their Contribution to Development and Peace 1975 and the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year, and recommended, inter alia, that the General Assembly should consider at its thirtieth session the convening of another world conference on women in 1980. 1/

4. Acting on proposals and recommendations of the Mexico City Conference, the General Assembly, by its resolution 3520 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, proclaimed the period from 1976 to 1985 as the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace and decided to convene in 1980, at the mid-point of the Decade, a world conference to review progress made in implementing the objectives specified by the Mexico City Conference.

5. In conformity with that and other decisions of the General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council, and at the invitation of the Government of Denmark, the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace was held at Copenhagen from 14 to 30 July 1980. The Conference adopted the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women and a large number of resolutions and decisions concerning specific subjects, including a resolution by which it recommended that the General Assembly, at its thirty-fifth session, should consider the convening in 1985 of another world conference on women to review and appraise the achievements of the Decade. 2/

6. The report of the 1980 Conference was considered by the General Assembly later in that year; on 11 December 1980 the Assembly adopted resolution 35/136 by which it responded to a number of the Conference's proposals and recommendations, and in particular 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" (para. 17). At its subsequent session, when it considered the subject again, the Assembly adopted resolution 36/126 of 14 December 1981, by which it requested the Commission on the Status of Women to give priority at its 1982 session to the question of preparations for the 1985 Conference.

7. The Commission accordingly dealt with the question and reported and made certain recommendations to the Economic and Social Council in the early part of 1982. In response to the Commission's report and proposals, the Council adopted resolution 1982/26 of 4 May 1982, by which it decided, inter alia, to designate the Commission as the preparatory body for the Conference.

8. The question of preparations for the Conference was further considered by the General Assembly later in the same year. The Assembly adopted resolution 37/60 of 10 December 1982, by which it endorsed the Council's decisions concerning preparations for the Conference and took a number of other decisions relevant

thereto. Pursuant to paragraph 5 of that resolution, the Secretary-General appointed Mrs. L. Shahani, Assistant Secretary-General for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, as Secretary-General of the Conference.

9. The Commission on the Status of Women acting as the Preparatory Body for the Conference held its first session at Vienna in February/March 1983, under the chairmanship of Olajumoke Oladayo Obafemi (Nigeria). In its report 3/ on the session it addressed a number of recommendations, including the text of the provisional agenda for the Conference, to the Economic and Social Council, which in response thereto adopted decision 1983/132 of 26 May 1983; in addition, on the same date the Council adopted resolution 1983/28 concerning more specifically the participation of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council in the Conference and in the preparatory process at the national and regional levels.

10. The General Assembly considered the report of the Commission acting as the Preparatory Body on its first session (including the provisional agenda proposed for the Conference) and the Council's decisions concerning preparations for the 1985 Conference, as well as other related matters, at its thirty-eighth session. As a result of this consideration the Assembly adopted resolution 38/108 of 16 December 1983, by which it decided to accept with appreciation the offer of the Government of Kenya to act as host to the Conference in Nairobi in 1985; took note of the Commission's reports and endorsed its recommendations; and considered that at the Conference particular attention would be paid (in connection with item 7 of the provisional agenda) to the problems of women in territories under racist colonial rule and in territories under foreign occupation, on the basis of appropriate documentation from the international conferences, held at Mexico City and Copenhagen, on women under the themes of equality, development and peace.

11. The Commission acting as the Preparatory Body for the Conference held its second session from 27 February to 7 March 1984, under the chairmanship of Rosario G. Manalo (Philippines). Its report on that session 4/ was considered by the Economic and Social Council, which by its decision 1984/125 of 24 May 1984, took note of the report, and approved the recommendations contained in the report and decided to transmit it to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session. At that session the Assembly dealt once again with the subject of preparations for the Conference and on 14 December 1984 adopted resolution 39/129, by which it reiterated its appreciation to the Government of Kenya for offering to act as host to the Conference in Nairobi from 15 to 26 July 1985; urged all Member States to make all efforts to ensure the success of the Conference; took note of the Preparatory Body's second report and endorsed the recommendations made therein; and made a number of recommendations concerning documents to be submitted to the Preparatory Body at its third session and documents to be submitted to the Conference. In the final paragraph of the resolution, the Assembly decided to include in the provisional agenda of its fortieth session the item "United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace".

12. A third session of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the Preparatory Body for the Conference was held at Vienna from 4 to 13 March 1985, under the chairmanship of Rosario G. Manalo (Philippines). As explained in the report on that session, 5/ the Preparatory Body was unable to complete its business at that time, including consideration of the Secretary-General's report (A/CONF.116/PC/21) concerning the principal item on the agenda, as well as of certain other items (the draft provisional rules of procedure for the Conference and certain organizational matters). It decided that certain of the unfinished items should be referred to the Economic and Social Council for consideration at

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its first regular session of 1985. In this connection, by decision 39/459 of 12 April 1985, the General Assembly decided, inter alia, "to request the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the Preparatory Body for the Conference to resume its third session in New York for a period of not more than seven days starting from 29 April 1985, in order to complete successfully its preparatory work ...".

13. Accordingly, the Preparatory Body met in resumed third session and as an open-ended working group at United Nations Headquarters from 29 April to 1 May 1985. With respect to the principal item on its agenda, it decided 6/ to transmit to the Conference a text consisting partly of agreed recommendations and partly of proposals that were not agreed (separately identified) concerning Forward-looking Strategies of implementation for the advancement of women and concrete measures to overcome obstacles to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women for the period 1986 to the year 2000: Equality, Development and Peace". 7/

14. In conformity with Assembly decision 39/459, the Economic and Social Council, in the course of its session from 7 to 21 May 1985, gave priority to the results of the Preparatory Body's deliberations. The Council decided, inter alia, to invite Mrs. Rosario Manalo (Philippines), Chairman of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the Preparatory Body for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace at its third and resumed third sessions, to hold informal consultations in New York, prior to the Conference, with a view to facilitating the deliberations of the Conference regarding the Forward-looking Strategies for the advancement of women and concrete measures to overcome obstacles to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women for the period 1986 to the Year 2000: Equality, Development and Peace - and to make the results of those consultations available to the Conference as appropriate.

15. The Council decided in its resolution 1985/46 of 31 May 1985 to transmit to the Conference the report of the Secretary-General reviewing the issue of women and development in the medium-term plans of the organizations of the United Nations system.

16. By its decision 1985/158 the Council transmitted to the Conference the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on the achievements of and obstacles encountered by States parties in the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. It also transmitted the report of the Secretary-General on the participation of non-governmental organizations in the United Nations Decade for Women.

17. The Economic and Social Council considered the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference during its session. At its 26th meeting, on 31 May 1985, by decision 1985/158 the Council authorized its Bureau to continue making every effort through informal consultations to assist in resolving outstanding issues relating to the rules of procedure for the Conference and to submit the results to the Council at a resumption of its first regular session of 1985, on 20 June 1985. At its resumed session, the Council by decision 1985/164 recommended a formulation of rule 6 relating to the composition of the General Committee of the Conference. The outstanding question of rules 32-44 was referred to the Conference.

18. The Conference was preceded by intergovernmental preparatory meetings organized by the regional commissions, in co-operation with the secretariat of the Conference, the specialized agencies and other bodies concerned. These regional meetings were held at the places and on the dates mentioned below:

Economic and Social Commission for Asia
and the Pacific

Tokyo, 26-30 March 1984

Economic Commission for Africa

Arusha, 8-12 October 1984

Economic Commission for Europe
(Seminar on the economic role of women
in the ECE region)

Vienna, 15-19 October 1984

Economic Commission for Latin America
and the Caribbean

Havana, 19-23 November 1984

Economic Commission for Western Asia

Baghdad, 3-6 December 1984

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19. At these regional intergovernmental meetings and the Seminar various recommendations, some dealing with matters of specific interest to the region concerned, were adopted for submission to the Conference. 8/

20. In addition, documentary and statistical material designed to illustrate the evolution of the status of women in recent times was gathered by specialized agencies and other bodies and organs of the United Nations system and issued in documents for submission to the Conference. An intergovernmental body - the Organization of African Unity - prepared jointly with the Economic Commission for Africa a document relating to the position of women living under a régime of apartheid. Many non-governmental organizations having an interest in the topics to be considered by the Conference arranged meetings or seminars dealing with such topics and prepared statements or documents addressed to the Conference. (See the list of documents in annex III to this report.)

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Notes

1/ See the report of the Mexico City Conference, United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1 (E/CONF.66/34).

2/ See the report of the Copenhagen Conference, United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3 and Corr. (A/CONF.94/35), in particular resolution 33 (the draft of which had been introduced by the delegation of Kenya on behalf of a number of countries, see ibid., para. 420).

3/ A/CONF.116/PC/9 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

4/ A/CONF.116/PC/19 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and Corr.1.

5/ A/CONF.116/PC/25.

6/ See the report on the resumed third session (A/CONF.116/25/Add.1-3) and annex.

7/ See document A/CONF.116/12.

8/ For the texts of the recommendations and of the reports (or extracts thereof) of the regional intergovernmental meetings, see the relevant report of the Secretary-General (A/CONF.116/9).

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Chapter III

ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

A. Date and place of the Conference

21. The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, was held at Nairobi from 15 to 26 July 1985, in conformity with General Assembly resolution 39/129 of 14 December 1984. During that period the Conference held 20 plenary meetings.

B. Pre-Conference consultations

22. Pre-Conference consultations open to all States invited to participate in the Conference were held at Nairobi on 13 and 14 July 1985 to consider a number of procedural and organizational matters. These and other informal consultations were conducted under the chairmanship of Mrs. Rosario Manalo (Philippines), who had been Presiding Officer of the Commission acting as the Preparatory Body for the Conference. The report on the consultations (A/CONF.116/L.1 and Add.1) was submitted to the Conference and its recommendations were accepted as the basis for the organization of the Conference's work, including the recommendation concerning the structure of the Conference's report.

C. Attendance

23. The following States were represented at the Conference:

Afghanistan	Chile
Albania	China
Algeria	Colombia
Angola	Comoros
Antigua and Barbuda	Congo
Argentina	Costa Rica
Australia	Cuba
Austria	Cyprus
Bahrain	Czechoslovakia
Bangladesh	Democratic Kampuchea
Barbados	Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Belgium	Democratic Yemen
Belize	Denmark
Benin	Djibouti
Bhutan	Dominica
Botswana	Dominican Republic
Brazil	Ecuador
Bulgaria	Egypt
Burkina Faso	El Salvador
Burundi	Equatorial Guinea
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	Ethiopia
Cameroon	Fiji
Canada	Finland
Cape Verde	France
Central African Republic	Gabon
Chad	Gambia

German Democratic Republic
 Germany, Federal Republic of
 Ghana
 Greece
 Grenada
 Guatemala
 Guinea
 Guinea-Bissau
 Guyana
 Haiti
 Holy See
 Honduras
 Hungary
 Iceland
 India
 Indonesia
 Iran, Islamic Republic of
 Iraq
 Ireland
 Israel
 Italy
 Ivory Coast
 Jamaica
 Japan
 Jordan
 Kenya
 Kiribati
 Kuwait
 Lao People's Democratic Republic
 Lesotho
 Liberia
 Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
 Luxembourg
 Madagascar
 Malawi
 Malaysia
 Maldives
 Mali
 Malta
 Mauritania
 Mauritius
 Mexico
 Mongolia
 Morocco
 Mozambique
 Nepal
 Netherlands
 New Zealand
 Nicaragua
 Niger
 Nigeria
 Norway
 Oman
 Pakistan

Panama
 Papua New Guinea
 Paraguay
 Peru
 Philippines
 Poland
 Portugal
 Republic of Korea
 Romania
 Rwanda
 Saint Christopher and Nevis
 Saint Lucia
 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
 Samoa
 San Marino
 Sao Tome and Principe
 Saudi Arabia
 Senegal
 Seychelles
 Sierra Leone
 Solomon Islands
 Somalia
 Spain
 Sri Lanka
 Sudan
 Suriname
 Swaziland
 Sweden
 Switzerland
 Syrian Arab Republic
 Thailand
 Togo
 Trinidad and Tobago
 Tunisia
 Turkey
 Uganda
 Ukrainian Soviet Socialist
 Republic
 Union of Soviet Socialist
 Republics
 United Arab Emirates
 United Kingdom of Great Britain
 and Northern Ireland
 United Republic of Tanzania
 United States of America
 Uruguay
 Vanuatu
 Venezuela
 Viet Nam
 Yemen
 Yugoslavia
 Zaire
 Zambia
 Zimbabwe

24. The United Nations Council for Namibia and the Special Committee against Apartheid were represented at the Conference.

25. The Palestine Liberation Organization and the South West Africa People's Organization attended the Conference in the capacity of observers.

26. The following national liberation movements were represented by observers:

African National Congress (South Africa)
Pan Africanist Congress of Azania

27. Members of the secretariat of the following United Nations offices were present throughout or during part of the Conference:

Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation
Department of International Economic and Social Affairs
Department of Technical Co-operation for Development
Department of Political and Security Affairs
Department of Public Information

28. The secretariats of the following regional commissions were represented at the Conference:

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Economic Commission for Africa
Economic Commission for Western Asia

29. The following United Nations bodies and programmes were also represented:

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)
United Nations Children's Fund
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
United Nations Development Programme
United Nations Environment Programme
United Nations Fund for Population Activities
United Nations Development Fund for Women
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
United Nations Industrial Development Organization
United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women
United Nations Institute for Training and Research
United Nations Office for Emergency Operations in Africa
United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office
United Nations University
World Food Programme
Federation of International Civil Servants Associations
International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT

Representatives of the following specialized agencies and related organizations participated in the work of the Conference:

International Labour Organisation
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
International Civil Aviation Organization
World Meteorological Organization
World Health Organization
World Bank
International Fund for Agricultural Development

31. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented by observers:

Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development
Arab Gulf Programme for the United Nations Development Organizations
Arab Labour Organization
Caribbean Community Secretariat
Commonwealth Secretariat
Council for Mutual Economic Assistance
Council of Europe
European Community
Inter-American Development Bank
Intergovernmental Committee for Migration
International Center for Public Enterprises in Developing Countries
League of Arab States
Nordic Council
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
Organization of African Unity
Organization of American States (Inter-American Commission of Women)
Organization of the Islamic Conference

32. A large number of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, or on the Roster, attended the Conference. The list of participants is given in document A/CONF.116/INF.1.

D. Opening of the Conference and election of its President

33. The Conference was called to order by the Secretary-General of the United Nations. In the course of his address he stated that the purpose of the Conference was to draw up a balance sheet of results obtained and of the many problems remaining to be solved before women could stand everywhere beside men with rights and opportunities equal not only in law but also in fact. He pointed out that the United Nations had consistently played an important role in supporting efforts to improve the lives and status of women around the world by providing a forum for discussions and by developing the necessary international instruments and strategies. In this important sphere, as in others, the endeavours of the United Nations had been shaped by, and constituted a response to, the process of rapid change which had marked the 40 years since the establishment of the Organization.

34. He said that the International Women's Year 1975 had been an important event in that it directed the world community's attention not only to the needs but also to the strength of women. Moreover, women themselves increasingly expressed the view that they shared many problems and aspirations which transcended national boundaries as well as cultural and political backgrounds. Emphasizing the interrelatedness of the themes of the Decade - equality, development and peace, he noted the relatively greater progress made towards equality and the increasing recognition of the relationship between development and the advancement of women. The issues of women's advancement could not be separated from those of peace and

It was heartening to note that women were participating increasingly in the struggle for peace and disarmament. No doubt, the deliberations of the Conference would reflect political, economic and social realities, though it could hardly be expected to offer solutions to problems that had for long been and were still being discussed in other United Nations forums. In its discussions the Conference should not lose sight of the need to preserve and build upon the gains achieved during the Decade, on the basis of the broad and genuine support of the entire international community.

15. Reviewing the achievements of the Decade, he said that to expect that the goals of women's equality with men and full participation in the life of society would be attained in so short a span of time was to belittle the magnitude of the task. However, compared with 1975, there was in 1985 a much greater awareness of women's problems, greater advocacy of their rights and greater understanding of their needs. Most importantly, this increased awareness was widely shared by women themselves. Governments had enacted legislation outlawing discrimination based on sex, and national mechanisms to ensure respect of women's rights had been set up. Women were beginning to make their presence felt in the public life of their countries. The growing appreciation of the diverse roles which women could play in society had been responsible for many of the positive achievements of the Decade, particularly in the areas of health, education and employment. The emphasis on primary health care moved the focus to women, the educational gap between girls and boys had narrowed, especially in developing countries, and there had been an increasing erosion of the fallacious "role model" that depicted women as essentially unproductive in the economic sense.

16. The Secretary-General added that the United Nations Decade for Women had coincided with a period in which the world economy had run an uneasy course. In this context, women had suffered particularly from cutbacks in public investments in social programmes due to economic difficulties and the necessary process of adjustment. Even in these difficult economic times, however, the Decade had registered significant progress. For instance, there had been an increase in the number of countries - from 28 in 1978 to 90 in 1983 - with equal pay legislation on their statute books. Qualitative and quantitative changes had taken place in women's participation in the labour force. The woman of the twenty-first century would enjoy better education and possess higher skills than the women of 1975, and would be better informed about her rights and obligations in society. The greater awareness of women's issues was attributable in large measure to the valuable efforts of the non-governmental community with which the United Nations system continued to collaborate closely.

17. Concluding, the Secretary-General said that the positive trends of the Decade were encouraging. At the same time he noted that the challenge remained how to maintain the momentum beyond the Decade and to intensify international co-operation in this vital area. A sense of shared purpose and direction, a renewed commitment to the Plan of Action of Mexico City, the Programme of Action adopted at Copenhagen, the goals and objectives of the Decade and to the Charter of the United Nations ought to be a beacon to guide the world community through the days and years ahead. The efforts to ensure equality of women's rights with those of men must not flag. He was confident that the international community, working in concert, would respond to the challenges of the promotion of peace, fostering of economic and social development and the universal observance of human rights. He stressed that without the full partnership of women and men, goals would remain elusive and, in this light, viewed the close of the United Nations Decade for Women as really only a beginning.

38. In an inaugural address, His Excellency the Honourable Daniel T. arap Moi, President of the Republic of Kenya, welcomed the delegations and thanked the Secretary-General and the Secretariat of the United Nations for the support they had extended to the host Government in connection with preparations for the Conference.

39. He referred to the formidable task confronting the delegations and to the numerous matters on the agenda which bore vitally on the destiny of mankind. Throughout history, and in all parts of the world, the human community had been concerned with the issues of equality, development and peace, and hence it was fitting and indeed inevitable that these matters should form part of the agenda of a conference convened to discuss the status and well-being of more than half of the world's population.

40. The world community's preoccupation with the integration of women in the mainstream of human progress was of relatively recent date. Despite the progress made in almost every field of human striving, efforts to alleviate the plight of women had achieved less than the world community had a capacity to accomplish. However, one point of agreement was that a start had been made and that humanity could not afford to slow down the momentum in a field so crucial to the well-being of mankind.

41. Noting that the Conference was taking place on the eve of celebrations to mark the fortieth anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations, he stressed that this was a special and historic occasion for reviewing and appraising the achievements of 10 years of international resolve and commitment to improve the status of women and to formulate viable strategies for the promotion of the advancement of women in the years ahead.

42. In this context, he referred to the action taken by the General Assembly since 1975 to improve the status of women, and considered that the world community had come a long way since the Mexico City Conference. By the time international action was taken, Kenya, among others, had enacted legislative and constitutional provisions guaranteeing to all citizens inalienable rights irrespective of sex, creed, race or ethnic origins. Kenya had in addition ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and Kenya was both a contributor to and beneficiary of the United Nations Development Fund for Women. At the national level, women in Kenya were involved in the identification, formulation and implementation of development activities, starting from the village level, and women had begun to enter the legal, medical, engineering and veterinary professions which had previously been male-dominated.

43. In conclusion, the President of Kenya reaffirmed his country's total commitment and determination to continue assisting Kenyan women to attain even greater successes in the coming years, and he expressed the hopes of Kenya that the deliberations of the Conference would be inspired and tempered by the desire to succeed. In this context, he stressed that, while differences of opinion were bound to arise over certain issues at the Conference as at any other, nonetheless it was vital that the objectives and aspirations of the Conference should not be submerged by rhetoric which might attract immediate and wide attention, but from which the Conference and, above all, the women of the world would gain little. The success of this Conference would also depend crucially on the will of all Governments to implement its recommendations, for without this will resolutions would remain mere paper monuments. Yet, while it was the duty of Governments to take action, the onus remained on women to unite and take full advantage of the opportunities so created.

44. He stressed that women formed the most important element and performed literally vital functions in all societies. After a Decade of varying attempts to advance the cause of women, he said, the years ahead should witness resolute action to eradicate obstacles to the advancement of women. The delegations owed it to the women of the world to produce a final document that would prove that the journey to Nairobi in 1985 had not been in vain.

45. The President of the Republic of Kenya formally declared the Conference open.

46. At its 1st meeting on 15 July 1985 the Conference elected by acclamation Miss Margaret Kenyatta, the head of the delegation of Kenya, as the President of the Conference. In her acceptance speech, she expressed her own and her country's gratitude to the delegates for electing her to this high office. Indeed, she said, all Africa was honoured by the decision of the world community to accept the offer of the Government of Kenya to host the Conference, especially during the year marking the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations.

47. Reviewing the major achievements for the advancement of women since the establishment of the United Nations in 1945, she cited the Preamble of the United Nations Charter which reaffirmed faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women, and of nations large and small. She also particularly mentioned the pioneering work of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women which had made many significant recommendations for promoting women's social, economic and political rights, and had prepared several important international conventions on such subjects as the political rights of women, the nationality of women, age and consent to marriage etc. The adoption by the General Assembly of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women was a significant contribution to the advancement of women. Other achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women included the Mexico City and Copenhagen Conferences and the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action adopted, respectively, in Mexico City in 1975 and in Copenhagen in 1980. She stressed that these were mutually complementary instruments, not two separate ones. Their implementation involved not only Governments, but also agencies and bodies of the United Nations system, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

48. She expressed the hope that all delegations would show good will in order to enable the Conference to make a serious contribution to the advancement of women. For her part, she added that she would do her best to merit the confidence which the Conference had placed in her.

E. Messages from Heads of State or Government

49. The Conference received messages wishing it success addressed to it by the Heads of State or Government of Algeria, Bulgaria, China, Colombia, Comoros, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Dominica, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mongolia, Pakistan, Poland, Republic of Korea, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

F. Other messages

50. A message was received from Her Majesty the Queen of Jordan.
51. A message was received from the Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

G. Adoption of the rules of procedure (agenda item 3)

52. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 15 July 1985, the Conference adopted the provisional rules of procedure as contained in document A/CONF.116/2,* as revised in the light of the acceptance by the Conference of the Economic and Social Council's recommendations regarding rules 6 and 15 (see document A/CONF.116/17).**
53. Following discussions during the pre-Conference consultations on matters of procedure, the President, immediately after the adoption of the rules of procedure, made the following statement:

"In my capacity as President of the Conference, and with the concurrence of all groups concerned, I wish to make the following statement.

* The square brackets in chapter VIII (Decision-making) were removed.

** The text of the two rules reads:

"Elections

"Rule 6

"The Conference shall elect the following officers: a President, one Vice-President for Co-ordination, twenty-nine other Vice-Presidents, a Rapporteur-General and a Presiding Officer for each of the Main Committees established in accordance with rule 45.

"Decisions concerning organization

"Rule 15

"1. The Conference shall, to the extent possible, at its first meeting:

- (a) Elect its officers and constitute its subsidiary bodies;
- (b) Adopt its rules of procedure;
- (c) Adopt its agenda, the draft of which shall, until such adoption, be the provisional agenda of the Conference;
- (d) Decide on the organization of its work.

"2. Recommendations resulting from pre-conference consultations shall, in principle, be acted on without further discussion."

"Without prejudice to the rules of procedure of the Conference which have been adopted, in particular rule 34, and without setting a precedent, a general understanding has emerged as a result of consultations whereby all documents of the Conference, in particular the Forward-looking Strategies document under item 8 of the Conference agenda, should be adopted by consensus."

H. Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 4)

54. At the 2nd plenary meeting, on 15 July 1985, the Conference adopted as its agenda the provisional agenda (A/CONF.116/1) recommended by the Preparatory Body, which was as follows:

1. Opening of the Conference.
2. Election of the President.
3. Adoption of the rules of procedure.
4. Adoption of the agenda.
5. Election of officers other than the President.
6. Other organizational matters:
 - (a) Allocation of items to the Main Committees and organization of work;
 - (b) Credentials of representatives to the Conference:
 - (i) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
 - (ii) Report of the Credentials Committee.
7. Critical review and appraisal of progress achieved and obstacles encountered in attaining the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, and the sub-themes: Employment, Health and Education, bearing in mind the guidelines laid down at the World Conference of the International Women's Year, held at Mexico City, and the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, held at Copenhagen:
 - (a) Progress achieved and obstacles encountered at national, regional and international levels to attain the goal and objective of equality;
 - (b) Progress achieved and obstacles encountered at national, regional and international levels to attain the goal and objective of development;
 - (c) Progress achieved and obstacles encountered at national, regional and international levels to attain the goal and objective of peace.

8. Forward-looking Strategies of implementation for the advancement of women for the period up to the year 2000, and concrete measures to overcome obstacles to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, and the sub-theme: Employment, Health and Education, bearing in mind the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and the establishment of a new international economic order:

- (a) Strategies and measures at the national, regional and international levels to achieve the goal of equality;
- (b) Strategies and measures at the national, regional and international levels to achieve the goal of development;
- (c) Strategies and measures at the national, regional and international level to achieve the goal of peace.

9. Adoption of the report of the Conference.

I. Election of officers other than the President (agenda item 5)

55. At its 2nd plenary meeting on 15 July 1985 the Conference elected Mr. Tom Vraalsen (Norway) Vice-President for Co-ordination and the following 29 States as Vice-Presidents: Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Burundi, Chad, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Japan, Liberia, Mali, Nicaragua, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tunisia, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Zambia.

56. Mrs. Elena Lagadinova (Bulgaria) was elected Rapporteur-General.

57. The Conference elected Mrs. Cecilia Lopez (Colombia) Presiding Officer of the First Committee and Mrs. Rosario Manalo (Philippines) Presiding Officer of the Second Committee.

58. The First and Second Committees elected their Deputy Presiding Officers and Rapporteurs:

First Committee

Deputy Presiding Officers: Ms. Laetitia van den Assum (Netherlands)
Ms. Olimpia Solomonescu (Romania)
Ms. Kulsum Saifallah (Pakistan)

Rapporteur: Ms. Diaroumeye Gany (Niger)

Second Committee

Deputy Presiding Officers: Ms. Billie Miller (Barbados)
Ms. Konjit Sine Giogis (Ethiopia)
Ms. Eva Szilagyi (Hungary)

Rapporteur: Ms. Helen Ware (Australia)

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J. Other organizational matters (agenda item 6)

1. Allocation of agenda items

59. At its 3rd plenary meeting on 16 July 1985 the Conference decided that items 1 to 7 and 9 would be considered in plenary meetings and that item 8 would be considered by the Main Committees. (For the distribution of the work as between the two Committees in relation to item 8, in particular consideration of the document concerning Forward-looking Strategies (A/CONF.116/12), see document A/CONF.116/L.2.)

2. Credentials of representatives to the Conference

60. In conformity with rule 4 of the rules of procedure the Conference at its 2nd plenary meeting on 15 July 1985 established a Credentials Committee composed of the following States: Bhutan, China, Cuba, Equatorial Guinea, Italy, Ivory Coast, Paraguay, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America.

K. Implications of Conference decisions for the programme budget of the United Nations

61. At the 19th plenary meeting, on 26 July 1985, before the consideration of the recommendations of the Main Committees, the Secretary of the Conference stated that any provisions of decisions taken or resolutions adopted by the Conference that had implications for the programme budget of the United Nations would be brought to the attention of the General Assembly by the Secretariat at the time when the Assembly considered the report of the Conference.

Chapter IV

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL DEBATE

62. The general debate, which took place in the course of 14 plenary meetings from 16 to 24 July 1985, covered the range of topics to be considered by the Conference, including not only item 7 but also item 8 of the agenda, which was more specifically the concern of the Main Committees. All speakers expressed appreciation of the efforts made by the host State and by the secretariat in preparing for the Conference.

63. The representatives of States and the observers who addressed the Conference, as well as the representatives of specialized agencies and United Nations bodies, programmes and offices who made statements, commented on the various issues to be dealt with by the Conference. Some intergovernmental organizations also made statements in the plenary. Statements were made on behalf of a number of non-governmental organizations.

64. Opening the general debate at the third plenary meeting on 16 July 1985, Mrs. L. Shahani, Secretary-General of the Conference, stated that the United Nations Decade for Women had brought additional benefits and rights to women, but the possibilities to realize these benefits and rights under favourable conditions had significantly decreased in consequence of the recent difficult economic situation. At the same time it was becoming increasingly clear that political and economic problems could not be solved without the full participation of women in shaping the future of society and contributing to international peace and security. The values, aspirations and ideals of women could reorient a troubled and violent world. Women represented the new hope as the world prepared for the coming century.

65. She said that the value of the Decade as a symbol and mechanism ought not to be underestimated, for it had moved Governments and non-governmental organizations all over the world to take action benefiting women. Although in many instances performance had fallen short of promise, the important point was that an irreversible process, far-reaching in its implications, had been set in motion by the Decade.

66. During the Decade significant lessons had been learnt about the actual status and role of women in their societies. There was also a better understanding of the processes which gave rise to problems and conflicts common to women in different cultures. There was greater awareness of the ways in which global economic and political issues directly affected the lives of women. The organized women's movement initiated in the nineteenth century had become a global force. The mechanism of the Decade had caused the invisible majority of humankind - the women - to become more visible on the global scene.

67. Noting the substantial progress made towards legal equality and the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women by over 70 States, she drew attention to the fact that actual changes had not kept pace with legislative provisions. Since there was no guarantee that economic growth would automatically enhance the dignity of women, she stressed the need to re-examine the meaning of "integration of women in development" to ensure that development would not perpetuate the position of women as a disadvantaged group or increase their "double burden" without adequate remuneration. With regard

to peace, the Decade had succeeded in creating public awareness of the need for women to take an active role in promoting peace and disarmament, particularly through participation in peace movements. It seemed necessary at the end of the Decade to expand and deepen public understanding in order that peace would also be understood as the absence of conditions that produce violence at the family, local, national and international levels.

68. She reviewed the progress made with respect to sub-themes of the Decade, employment, education and health. She drew attention to new and continuing challenges in each of these areas.

69. She referred to the obstacles encountered during the Decade which hampered the advancement of women. At the international level, she identified these obstacles as including threats to global peace and security, the escalation of the arms race, foreign aggression and domination, racial discrimination, and exploitative economic relations among nations. At the national level, the obstacles were attitudes which perceived women as inferior to men, and the insufficient understanding and recognition of maternity as a distinct and essential social function which could only be performed by women and therefore deserved full recognition and required specific support.

70. Turning next to Forward-looking Strategies, she said that the close interrelationship of the three goals of the Decade, equality, development and peace, was more evident in 1985 than it had been in 1975 or 1980. It was one of the main messages of the Decade that women's participation in, and their contribution to, society must be envisaged as a composite and integral whole. Although the Forward-looking Strategies dealt with new areas, it also addressed itself to issues similar to those treated in the Plan of Action of Mexico City, 1975, and the Programme of Action adopted in Copenhagen in 1980, showing that the surface had only been scratched and much remained to be done.

71. She said that the impoverishment of women was on the increase, a phenomenon known as the feminization of poverty. A new approach to development was materializing that sought to reformulate and broaden the goals of development in terms of equity, redistributive justice, human dignity and national sovereignty. However, it required that women themselves define their own needs, values, strategies and goals and meant the exercise by women of power within and outside the home. The road from the feminization of poverty to the exercise of power by women was a long and painful one, but the march of women, globally and hand-in-hand, had already begun.

72. In concluding, she said that the Conference represented hope and challenge for women the world over, but this hope ought to be justified through a manifestation of the political will of Governments to provide the required policies, resources and programmes that would benefit women, particularly at the grass-roots level.

73. The representatives of practically all States participating in the Conference spoke in the general debate considered that the Conference was a welcome opportunity for casting a critical look at what had been achieved since 1975 to enhance the status of women and for looking forward to the period up to the year 2000 in which, they hoped, the many still unfulfilled aspirations of women could be realized. In that sense, they said, the Conference should be regarded not merely as the end of an epoch but also as heralding a better future for women.

74. Many delegations expressed the view that the holding of the Conference in 1985 was significant, for not only did it mark the close of the United Nations Decade for Women, but it was also the fortieth anniversary year of the establishment of the United Nations. Some recalled the victory over fascism in the Second World War that had prompted the founders of the Organization to set up a framework within which States could work together in order to achieve the purposes and give effect to the principles of the Charter, and emphasized the contribution of women to the victory. They considered that those purposes and principles, spelt out in broad terms in the Charter, were still valid and that the objectives of the Decade coincided with them.

75. Delegations expressed satisfaction with the fact that the Conference was being held in the continent of Africa, in Nairobi, and many paid a tribute to those women of Africa who, along with their peoples, had won national liberation and those still struggling for liberation and were now contributing appreciably to the quest for their countries' independent development.

76. Some representatives stated that 1985 was also the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption by the General Assembly of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, which had played an important role in improving the situation of women.

77. Many representatives recognized the catalytic role of the initiatives taken by the United Nations, through its proclamation of the International Women's Year and subsequently the United Nations Decade for Women, in raising the level of consciousness of the world community concerning the inequalities existing between men and women, and the need for women's full participation and integration within all sectors of national life in order to accelerate development.

78. It was widely recognized and reaffirmed that the Declaration and the World Plan of Action adopted at the World Conference of the International Women's Year, held at Mexico City in 1975, and the Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, held at Copenhagen in 1980, together provided a broad policy and planning framework, as well as specific guidelines and priorities, for action to be taken at the national, regional and international levels. Many representatives cited major achievements during the Decade at those levels. A number of them expressed the opinion that, together with the decisions of the Conference, the historic Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the United Nations Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation, should form the basis for activities furthering the advancement of women in decades to come, in particular for achieving equality for women and respect for their rights.

79. Several representatives were of the view that other international instruments and strategies should be taken into account in the formulation of Forward-looking Strategies, including the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States. They also referred to the declarations of the Sixth and the Seventh Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries.

Review and appraisal of progress achieved and obstacles encountered during the Decade

80. All delegations stated that the major task of the Conference was to review the activities of the past 10 years in implementing the World Plan of Action and the Programme for the Second Half of the Decade at the national, regional and international levels. In reviewing the achievements of the Decade in advancing the status of women, most representatives acknowledged significant progress towards the attainment of the objectives of the Decade. Many representatives stressed the important role played by women in defence of peace, in national liberation struggles, in national construction, defence and production, as well as in the cultural and social fields.

81. Many representatives recognized that a 10-year period was a short span of time in history and that it would hardly have been possible in that time to effect the profound transformation required to achieve all the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women, despite notable progress made in many areas. Because of this limited time, and owing to continued and accentuated economic and political difficulties, particularly during the second half of the Decade, the potential of women was in many respects still under-utilized. They considered that the human resource represented by the female majority of the population should be mobilized and enlisted more widely in the cause of the advancement not only of women but also of their countries' national economic and social situation. There were no grounds for complacency, they said, for at a time when whole regions of Africa were suffering the ravages of drought and famine and when many countries were beset by economic recession, it was a grievous waste of resources to ignore the potential contribution women could make to a betterment of national life.

82. Many delegations stressed that the three themes of the Decade and of the Conference were closely interrelated. There could not be real and sustained economic and social development, they said, except in an environment of peace, nor could the equality of the sexes become a reality in the absence of such development. They expressed the hope that the Conference's recommendations would be such as to encourage Governments to strengthen their resolve to work for a better future for women, who were the principal concern of the Conference, and indeed for all humanity. They appreciated that opinions might differ as to the policies most likely to lead to the fulfilment of the hopes voiced by women and men everywhere for a secure existence under conditions of justice and equality. But they also felt that in the course of the Decade Governments and people had gained a greater awareness of the situations that needed correcting and that, partly as a result of the activities deployed under the auspices of the United Nations and its associated agencies and subsidiary bodies, attitudes had changed, traditional views and gradually superseded by progressive ones with respect to the status of women. They considered that a spirit of co-operation among the participants in the Conference should make it possible to work out recommendations that might serve as guidelines for future action at the national, regional and international level for achieving, by the year 2000, the objectives desired by the Conference.

83. Many countries pointed out that the progress towards the advancement of women during the Decade had been variable; different countries had achieved progress in different respects, depending upon the conditions and needs of society. For instance, representatives of countries with centrally planned economies reported that these countries had achieved full legal and de facto equality of women and intensified their efforts to enhance the participation of women in policy and decision-making bodies at all levels of society and in all fields of science and

technology. The representatives of countries with developed market economies reported that in these countries equality of the sexes had been substantially achieved in legislation, and in employment, education and health, and stressed intensified efforts for the participation of women in society in accordance with women's own needs, priorities and aspirations. Representatives of developing countries, on the other hand, noting some progress especially in legislation, literacy, education and employment, reported the growing importance of the role played by self-reliant, grass-roots organizations of women. They also reported efforts for more effective integration of women in agricultural, industrial and services programmes and projects.

84. Many representatives noted that during the Decade increasing numbers of women had assumed the role of sole or principal breadwinners and that a visible growth in the number of female-headed households had occurred. Many developing countries noted, however, the difficulties confronted by these women in gaining access to resources and infrastructure, such as housing. The representatives of countries with centrally planned economies mentioned significant progress in their countries towards enabling women to combine effectively their roles as mothers with their roles as producers and wage-earners. Representatives of countries with developed market economies also reported important progress in their countries as regards the social services that enabled women to carry on a gainful occupation and at the same time to fulfil their family responsibilities; in addition, they reported a growing trend towards the sharing of child care responsibilities between women and men.

85. It was noted that, whereas most significant progress had been made towards the legal equality of the sexes, the fact that such equality was not attained in reality in all fields meant variable and, in some countries, disappointing levels of integration of women in different sectors and areas of social, economic and political development, and in the peace process. Because women's access to productive resources, to health, education and employment was not fully achieved, and because women's integration in non-traditional sectors and areas had been a relatively slow and recent process, much remained to be done beyond the Decade. This state of affairs necessitated particular attention to appropriate strategies and mechanisms that would redress the situation.

86. Some representatives particularly mentioned their countries' support for the United Nations system during the Decade (e.g., Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Labour Organisation). Many representatives, mentioning their appreciation to the secretariat for the Conference, the Branch for the Advancement of Women of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, called for the further strengthening of the Branch as a focal point within the United Nations. Some representatives drew attention to a cross-organizational review of the activities of the United Nations system for the advancement of women by the Economic and Social Council, and indicated that Member States were eager that the United Nations system should achieve effective results. Other representatives stated that adequate machinery must be devised to ensure that the United Nations system continues and strengthens its involvement with women's issues after the end of the Decade. Yet other representatives emphasized the need to make maximum and effective use of existing facilities within the United Nations system.

87. A large number of representatives stated that their countries had established or strengthened the governmental machinery for promoting the advancement of women. These institutions were reported to range from full-fledged ministries, to

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departments, commissions, committees and bureaux. Measures were also being taken to strengthen those which had been established before the Decade and additional efforts were reported to introduce institutional measures that would facilitate the integration of women in all mainstream sectoral activities.

88. Since the situation of women was considered to be much alike within particular regions many delegates praised the numerous regional activities undertaken for promoting the advancement of the status of women. These included the women's programmes of the regional commissions of the United Nations, and the other activities carried out at the regional level by such organizations as the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, the Nordic countries, the Group of Non-Aligned and other Developing Countries, and the Inter-American Commission of Women of the Organization of American States. In this connection, many countries reported that conferences, regional and international meetings and collaborative research had been organized in preparation for the Conference.

89. The great majority of representatives referred to obstacles to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women encountered at the international, regional and national levels.

90. It was widely recognized that international obstacles included: world political tension and instability, the arms race especially in its nuclear aspects and the danger of its expansion to outer space, and military interventions and conflicts and emergency situations, suppression of national liberation movements, the global economic recession, an unjust and unbalanced international economic order, growing external debts and shrinking international trade, all of which had hampered the advancement of women during the Decade. Several representatives particularly cited global obstacles caused by imperialist aggression and intervention, colonialism and neo-colonialism, the denial of the right to self-determination of peoples, racism and fascism, foreign and illegal occupation. Some representatives related obstacles encountered during the Decade to the non-observance of human and humanitarian rights stressing that armed conflicts could hardly be expected to be resolved peacefully when at the same time there did not exist a sufficient will to grant to the most helpless victims of those conflicts - that is, women and children - the basic protection to which they were entitled according to humanitarian international law and as refugees.

Equality

Most countries cited extensive legislative progress made within the Decade. A majority of countries, the required legal framework for ensuring the equality of women and men was reported to be in place, and relatively few countries mentioned the need for enacting or amending broad equality legislation. Constitutional changes had been made, where necessary, to guarantee women full civil and political rights. In addition, laws had been enacted in a range of countries concerning such areas as labour relations, in particular equal employment practices, equal pay, social security and protection of women, parental leave, part-time work, day care centres for the children of working parents, prepared or self-prepared reasonably priced meals and flexible hours of work for women with a view to facilitating the combination of paid work and family responsibilities. However, these legislative provisions had not always been fully implemented.

In many countries equality of the sexes was reported to be not only a de jure achievement, but a fact in most spheres of life, including political life, policy

and decision-making, science and technology, employment, education and health. Many countries reported the substantial progress attained during the Decade but noted the need for further progress towards the realization of such equality in such areas as political participation and integration of women in non-traditional sectors and activities. Many developing countries, on the other hand, reported that de facto equality was lagging behind the legislative progress of the Decade, particularly with respect to women's access to resources. They suggested that basic structural changes of society would be required in order to attain de facto equality. Traditional attitudes and gender-stereotyped images, remaining sociological, cultural and economic barriers, as well as economic inequalities between nations, and excessive expenditures on armaments were mentioned as major causes of the perpetuation of a system of inequalities based on gender.

93. Obstacles to the advancement of women at the national level were identified by many representatives, who mentioned as examples the persistence of traditional attitudes of male superiority based on deep-seated socio-cultural norms and the sexual stereotyping still prevalent in many societies.

94. Several delegations reported on measures taken in their countries to ensure that married women enjoyed equality of rights with their husbands in the management of the family's financial affairs. They explained that, whereas in the past a married woman in those countries had had to obtain her husband's consent or concurrence for the purpose of engaging in business, obtaining credit and concluding certain contracts, she would henceforth possess full autonomous contractual capacity on a par with her husband.

95. The representatives of several Moslem countries stated that it was regrettable that the teachings of Islam concerning the rights and status of the woman in the family and in society were widely misunderstood. They emphasized that the fundamental law and scripture of Islam had proclaimed the equality of men and women with regard to rights and duties many centuries before equal rights legislation had been enacted in other regions. They pointed out that in their countries more and more women were entering professions and skilled occupations and many had attained high elective and appointive office both at the national and at the local level.

96. Among the many positive achievements of the Decade, the adoption by the General Assembly of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women was mentioned. At the opening of the Conference, the Convention had been ratified or acceded to by 76 States. Several other countries reported their intention to sign and ratify the Convention within a short time. Many speakers urged that countries which had not already done so should ratify or accede to the Convention soon. Some representatives noted the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and expressed satisfaction with the fact that the Committee had approved the national reports of their countries.

97. Many countries referred to the valuable contribution of non-governmental organizations in promoting the advancement of women, stressing the contributions of women's organizations in community activities such as maternal and child care, vocational training for the disabled and the provision of social services for the aged. Many also emphasized the need for strengthened co-operation of governmental and non-governmental organizations to help integrate women in all sectors of society. Some speakers mentioned that, with national machinery in place at the end of the Decade in a majority of countries, such co-operation would be more effective.

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98. Many representatives reported on the greater political participation of women at local and national levels as well as in decision and policy-making levels in the legislative process and other sectoral activities. In some countries women were reported to have attained substantial political participation, accounting for almost one third of the members of the legislature. In other countries, such participation was reported to be increasing but still low. The removal of restrictions on the entry of women into high-level services of national administrations was also reported.

Development

99. Many delegations considered that one of the main achievements of the Decade was the recognition of the essential role of women in development. They emphasized the importance their Governments attached to the integration of women in all development sectors and activities, both as beneficiaries and contributors and in accordance with women's needs and aspirations. They noted the significant progress made in the recognition both of women's actual contribution to development and of their potential for contributing to the realization of national development goals and objectives. With legislation and national machinery in place, these Governments intended to strengthen efforts to integrate women in national policies, plans, programmes and projects.

100. Several representatives stated that women's problems could be solved only on the basis of overall socio-economic development of the country concerned. Programmes of women's development should be an integral part of development plans. Some representatives stated also that de facto equality and development of women should be based on steady growth of productive forces, the absence of unemployment, free education, vocational training at all levels, and free health care and social security.

101. Special reference was made to women's role in food production and food security in developing countries. Other speakers referred to women's growing income-generating activities in both the public and private sectors, particularly in trade, services and industry, and to the efforts made by their States to support these activities with the provision of specialized adequate training and expansion of credit opportunities for women entrepreneurs and the research and development of appropriate technologies.

102. The delegations of several major donor countries stated that one of the major achievements of the Decade was the increase in multilateral and bilateral financial and technical support to programmes and projects for the advancement of women in developing countries. In particular, representatives placed emphasis on their countries' efforts to contribute towards a solution of the current social and economic crisis, particularly the food crisis in Africa by which women were specially affected.

A number of representatives mentioned as matters needing attention in a number of countries the disparity of earnings as between men and women, job segregation, dominance of women in the trade and services sectors and in other under-remunerated occupations, and the double burden borne by women workers who had many responsibilities.

Many delegations referred to the challenges and prospects opened up by rapid developments in the field of science and technology. Others stated, however, that these developments had not always benefited women and in some cases had even

worsened their situation by curtailing women's traditional economic activities and sources of income. Under-utilization of a country's human resources continued to be a serious obstacle to development. Many representatives stated that vocational training programmes should be introduced for women to enable them to become more qualified for more effective participation in the different sectors of the economy, other than the traditional types of work, and in the use of new and appropriate technology. In addition, it was stressed that formal employment opportunities for women were inadequate. Moreover, women's choice of occupational and educational fields was still influenced in many countries by traditions and customs.

105. Many delegations of developing countries referred to the effects of the recent world-wide economic recession on women in these countries. In addition to having to overcome protectionist barriers that restricted their exports to foreign markets, these countries had to bear an almost intolerable burden of external debt, the interest rates of which had increased, and were suffering from severe domestic inflation. As a consequence, Governments had had to introduce stringent austerity measures, including wage controls, which meant that households were caught between rising prices for consumer goods and declining earnings in real terms. The brunt of this situation was borne by women who had to stretch the family budget to the utmost. Many speakers attributed the imbalance of the world economy to the existing economic order and called for the early establishment of a new international economic order.

106. Some delegations suggested that the Conference's final proceedings should deal expressly with the way in which the international economic and social crisis, the effects of which hurt chiefly the developing countries, was affecting the situation of women. They suggested that the problems of the foreign debt, the imbalance of international trade and the decline in development finance should be stressed as obstacles that were hampering more seriously than in the past the achievement by women of the objectives of equality, development and peace and of the sub-themes: employment, education and health.

107. Many representatives stated that the increased participation of women in decision-making had contributed significantly to the achievements of the goals of the Decade: Equality, Development and Peace and of its sub-themes: employment, health and education. Greater participation by women in decision-making was promoted by the incorporation of specific women's components in national development plans, including the formulation of specific programmes of action for women, and by the establishment of women's national machineries.

108. A number of delegations said that the lack of an adequate data base and indicators for the measurement of women's economic contribution to the gross national product perpetuated their lack of "visibility" and exclusion from the management of national resources and technology.

Peace

109. Many delegations reaffirmed the close interrelationship of peace with the other two objectives of the Decade. Many delegations stated that peace was an essential prerequisite for true equality and sustained development. Several noted that peace had relevance to the sub-themes of the Decade - education, employment and health.

110. A large number of delegates stated that women all over the world accepted peace as an objective necessity and increasingly played a key role in the search

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for peace, security and social justice as individuals and as members of governmental and non-governmental organizations. Some delegations emphasized the role of women in preparing societies for life in peace. Women's involvement in peace efforts ranged from participation in peace movements to disarmament campaigns, opposition to military conflict as well as to debates on security and co-operation. Noting that war and the threat of war constituted a particularly serious danger for the daily life of women and children, many delegations emphasized the importance of further enhancing the integration of women in peace efforts at both national and international levels. Some delegations, in particular, stressed the unprecedented dangers of the arms race in outer space and the threat of nuclear war, and called for the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation. These delegations pointed out that the more women took an active stand for peace, the better chance there would be to attain lasting peace. In addition, many delegations stressed that the curbing of the arms race and disarmament could help release much needed resources for productive development efforts which would also benefit women. Other delegations emphasized the need to develop a climate of mutual trust which would allow balanced and verifiable measures of disarmament to be taken.

11. A few delegations stressed in that connection that respect for those human rights and fundamental freedoms which were listed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was not only essential for any improvement in the legal, economic and social status of women, but also a most important factor in any democratic decision-making process, thereby constituting the most important requisite for a just and lasting peace.

12. In the opinion of certain delegations, one of the main obstacles to achieving peace was the course of imperialist forces leading to heightened international tensions resulting from the increase of hotbeds of tension in various parts of the world, which pushed humanity towards a dangerous limit. According to these delegations, the arms race - including the threat of a nuclear war - had reached an unprecedented scope on earth and risked spreading to outer space. They also felt that the implementation of the "Star Wars" programme would boost the threat of a truly global and all-destroying military conflict and would result in a new and still more dangerous round of the arms race.

13. Many delegations stated that women had always suffered particularly from troubles inflicted by war and preparations for war. In their view, women had to bear the heavy burden of the runaway arms race, which devoured colossal resources that could be used in the interest of humanity's peaceful development. They felt that these resources could be the economic basis for solving many problems essential to the position of women and their families, including such problems as elimination of poverty and hunger, and combating disease and illiteracy.

Other delegations, however, stated that, although an increasing number of women in all countries kept the ideals of peace and disarmament alive, as mothers, educators and as members of peace movements, women had been largely unable in some countries to make any significant direct input into the peace process, being excluded from the decision-making processes at both the national and international levels.

The continued racist policy of apartheid in South Africa and in occupied Nigeria was identified as a major obstacle to peace and the advancement of the role of women in that country. In this connection, several representatives

expressed support for the struggle of the African liberation movements (ANC, PAC and SWAPO) which, as vanguards of the South African and Namibian peoples, were resolutely fighting against racial oppression and for national liberation. They called for an end to the illegal occupation of Namibia, for the implementation of relevant United Nations resolutions, particularly Security Council resolution 435 (1978), and for an end to apartheid, and called on the international community to apply sanctions against South Africa.

116. Several delegations referred to the sufferings and maltreatment of the Palestinian women in the occupied Arab territories, of the Syrian women in the occupied Syrian Golan and of the Lebanese women in southern Lebanon. It was pointed out that women could not develop or participate effectively in society under foreign occupation and subjugation, specially while witnessing every day the arrest, the disappearance and dispersal of husbands, brothers and sons. Many representatives expressed support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people for their inalienable right to self-determination and to return to their homes and property without external interference, and to the establishment of their independent State in accordance with the principles of the United Nations Charter and all relevant United Nations resolutions.

117. Some delegations pointed out that the Iran-Iraq war also hindered the progress and development of women in the area. They expressed concern about the hardships suffered by the women affected by the conflict. Some called for an end to the conflict and for the implementation of the resolutions of the Security Council concerning the conflict.

118. Several representatives drew attention to the situation of women in Central America, especially where there was what they termed imperialist intervention in the internal affairs of countries in this subregion, and to the hardships imposed on women by the undeclared war in Nicaragua. The efforts of the Contadora Group to promote peace and development in the subregion of Central America were commended by a number of speakers.

119. Several representatives drew attention to the sufferings of women in some parts of Asia due to aggression and foreign occupation, and to the vast problem of refugees created thereby. In their opinion, this constituted a serious obstacle to the advancement of the women in the region and to peace and security in the area. The same representatives said that a political solution on the basis of withdrawal of foreign troops was necessary for the problems concerned.

Sub-themes of the Decade

Education

120. With respect to the sub-themes of the Decade, employment, health and education, many representatives reported important advances achieved in each of these areas in their countries. These included equal access to education at all levels, equal employment opportunities, and specific health provisions for mothers, children and families as a priority. In this connection, developed countries reported significant progress towards equal educational opportunities for women and men, and in particular in the scientific and technological fields. In developing countries, substantial progress was also reported, particularly at the elementary level and in literacy education. It was pointed out, however, that while the illiteracy rate varied greatly from country to country and improvements were noted, it was still a fact that in the world and particularly in developing countries, the

female illiteracy rate was far higher than that of males. Many representatives referred to the illiteracy rate among women in developing countries, and others referred to inadequate functional literacy in certain developed countries.

121. Slow but positive movement was reported at other levels of education, with women increasingly participating in non-traditional vocational training and in adult education. Delegates reported on their countries' efforts to increase female enrolment ratios, to reduce drop-out rates among girls and to diversify curricula for women, and to provide opportunities and training for mature women.

Employment

122. It was stressed by numerous speakers that, despite legislative and other measures intended to ensure equality of the sexes in all respects, it was still true in many countries that as regards wages, appointment to posts of responsibility and education, women were still at a disadvantage compared to men. They pointed out that so long as the attendance of girls and young women at educational establishments and their subject orientation differed from those of boys and young men, the employment opportunities for the female labour force would remain less favourable than those for men; in addition, women's chances of rising to managerial or senior posts would continue to be limited and women's earnings would be lower than those of their male colleagues, even if they were doing comparable work.

123. Attention was drawn by many speakers to the increases which had occurred in recent years in the share of the labour force accounted for by women, not merely in traditionally feminine occupations but in a wide range of economic activities. Exceptions noted were certain arduous occupations or night work, sometimes prohibited for women or incompatible with the conventions of ILO. Several representatives stated that in their countries full employment had been achieved and equal opportunity policies had created situations in which women were found at all levels, including managerial and administrative posts, and in fields formerly considered non-traditional for women. Wage differences between men and women were noted by many countries, though the differences appeared to be shrinking. Other speakers stated that the principle of equal pay for equal work was now fully in force in their countries.

124. A number of speakers indicated that the greater participation of women in economic activities was attributable to the expansion of so-called service industries, mainly but not exclusively in the developed countries. The demand for women workers was seen both as an opportunity and a challenge: an opportunity for women workers to strengthen their position in the family and in society, and a challenge to educational and training institutions to ensure the supply of skilled female labour.

125. As evidence of the progressive emancipation of women as members of the labour force, several speakers cited the increasing numbers of women enrolling as members of trade unions and taking an active part in union affairs.

126. A number of representatives pointed out that, while it was true that women were entering the labour force in increasing numbers, it was equally true that women accounted for a larger share than men among the unemployed. The reason was that although women were increasingly entering new fields of employment often based on new technology, they still tended in their countries to be employed in traditionally feminine trades that were particularly vulnerable to the vagaries of

the economic environment. They added that in many sectors of industry, including in particular the service industries, women were recruited as temporary or part-time workers and enjoyed little or no security of tenure.

127. A number of representatives stated that in their countries motherhood was recognized as an important social function. The State and society regarded the care of mothers, children and families as one of their priority tasks. Special facilities and benefits were made available in many countries for working mothers, as was explained by the representatives of these countries. The benefits included pregnancy leave, leave of absence from work - in some cases for both father and mother - after a child was born, cash allowances for mothers of infants and other forms of assistance. The facilities included child care centres, crèches, nursery schools (often located in the immediate vicinity of the place of work), and rest rooms for nursing mothers. Several representatives referred to the generous periods of maternity leave granted in their countries to working mothers and to their right, guaranteed by law, to reinstatement in their jobs after the expiry of this leave.

128. Several delegations reported on legislative and administrative measures adopted in their countries in order to reform the system of taxation in such a way that women would, in effect, receive tax treatment on an equal footing with men in situations where this had not been the case in the past. The object of such measures was to ensure that women's tax position would not be prejudiced by marriage and to provide an incentive to women with family responsibilities to carry on a gainful occupation if they so wished. In many cases, they said the fiscal provisions were supplemented by allowances or benefits that were designed to enable working women with family responsibilities to defray their additional expenses.

Health

129. Significant progress was reported by many delegations in the improvement of the health status of women and in the provision of health care, services and facilities. In particular, the increased life expectancy of women in many countries and reduction in infant, child and maternal mortality were mentioned as important achievements of the Decade.

130. It was pointed out by many delegates that an essential pre-condition for the advancement of women was their capability to control their reproductive function. The expansion of family planning facilities and the acceptance of family planning practices, enabling women to control their fertility and to space children in accordance with their personal and family circumstances, were considered by many delegates as some of the main achievements of the Decade. However, other speakers reported that the control of fertility was made difficult by the revival of cultural values, norms and attitudes which regarded the number of children as proof of the man's virility and as a source of financial support in later years for their parents.

131. Many speakers noted that the world-wide emphasis on primary health care had placed new emphasis on the health of women, who as the most crucial providers of health care to children and families, must themselves be healthy to fulfil that role adequately. Women's roles as community health workers and traditional birth attendants were particularly noted, as was women's increasing participation in other health professions.

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132. Health conditions were reported to be still inadequate in many parts of the world, especially for women in rural areas. Women were more likely to be malnourished than men and had generally less access to medical facilities. In addition, birth rates were particularly high among illiterate and unemployed women, which indicated a clear interrelationship between improvements in education, health and employment and the role and status of women.

Other areas

133. With regard to information and knowledge about women's role in and contribution to society, significant progress was reported by many delegates. Through the gathering of gender-specific information, country surveys, and with the help of research institutions and by other means, greater knowledge had been accumulated during the Decade about women's role in society, their contribution to all economic activities and, in particular, to agricultural production, to industry and services in the formal and informal sectors, to the household and thus to society as a whole. While much still remained to be done, national and international statistical agencies had gone a long way towards measuring women's work in the sectors where estimates had often been deficient, particularly the informal sector and agriculture. In addition, the body of knowledge of women's economic roles and of the cultural attitudes that affected gender roles in society and in the family had grown rapidly during the Decade, thanks to the efforts of national research institutes and international organizations.

134. Many representatives stated that the Decade had contributed to raising public awareness of the difficulties encountered by women on their path to integration in development, and they emphasized their essential contribution to national economic development. The Decade had also contributed to a greater sense of awareness and self-confidence among women as individuals and as a group. It had, in essence, served the important task of preparing the ground work for the implementation of national programmes for the advancement of women. A number of speakers mentioned a definite change of attitude on the part of men towards the role of women in the home and at work. More and more men, particularly in developed countries, were assuming a share of household tasks and of the care of children. To some extent, these speakers said, this new attitude was attributed to the spread of knowledge about women's essential role in society, in the economy and in the family, which was itself a consequence of the publicity given during the Decade to the role of women in society.

135. At the regional level, environmental disasters and, in particular drought and the consequent famine in the African region were mentioned as obstacles which seriously hindered the achievement of the Decade's goals and objectives.

136. Many countries also noted the difficulties introduced by continued high levels of population growth as an obstacle to the advancement of the status of women. The consequent economic and social pressures on urban areas as a result of population growth and urbanization was also mentioned by many countries. Many representatives stressed the importance of implementing the Mexico City World Population Plan of Action 1984.

137. Many representatives drew attention to the problems of violence against women, sexual harassment, prostitution, violence in the family, abused and battered women. It was noted that violence in the home, whether based on traditional customs or spousal abuse, was all too prevalent in many countries. Family privacy,

guilt feelings or embarrassment had often covered up this widespread phenomenon. Some representatives pointed out that domestic violence had to be recognized as a criminal act against women and treated with appropriate legal measures, which could be complemented by effective social and support services to the victims.

138. Many representatives identified refugee women and children as subjects of particular concern. They pointed out that not only their numbers were growing steadily, but equally importantly, they suffered daily from deprivation, disorientation and anomie. Among the root causes listed by several government representatives of this acute problem were famine, drought and other environmental problems, extreme poverty and, especially, armed conflicts, foreign aggression and occupation and loss of human freedoms. Refugee women and children were most vulnerable. They suffered more than men from the consequences of lawlessness and dissolution of the social fabric. Life in refugee camps also often placed the responsibility for the care and education of children entirely on their mothers.

139. Several delegations addressed the problems experienced by migrant women and, in particular, those of the migrant women workers. Other delegations reported that new legislation had been enacted in their countries during the Decade to improve the living and working conditions of migrant women. They reported in addition that migrant women and, in particular, migrant women workers had been able to gain greater equality within the host societies during the Decade.

140. Some representatives referred to the situation of indigenous minorities in view of their low levels of living. The women of indigenous minorities had an important role in traditional societies as custodians of their culture, language, laws and lands. They were also often the mainstay of community-level organizations and in this way, women members of indigenous minorities increased thereby their participation in decision-making in society as a whole. Some representatives reported on the establishment of task forces to investigate the needs of indigenous women and advise on appropriate policies and programmes.

141. Many participants urged that special attention should be given to measures and projects for alleviating the hardships of rural women in developing countries. These women, particularly in least developed countries of Africa and Asia, laboured from before dawn till after dusk in working the land, fetching water, often from distant sites, gathering and carrying wood, preparing the meals for their families, taking produce to market - a seemingly endless round of toil. The speakers considered that the national authorities and donors of aid should make concerted efforts - in so far as they were not already doing so - to devise rural development projects that would take the situation of these women into account. Several representatives cited examples of schemes designed to achieve this purpose, and the representatives of some donor countries described results achieved by their aid agencies in this respect, to which voluntary agencies had in some cases made valuable contributions.

142. Several delegates were of the opinion that elderly women were in need of particular support and assistance, especially in view of the rapid increase in life expectancy for both men and women in developed and developing countries and of the higher survival rates of women in higher age brackets. The women whose husbands had died or retired often faced serious economic difficulties and had to be aided financially. However, even when they were economically self-sufficient, elderly women often confronted the danger of isolation and loneliness.

Statements by representatives of organizations in the United Nations system

143. The Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development stated that the Department, as the main operational arm of the United Nations Secretariat, provided enormous potential for involving women in development activities, in such fields as natural resources, energy, integrated rural development, development planning, public administration and finance, statistics, population and social development. The Department generally did not encourage special women's projects per se; instead, components related to women were added to its projects. Its approach had been "Keep it simple", with heavy emphasis on the training of women. This approach had proved to be fruitful. Many examples were cited. More impressively, three of the eight projects which had received special mention at the Conference were being executed or assisted by the Department. As regards the future, she said that the Department would continue its integrated approach and work closely with other international agencies as well as non-governmental organizations. However, she cautioned that, unless the numbers of qualified women holding higher positions in Governments and international organizations increased greatly, there could be no real progress. She mentioned that the Department had increased its percentage of women professionals from 18 per cent in 1979 to 28 per cent in 1983 and still maintained the proportion at 25 per cent in 1985, exceeding the general average for United Nations Headquarters. However, despite many efforts the Department still could not increase the proportion of women among its field experts from a static 4 or 5 per cent. She appealed therefore for more applications by qualified female candidates to serve as the Department's field project experts. She also pleaded for the support of Governments in ensuring women's full participation in projects.

144. The Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific stated that the issues affecting women throughout the world - equality, development and peace - had been discussed in depth at the Regional Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting held in Tokyo in March 1984. This regional input to the Conference was marked by a consensus among Governments in the region that over the past decade the progress made by women in the economic, social and political fields had been uneven, both within and among countries of the ESCAP region. The setbacks, attributable to adverse global and regional economic conditions, had affected the poorest women most. The Tokyo meeting had therefore urged that efforts made during the past decade should be continued to the year 2000 and that highest priority should be given to the poorest. In addition, the meeting expressed the view that the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women was a crucial instrument and had urged all Governments in the region that had not already done so to ratify the Convention. Stronger and more co-ordinated efforts by Governments and women were needed for the purpose of bringing further structural changes that would ensure a better future for women and for the world.

145. The representative of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) stated that the adoption and application of concerted measures at the international level called for by UNCTAD to revitalize the world economy and to activate the development process in the third world would be bound to have a bearing on the lives of women, who constitute half the world's population. In addition to its overall work, UNCTAD undertook specific work related to women: a Joint Programme UNCTAD/INSTRAW on the impact of technological development on the advancement of women had produced two studies: "Women, Technology and Sexual Relations" and "Technology and Women's Status", which had been submitted to the Nairobi Conference. Other sectoral studies were being prepared on (a) the role of

women in the field of primary commodities, (b) structural change and adjustment in manufactures trade and female employment, and (c) the role of women in the economy of the least developed countries. In the context of activities contributing to the participation and advancement of women in all sectors of economic activities, UNCTAD had as yet made only a modest contribution, but it was committed to giving women's issues their rightful place in its programme, and was ready to co-operate with other bodies in order to enhance and improve the role played by women in trade sectors.

146. The representative of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) stressed that, although statistical data were inadequate, it was clear that the contribution of women to the industrialization of their countries was vital to the overall economic and social development of the third world. Women were increasingly participating in and contributing towards industrial development, both in the small-scale and informal sector and in the modern industrial sector. On the one hand, scientific and technological advances in industrial production had increasingly led to the elimination of strenuous physical labour and widened the occupational opportunities for women; on the other hand, these advances were expected to make major changes in the future requirements of industry. Hence higher education and training opportunities for women in industrial production skills were of crucial importance for the purpose of offering to women greater access to skilled and professional positions and of ensuring their involvement in decisions concerning industrial planning as well as in decisions relating to science and technology.

147. The Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) said that women and children constituted the majority of the approximately one billion persons who were lacking adequate shelter and living in extremely unhealthy and unsanitary conditions in neglected rural areas and urban slums. Taken together the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless (1987) and the Forward-looking Strategies both called for equal rights and opportunities with respect to access to credit and loans, to fundamental training and education, to ownership of land and security of tenure, as well as for full participation of the poor in shelter improvement programmes which would lead to increased employment opportunities for women and would contribute to national economic development. He appealed to the women of the world to mobilize, to support and to act in concert in order to achieve better shelter and facilities for the poor.

148. The Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) affirmed the Fund's commitment to strengthen and support actions that would yield direct social, health and economic benefits for women, recognizing that the improvement of women's condition was a prerequisite of children's well-being. Among the measures specified by the Executive Board of UNICEF were the support of economically viable income-generating projects; the intensification of the promotion of female education; and the programmes dealing with food scarcity at the household level. One recent development favourable to women had been the new potential for a revolution in child survival and growth through four low-cost primary health care opportunities: growth surveillance; oral rehydration; breast-feeding and appropriate local weaning foods; and universal immunization by 1990 against the six major childhood diseases. These child survival measures were being linked with programmes to enhance the situation of women in three ways: (a) strengthening the socio-economic capacity of women to better feed and care for their children; (b) promoting training of women in a variety of skills to become agents of change and active generators within their communities; and (c) supporting women's organizations at the grass-roots level. He said that the Conference was challenged

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to take one specific dramatic action to promote children's and women's well-being by asking that women should spearhead the movement to achieve the universal immunization of children and pregnant women by 1990, on a largely self-sustaining basis and in a way that would strengthen other child survival measures and primary health care in general. The challenge of the next few years should be the development of a new ethic that would demand action to correct adverse conditions affecting millions of women and children. Such action would in large part be accomplished by empowering women to improve dramatically their own condition, as well as that of their families and children.

149. The Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), speaking also in his capacity as Director of the United Nations Office for Emergency Operations in Africa (UNEOEA), stated that the study entitled "Inter-organizational assessment of women's participation in development", which had been submitted to the Conference and had been co-ordinated by UNDP, was designed to identify programming modalities and methods that would be more effective in overcoming remaining obstacles to women's full participation in technical co-operation activities supported by the United Nations development system. The study, involving 14 different organizations and based on the active co-operation of four Governments, those of Rwanda, Democratic Yemen, Indonesia and Haiti, had already been accepted as a basis for continued inter-agency collaboration in a number of follow-up activities. He added that in his work as Director of the UNEOEA he was constantly reminded of the debt owed to the crucial life-sustaining activities of the African women, who historically had been and remained the continent's chief food producers. He was convinced that African women would play a major role in carrying Africa from crisis to rehabilitation, to economic recovery and onward to further economic and social progress through self-reliant development. Any other process would not only be morally indefensible but economically unsound. In concluding, he said that he was honoured that the General Assembly had decided to place the United Nations Development Fund for Women in autonomous association with UNDP, an arrangement that promised to strengthen further the existing operational and substantive ties. He noted that two recent initiatives of the Fund - the African Investment Plan and the Food Cycle Technologies Project - were of immediate interest to the emergency operations in Africa.

150. The representative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) stated that the Office provided international protection and material assistance to all refugees, including of course refugee women who often suffered great hardship. The report on "The activities and programmes of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on behalf of refugee women" (A/CONF.116/11) emphasized the international protection of refugee women as well as programmes of material assistance for them in the fields of health, education and employment, supported by counselling and social services. Protection was needed not only for refugee women whose physical safety was at risk, both during the flight and within the refugee camp. Unrestricted access by UNHCR to camps and border areas could deter such violations. UNHCR had established an Anti-Piracy Programme to reduce the number of attacks on the high seas, notably attacks on refugee ships. The health programmes of UNHCR included the provision of supplementary feeding, public health education, the training of refugee health workers, and mental health care. At the end of 1984, UNHCR had 103 education projects in 30 countries, providing both academic schooling and vocational training. During the Decade, the Office had provided post-primary educational assistance to refugee women and girls, including Namibian refugee students. Refugee women in particular suffered from a lack of employment opportunities. UNHCR had therefore emphasized income-generating and self-sufficiency activities to enable them to reduce their

dependence on assistance and to resume a dignified and productive life. Exile might imply new and often difficult roles and responsibilities for the refugee woman, but it might also represent access to a new way of life. While respecting the socio-cultural background of the refugee woman, UNHCR tried to provide her with the means to confront her new life situation in a constructive and positive way.

151. The Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), referring to the achievements of the International Conference on Population held in Mexico City in 1984 and their relationship to the concerns of the Nairobi Conference, observed that women's concerns formed an important part of the Declaration of Mexico City and the recommendations of the 1984 Conference. That Conference had confirmed, first, that the improvement of the roles and status of women was an important goal in itself. Secondly, because women's status was clearly related to demographic variables such as fertility and maternal mortality, improving the status of women should be a component of all population policies. Thirdly, effective population policies helped to relieve women of their traditional burdens and offered them the means to contribute fully to and benefit from economic and social development. And fourthly, the achievement of the objectives of population programmes, particularly those related to family planning, depended to a great extent on the active participation of women in all aspects of those programmes. Accordingly, UNFPA would continue to ensure that women's concerns were taken into account in all aspects of population policies and programmes and that women were given the opportunity and the means to participate in and to benefit from all relevant activities supported by UNFPA.

152. The representative of the World Food Programme (WFP) stated that WFP, the food aid arm of the United Nations system, had been reaching large numbers of low-income rural women through projects for agriculture and rural development, for human resources development, and for emergency relief. At least one half of the \$925 million that WFP had committed to development projects in 1984 directly involved and benefited the poorest strata of rural women. At least two thirds of the recipients of WFP assistance in emergency operations - of which \$234 million had been committed in 1984 - were women and children. As a resource for development assistance, food had a unique role in improving the economic, nutritional and health levels of low-income women. Among the poor, women were the main food providers and assumed responsibility for food distribution within their households. Thus, WFP's food aid basket, unlike other forms of household income, tended to remain under women's direct control, and could provide women with more income. WFP's food aid also released women's time from arduous subsistence chores, since a substantial number of WFP-assisted projects developed village fuelwood lots, food storage facilities, potable water supplies and irrigation networks as well as other rural infrastructural supports to promote food security. Food aid also acted as an incentive for development through projects for better nutrition. In supplementary feeding projects for the "at risk" groups of women, the distribution of WFP food aid commodities through village-level Mother and Child Health (MCH) centres helped rural women to gain access to basic health care, income-generating skills, and education for themselves and their children. WFP's food aid, provided free of charge to Governments, could substitute for certain government expenditures (e.g., the wage bill in food-for-work projects or the wage bill in school feeding programmes). Part of these budgetary savings, especially in a period of fiscal austerity could be programmed to support women's access to productive resources. These were only some of the ways in which food aid helped women. Others included monetization, for example through co-operatives or in development schemes. There was, in sum, a "tight fit" between the nature of project food aid and the immediate needs of women in poverty, for food aid

contributed to sustainable development, particularly the promotion of food security, the expansion of female employment, and the improvement of women's productive capacity and access to resources.

153. The representative of the International Labour Office stated that the ILO had promoted the goals of the Decade through its standard-setting and technical co-operation activities, with a view to improving conditions of work, reducing inequalities, fostering socio-economic development, and promoting peace through social justice. The well-being of women workers was one of the traditional concerns of the ILO. Certain conventions for the protection of working women's health dated back to 1919, and Convention No. 100 concerning equal pay for work of equal value had been adopted by the International Labour Conference as early as 1951. Yet, never in the history of the ILO had women represented such a formidable challenge to the world of labour as now. The quantitative and qualitative changes in women's labour force participation called for major adjustments. Within the formal labour force the number of women had increased dramatically to reach 35 per cent of the total. At present, there were close to 700 million "economically active" women and the number was expected to increase to nearly 900 million by the year 2000. Although most working women were still confined to low-skill, low-pay, low-status jobs, the persistent move of women into all spheres of economic production and into all jobs at all levels was irreversible. This development was not simply a reflection of the growth of the gross national product but was an interrelated process of economic growth, self-reliance and social justice. The example of working women indicated that without self-reliance and social justice economic growth was retarded and development remained lopsided. The massive entry of women into the labour force as a consequence of new needs and new aspirations had made it clear that, in most cases, women's income was essential for family well-being. It was estimated that one third of the world's families depended on the sole income of women. The present high unemployment and underemployment rates of women were unacceptable. Concerted national and international action was required, including constitutional guarantees and the translation of relevant legislation into practice, in order to achieve full productive and freely-chosen employment for all. Real equality of opportunity in employment would not be brought about as long as the labour market remained largely segregated one. Firm measures were called for to desegregate vocational training with a view to providing all women and men with marketable skills and access to all occupations. Making equal provisions for men and women would not necessarily lead to real equality of opportunity. Special measures were therefore needed at the national and international levels that would enable women to profit equally from training and employment opportunities, particularly disabled, refugee, migrant, older and young working women and those suffering under apartheid. At its twenty-first session the International Labour Conference had unanimously adopted a resolution on equal opportunities and equal treatment for men and women in employment. The ILO firmly believed that policies to improve the status of women workers throughout the world were in essence no more and no less than efforts to make a vital contribution to a better and brighter future for the whole of humanity.

154. The representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) stated that support for and consultation with women farmers had not been commensurate with their considerable efforts and responsibilities in agriculture. Increased access to land, credit, markets, technology and extension services would be particularly important, and men as well as women should be trained to work with groups of rural women, as a matter of priority, in cases where women constituted the majority of small farmers. The introduction of new crops or the reallocation of land as between food and cash crops should not diminish women's

access to land or income for food consumption. Credit should be based on performance in cases where women lacked title deeds to the land they cultivated. FAO's policies, programmes and projects were increasingly following these strategies as part of an effort to improve national and household food security. A film "The Forgotten Farmers: Women and Food Security" would be made available to member countries in order to stimulate discussion and action at the national level.

155. The representative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) stated that in the organization's experience the United Nations Decade for Women represented just a beginning of a decisive transformation of the relationships between women and men. The forces creating and upholding discrimination against women were complex, and UNESCO has expanded its activities in the area of research and studies relating to women in recent years. The literacy gap between the sexes had not been closed, and efforts were needed to ensure for women at least a basic education. Increased attention had been given in UNESCO's programmes to measures for counteracting the sex stereotypes transmitted through schools and the media. Girls and women should be encouraged to participate in scientific and technological pursuits and in decision-making in social, cultural, economic and political life.

156. In his address to the Conference, the Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) distinguished between two possible scenarios for the future of health and society. The male one was the hyper-expansionist ("HE") scenario, standing for unconstrained technological development. Development in terms of the "HE" scenario had by no means been always beneficial for women, least of all in developing countries. The female scenario was the sane, humane, ecological ("SHE") one, standing for the caring, nurturing role in societies. He noted that the objective of "Health for all by the year 2000" belonged squarely to the "SHE" scenario. He cautioned, however, that women must be considered for their own worth, as equal members of society, rather than only as mothers, potential mothers or careers. He pointed out that, after all, the numbers of families headed by women were on the steady increase, but that these women had no real economic options for self-support and development. He stressed that women should be regarded not merely in the light of their contributions to family life, but should be considered in terms of their rights to share responsibilities for others with the men in their lives and with the men in their societies.

157. The representative of the World Bank stated that, being a development institution, the Bank had come to recognize that women's participation was essential to the success of many development programmes and projects, and that appropriate measures and instruments needed to be devised in order to integrate women in the earliest stages of planning. Better information was needed in order to gain a deeper understanding of the importance of women in national development, and more specific items concerning women were being included in the Bank's data bases. The Bank had learned a great deal from experience and from reviews of completed projects. For instance, in view of women's increasingly important but inadequately recognized role in agriculture, the Bank was enhancing the access of women farmers to agricultural extension services, and inputs with a view to improving their productivity, and the strategy for sub-Saharan Africa should make more explicit the support for this role. Because its research confirmed how important was women's education to the welfare of society and future generations, the Bank was endeavouring to increase the access for females to education and training and to reduce high illiteracy rates. Data on population and development gathered for the World Development Report 1984 showed that the situation of women was a critical variable in population growth. The Bank would fund additional

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research into population questions and increase lending for purposes connected with the health of the population. It was for Governments to take the decisions concerning the legislation, policies and programmes for improving opportunities for women. In its role as catalyst in the dialogue on economic policy and in the co-ordination of capital and technical assistance, the Bank was helping to create a more favourable climate for improving the options open to women. It advocated greater participation of women and their organizations in dialogues with development agencies concerning policies that would maximize the contribution of women to development and their share of the benefits.

158. The representative of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) stated that the Fund had been established in 1977 to deal exclusively with the problems of poor small farmers and the landless. It believed that there was a huge untapped potential for greater small-farm agricultural production among female as well as male farmers. Having invested some \$2 billion in 160 projects in 1984, the Fund had shown that there were effective ways of organizing development programmes around the needs of the rural poor. The battle against poverty and hunger could not be won unless women were active participants. IFAD had sought the integration and full participation of women in development programmes, particularly through the creation of, and support for, grass-roots organizations. On the basis of the experience gained, the Fund would submit specific policy recommendations to its executive board later in 1985 on the role of women in sustainable agriculture.

159. The Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) stated that the Institute constituted an important result of the Decade. Research, training, and information activities would have an important role in the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies, as adopted by the Conference. The Institute's aim was to see that women were considered active contributors rather than passive elements in development in the context of social welfare problems. The Institute explored the planning and programming strategies and institutional frameworks needed for the integration of women's issues in national programmes and in economic and technical co-operation activities. It also tried to promote the development of more precise indicators, statistics and data on women to shed light on their role in informal or hidden sectors of national economies; to develop appropriate grass-roots methods for training women; to explore the impact of new technologies on women; and to advise decision-makers on those issues. She mentioned that INSTRAW had been playing and would continue to play the role of a catalyst for developmental change, basing its operations on a network of co-operative management with organizations from the United Nations system, as well as academic, non-governmental and women's organizations at the international, regional and national levels.

The representative of the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT summarized activities of the Centre that had a bearing on the advancement of women and their integration in development. In the Centre's experience, women could play a very important role in the trade-promotion efforts of developing countries. Activities such as trade information and documentation and export market research had been carried out by staff that included a number of women. In Africa, the Centre had been pursuing its activities in favour of African women in development, taking into account Chapter XII, on women and development, of the Lagos Plan of Action, and one of the priority areas recognized by the Centre's Advisory Group was development of skills among women entrepreneurs and their integration into economic activity. In 1984 a workshop on "Export Marketing for Women Entrepreneurs and Senior Women Managers of Business Enterprises in Eastern and Southern African Countries" had been held jointly with the Eastern and Southern African Management

Institute, and in 1985 a similar workshop for francophone West African countries would be held in co-operation with the West African Economic Community. The objective of these regional and future national workshops was to enhance the role of women in the export sector of African countries. The workshops fostered understanding of the techniques of the export business; they covered aspects of intra-African trade and the complex operations of exporting to traditional and new markets. In Asia and the Pacific, various activities of concern to women and contributing to their economic and social advancement were included in national and regional projects of the Centre. In some of the Centre's projects in Latin America and the Caribbean women participated, particularly in the areas of trade information and training.

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Chapter V

REPORTS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE CONFERENCE AND ACTION TAKEN ON THESE REPORTS BY THE CONFERENCE

A. Report of the First Committee

161. The Conference, at its 3rd plenary meeting, on 16 July 1985, allocated to the first Committee the following chapters of the document relating to agenda item 8 entitled "Forward-looking Strategies of implementation for the advancement of women for the period up to the year 2000, and concrete measures to overcome obstacles to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women for the period 1986 to the year 2000: Equality, Development and Peace; and the sub-theme: Employment, Health and Education, bearing in mind the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and the establishment of a new international economic order" (A/CONF.116/12), to be dealt with in the manner set out below:

The First Committee would consider, in that order:

Chapter I: Equality (paras. 44 to 93)

Chapter II: Development (paras. 94 to 228)

Chapter III: Peace (paras. 229 to 273)

Under chapter III, the Committee was to consider also sections C, M, P and Q of chapter IV, relating to "Areas of special concern". Section C referred to "Women in areas affected by armed conflicts, foreign intervention and threats to peace", section M referred to "Refugee and displaced women and children", section P referred to "Women and children under apartheid" and section Q referred to "Palestinian women and children".

162. The Committee considered these chapters at meetings held from 15 to 25 July 1985.

163. The Committee's Presiding Officer was Mrs. Cecilia Lopez (Colombia), who was elected by acclamation at the 2nd plenary meeting of the Conference, on 15 July 1985.

164. At its 1st meeting, on 16 July 1985, the Committee elected the following officers:

Deputy Presiding Officers: Ms. Laetitia van den Assum (Netherlands)
Ms. Olimpia Solomonescu (Romania)
Ms. Kulsun Saifullah (Pakistan)

Rapporteur: Ms. Diaroumeye Gany (Niger)

165. At its 3rd meeting, on 17 July, the Committee decided to establish a Negotiating Group, consisting of the Chairman of the Group of 77 and of the coordinators of the regional groups and representatives designated by them, on the understanding that the Group would be open-ended. The Negotiating Group was to

deal with and settle the text of the sections of the document concerning the Forward-looking Strategies referred to the Committee.

166. In addition, the Committee considered a number of draft resolutions submitted to it.

167. At its 12th meeting, on 23 July, the Committee decided to establish a Working Group to review and combine, whenever feasible, draft resolutions; the members of the Group, which was open-ended, were the sponsors of the draft resolutions and the regional co-ordinators, under the chairmanship of the representative of Romania.

168. The text of the draft resolutions submitted to the Committee, in some cases as revised or amended, is reproduced in annex I to this report, pursuant to a decision taken by the Conference at its 20th (closing) plenary meeting.

169. The First Committee recommended to the Conference for adoption the text of the paragraphs to be incorporated in the chapters and sections of the Forward-looking Strategies which had been referred to the Committee. For an account of the action taken by the Conference with respect to these recommendations see below.

B. Report of the Second Committee

170. The Conference, at its 3rd plenary meeting, on 16 July 1985, allocated to the Second Committee specific sections of the document relating to agenda item 8, entitled "Forward-looking Strategies of implementation for the advancement of women for the period up to the year 2000, and concrete measures to overcome obstacles to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, and the sub-theme: Employment, Health and Education, bearing in mind the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and the establishment of a new international economic order".

171. In accordance with the decision of the Conference on the allocation of work between the two Committees, the Second Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretariat containing the draft text of the Forward-looking Strategies of implementation for the advancement of women and concrete measures to overcome obstacles to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women for the period 1986 to the year 2000: equality, development and peace (A/CONF.116/12, paras. 1-43, 274-283, 286-298, 301-305 and 308-372);

(b) Working paper submitted by Mrs. Rosario Manalo, Chairperson of the Preparatory Body for the Conference at its third and resumed third sessions, on the results of the informal consultations held in New York pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 1985/158 (A/CONF.116/CRP.1);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General transmitting the recommendations of the regional intergovernmental preparatory meetings (A/CONF.116/9 and Corr.1);

(d) Note by the Secretariat containing the report of the Secretary-General reviewing the issue of women and development in the medium-term plans of the organizations of the United Nations system (A/CONF.116/15).

172. The Presiding Officer of the Committee was Mrs. Rosario Manalo (Philippines), who was elected by acclamation at the 2nd plenary meeting of the Conference, on 15 July 1985.

173. At its 1st meeting, on 16 July 1985, the Committee elected the following officers by acclamation:

Deputy Presiding Officers: Billie Miller (Barbados)
Konjit Sine Giogis (Ethiopia)
Eva Szilagyi (Hungary)

Rapporteur:

Helen Ware (Australia)

174. The Committee considered agenda item 8 at its 1st to 18th meetings, from 16 to 25 July 1985.

175. It was agreed that the Committee should not hold a general discussion. The Committee considered the draft paragraphs of the Forward-looking Strategies allocated to it, as contained in documents A/CONF.116/12 and A/CONF.116/CRP.1, at its 1st to 11th and 18th meetings, on 16 to 20, 22 and 25 July 1985, taking into account the two other documents before it (A/CONF.116/9 and Corr.1 and A/CONF.116/15).

176. The Second Committee recommended to the Conference for adoption the text of the paragraphs to be incorporated in the chapters and sections of the Forward-looking Strategies which had been referred to the Committee. For an account of the action taken by the Conference with respect to these recommendations see below.

177. In addition to considering the paragraphs of the Forward-looking Strategies, the Second Committee considered a number of draft resolutions submitted to it. The text of the draft resolutions submitted to the Committee, in some cases as revised or amended, is reproduced in annex I to this report, pursuant to a decision taken by the Conference at its 20th meeting.

C. Action taken in plenary on the reports of the First and Second Committees

178. The Conference considered the reports of the First and Second Committees (A/CONF.116/L.6 and Add.1-6 and A/CONF.116/L.5 and Add.1-15) at the 18th, 19th and 20th plenary meetings, on 25 and 26 July 1985.

1. Action with respect to the text of the Forward-looking Strategies

179. The Conference decided to consider in their numerical order the paragraphs recommended by the Committees for inclusion in the Forward-looking Strategies. The Conference considered, in addition, a number of paragraphs which had been proposed in Committee and on which it had been impossible to reach agreement in the Committee concerned. These paragraphs were accordingly left to be decided by the Conference, as is explained below in the appropriate context.

Paragraphs 1-35* (A/CONF.116/L.5/Add.1-8)

180. At the 18th plenary meeting, on 25 July 1985, the Conference adopted by consensus the text of paragraphs 1 to 35 recommended by the Second Committee. It was agreed that paragraph 18 as it appeared in document A/CONF.116/12 should be deleted (see A/CONF.116/L.5/Add.5), and that paragraph 26 should, as recommended by the Committee (see A/CONF.116/L.5/Add.8), be transferred to the beginning of section C of the Introduction to the Forward-looking Strategies.

181. The delegation of the Holy See reserved its position with respect to paragraph 30 because it had not joined in the consensus at the International Conference on Population (Mexico City, 1984) and did not agree with the substance of paragraph 30.

Paragraph 36 (A/CONF.116/L.5/Add.9)

182. The Conference considered paragraph 36 at its 19th plenary meeting on 26 July 1985. The Second Committee had been unable to agree on the text of the paragraph (which appeared in square brackets in the Committee's report; see A/CONF.116/L.5/Add.9) and accordingly referred it to the plenary Conference for consideration and decision.

183. After a debate in which the representatives of Egypt, Canada, the Byelorussian SSR, Mexico, Norway, Philippines, Mali, Austria, Zambia, Ireland and Algeria took part, it was agreed that the paragraph should be adopted and that the countries which wished to formulate reservations to the paragraph should be mentioned in a footnote.

Paragraphs 37-43 (A/CONF.116/L.5/Add.9)

184. The Conference adopted by consensus paragraphs 37 to 43 as recommended by the Second Committee.

Paragraph 44 (A/CONF.116/L.6/Add.1)

185. As recommended by the First Committee, the Conference adopted by consensus and without change the text of paragraph 44 as it appeared in document A/CONF.116/12.

Paragraph 45 (A/CONF.116/12)

186. The First Committee had been unable to reach agreement on this paragraph as it appeared in document A/CONF.116/12 and referred it to the plenary for decision. After a discussion in which the representatives of Egypt, Islamic Republic of Iran, Trinidad and Tobago, Kenya, India and Italy took part, the Conference adopted the paragraph.

* In this chapter the numbering of paragraphs of the Forward-looking Strategies follows that in the reports of the Committees. As the Conference decided to rearrange the order of certain paragraphs, the numbering is different in the final text of the Strategies set out in chapter I above.

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Paragraphs 46-48 (A/CONF.116/L.6/Add.1)

187. As recommended by the First Committee, the Conference adopted by consensus and without change the text of paragraphs 46 to 48 as it appeared in document A/CONF.116/112.

Paragraphs 49 and 50 (A/CONF.116/L.6/Add.1)

188. The Conference adopted by consensus the text of paragraphs 49 and 50 recommended by the First Committee in its report.

Paragraphs 51-72 (A/CONF.116/L.6/Add.1)

189. The Conference adopted by consensus the text of paragraphs 52 to 55, 57 to 59, 62 and 68 recommended by the First Committee in its report, and as recommended by the Committee adopted for paragraphs 51, 56, 60, 61, 63 to 67 and 69 to 72 the relevant text as it appeared in document A/CONF.116/12, without change.

190. The delegation of the United States of America formulated a reservation concerning the phrase "equal pay for work of equal value" in paragraph 70, on the grounds that it was inconsistent with the federally adopted principle of equal pay for equal work.

Paragraphs 73-94 (A/CONF.116/L.6/Add.1)

191. The Conference adopted by consensus the text of paragraphs 73, 75, 78, 80 to 84 and 86 to 91 recommended by the First Committee in its report, and as recommended by the Committee adopted for paragraphs 74, 76, 77, 79, 85 and 92 to 94 the relevant text as it appeared in document A/CONF.116/12 without change.

192. The delegation of the United States of America stated that the reservation it had expressed concerning the phrase "equal pay for work of equal value" in paragraph 70 applied likewise to the same phrase in paragraph 73.

193. The delegations of Morocco and the United Arab Emirates formulated reservations concerning paragraph 75.

Paragraph 94 bis (A/CONF.116/CRP.2)

194. The text of a paragraph 94 bis, to be inserted immediately after paragraph 94, had been submitted to the First Committee. The Committee had been unable to reach agreement on the text of this proposed additional paragraph and referred it to the plenary of the Conference for consideration and decision. The Conference considered the proposed paragraph at its 19th and 20th plenary meetings on 26 July 1985. The paragraph read as follows:

There are coercive measures of an economic, political and other nature that are promoted and adopted by certain developed States and are directed towards exerting pressure on developing countries, with the aim of preventing them from exercising their sovereign rights and of obtaining from them advantages of all kinds, and furthermore affect possibilities for dialogue and negotiation. Such measures, which include trade restrictions, blockades, embargos and other economic sanctions incompatible with the principles of the United Nations Charter and in violation of multilateral or bilateral commitments, have adverse effects on the economic, political and social

development of developing countries and therefore directly affect the integration of woman in development, since that is directly related to the objective of general social, economic and political development.

195. A discussion ensued in which the representatives of the following countries took part: Belgium, Italy, Egypt, Mexico, Luxembourg, Japan, Ghana, Trinidad and Tobago, Yugoslavia, United States of America, Angola, Syrian Arab Republic, Federal Republic of Germany, Cuba, German Democratic Republic, USSR, Kuwait, Viet Nam, United Kingdom, Mali, Norway, Philippines, Kenya and Congo.

196. After this discussion, the text of the proposed new paragraph 94 bis was put to vote, by roll-call, and was adopted by 109 votes to none, with 28 abstentions. The result of the vote was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Samoa, Sao Tomé and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Paragraph 95 (A/CONF.116/12)

197. The First Committee had been unable to reach agreement on the draft text of this paragraph as it appeared in document A/CONF.116/12 and referred it to the plenary of the Conference for consideration and decision. At the 20th plenary meeting the term "zionism" in the third sentence of the draft gave rise to a protracted discussion, in which the representatives of the following countries took part: Islamic Republic of Iran, Syrian Arab Republic, Belgium, Afghanistan, Jordan, Canada, Mexico, Kenya, France, United States of America, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Ivory Coast, Angola, Senegal, United Kingdom, Norway, Ireland, Tunisia, Iceland, Trinidad and Tobago, Switzerland, Federal Republic of Germany and Egypt.

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198. After a recess, the representative of Kenya proposed, in the light of consultations conducted during the recess with interested delegations, that the words "racism, zionism" in the third sentence of the draft text should be deleted and replaced by the phrase "and all other forms of racism and racial discrimination".

199. Statements were made by the representatives of the USSR, Egypt, Mexico, Colombia, Japan, Pakistan, India, Indonesia, Venezuela, Philippines, China, Zambia, Mali, Ghana, Honduras, Islamic Republic of Iran, Jamaica, Bangladesh, Malawi, Nicaragua, Oman, Kuwait and Iraq. The observer for the Palestine Liberation Organization also made a statement.

200. The amendment proposed by the representative of Kenya was agreed to and the Conference adopted paragraph 95 as amended without a vote.

201. After the adoption, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, Burkina Faso, Syrian Arab Republic and Kenya. The delegation of Albania made a statement dissociating itself from the consensus reached on paragraph 95.

Paragraphs 96 and 97 (A/CONF.116/L.6/Add.2)

202. The Conference adopted by consensus the text of paragraphs 96 and 97 recommended by the First Committee in its report.

Paragraph 98 (A/CONF.116/12)

203. The First Committee had been unable to reach agreement on the draft text of this paragraph as it appeared in document A/CONF.116/12 and referred it to the plenary of the Conference for consideration and decision. The Conference considered the text at the 20th plenary meeting. The representatives of Egypt, United States of America, Canada, United Republic of Tanzania, Federal Republic of Germany, Mali and Cuba spoke in the discussion, after which the text of paragraph 98 was put to vote, by roll-call, and was adopted by 103 votes to 1, with 77 abstentions. The result of the vote was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Paragraph 99 (A/CONF.116/L.6/Add.2)

204. As recommended by the First Committee, the Conference adopted by consensus the text of paragraph 99 as it appeared in document A/CONF.116/12.

Paragraph 99 bis (A/CONF.116/CRP.2)

205. In the First Committee the draft text of an additional new paragraph 99 bis had been submitted, to be inserted immediately after paragraph 99. The Committee had been unable to reach agreement on the draft and referred it to the plenary of the Conference for consideration and decision. The draft text of paragraph 99 bis read as follows:

Protectionism against developing countries' exports in all its forms, the deterioration in the terms of trade, monetary instability, including high interest rates and the reduction in real terms of flows of official development assistance have aggravated the development problems of the developing countries, and consequently have complicated the difficulties hampering the integration of women in the development process.

One of the principal obstacles now confronting the developing countries is their gigantic public and private external debt, which constitutes a palpable expression of the economic crisis and has serious political, economic and social consequences for those countries. The amount of the external debt obliges the developing countries to devote enormous sums of their already scarce export income to the servicing of the debt, which affects their peoples' lives and possibilities of development, with particular effects on women. In many developing countries there is a growing conviction that the conditions for the payment and servicing of the external debt cause those countries enormous difficulties and that the adjustment policies traditionally imposed are inadequate and lead to a disproportionate social cost.

The negative effects of the present international economic situation on the least developed countries have been particularly grave and have caused serious difficulties in the process of integrating women in development.

The growth prospects of the low income countries have seriously deteriorated owing to the reduction in international economic co-operation, particularly the reduction in real terms of flows of official development assistance and the growing trade protectionism in the developed countries, which restricts the capacity of the low income countries to attain the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women.

This situation is even more grave in the developing countries that are afflicted by drought, famine and desertification.

206. The representative of Mexico proposed that the phrase "reduction in real terms of flows of official development assistance", which occurred twice in the draft text, should in both cases be amended to read "the inadequate flow of official development assistance". With this amendment the text of paragraph 99 bis was adopted without a vote.

207. Reservations concerning paragraph 99 bis were expressed by the delegations of France, Norway and the United States of America.

208. The Norwegian delegation reserved its position with respect to the formulation of the first line of paragraph 99 bis and with respect to the word "imposed" in the second subparagraph.

Paragraphs 100 to 159 (A/CONF.116/L.6/Add.2)

209. The Conference adopted by consensus the text of paragraphs 100, 104, 108, 120, 121, 122, 126, 128, 136, 137, 139 to 144, 146, 148, 150 to 157 and 159 recommended by the First Committee in its report, and as recommended by the Committee it adopted for paragraphs 101, 102, 105, 106, 107, 109 to 119, 123 to 125, 127, 129 to 135, 138, 145, 147, 149 and 158 the relevant text as it appeared in document A/CONF.116/12. It was agreed that paragraph 103 in that document would be deleted.

210. The delegation of Austria formulated a reservation concerning paragraph 136.

211. The delegation of the Holy See reserved its position with respect to paragraphs 156 to 159 because it did not agree with the substance of these paragraphs.

212. The delegation of the United Arab Emirates reserved its position with respect to paragraph 158.

Paragraphs 160-242 (A/CONF.116/L.6/Add.2, Add.3 and Add.5)

213. The Conference adopted by consensus the text of paragraphs 160 to 165, 170, 172, 175, 176, 182, 183, 186, 189a, 194, 197, 200, 203, 208, 225, 228, 229, 230 to 234, 238, 239 and 241 as recommended by the First Committee in its report. It was agreed that draft paragraph 235 would be deleted. In addition, as recommended by the Committee, the Conference adopted for paragraphs 166 to 169, 171, 173, 174, 177 to 181, 184, 185, 187 to 189, 190 to 193, 195, 196, 198, 199, 201, 202, 204 to 207, 209 to 224, 226, 227, 236, 237, 240 and 242 the relevant text as it appeared in document A/CONF.116/12.

Paragraph 243 (A/CONF.116/12)

214. The First Committee, having been unable to reach agreement on the text of paragraph 243 as it appeared in document A/CONF.116/12, referred it to the plenary of the Conference for consideration and decision. At its 20th plenary meeting the Conference adopted that text without a vote.

Paragraph 243a

215. The text of an additional paragraph 243a, to be inserted immediately after paragraph 242, had been submitted to the First Committee. The Committee had been unable to reach agreement on the text and referred it to the plenary of the Conference for consideration and decision. The Conference considered it at the 20th plenary meeting. The paragraph read as follows:

Foreign military intervention in South-West Asia has caused immense destruction and serious suffering, especially for women and children. The continuing conflict, and especially the use of inhuman and indiscriminate methods of warfare including against women and children to suppress the resistance of the people, constitutes serious violations of international humanitarian norms. This has led to the mass exodus of millions of people, the vast majority of them women and children, and created enormous social and economic problems for neighbouring countries. To achieve the objectives of the strategies of the year 2000, it is imperative to achieve an early political solution of the situation on the basis of the withdrawal of foreign troops and in accordance with the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly.

216. After consultations, it was agreed that the paragraph should be revised to read:

In South-West Asia women and children have endured serious suffering due to the violation of the United Nations Charter leading, among other things, to the vast problem of refugees in neighbouring countries. It was urgent to achieve a political solution of the situation.

As so revised the paragraph was adopted without a vote.

Paragraphs 244 to 273 (A/CONF.116/L.6/Add.3)

217. The Conference adopted by consensus the text of paragraphs 245, 246, 250 to 253, 255, 256, 260, 262, 265 and 268 to 273 recommended by the First Committee in its report. In addition, as recommended by the Committee, the Conference adopted for paragraphs 244, 257 to 259, 261, 263, 264, 266 and 267 the relevant text as it appeared in document A/CONF.116/12. It was agreed that draft paragraph 254 in that document should be omitted. It was further agreed to adopt, in lieu of draft paragraphs 247, 248 and 249 as they appeared in the said document, a paragraph in the following terms:

Safeguarding world peace and averting a nuclear catastrophe is one of the most important tasks today in which women have an essential role to play, especially by supporting actively the halting of the arms race followed by arms reduction and the attainment of a general and complete disarmament under effective international control, and thus contribute to the improvement of their economic position. Irrespective of their socio-economic system, the States should strive at avoidance of the confrontation and at building friendly relations instead, which should be also supported by women.

218. As regards paragraph 255, the Conference adopted the following text which had been recommended by the First Committee:

Mankind is confronted with a choice: to halt the arms race and proceed to disarmament or face annihilation. The growing opposition of women to the danger of war, especially a nuclear war, which will lead to a nuclear holocaust, and their support for disarmament must be respected. States should be encouraged to ensure unhindered flow and access to information, including to women, with regard to various aspects of disarmament to avoid dissemination of false and tendentious information concerning armaments and to concentrate on the danger of the escalation of the arms race and on the need for general and complete disarmament under effective international control. The resources

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released as a result of disarmament measures should be used to help promote the well-being of all peoples and improve the economic and social conditions of the developing countries. Under such conditions, States should pay increased attention to the urgent need to improve the situation of women.

Paragraphs 274 to 305 (A/CONF.116/L.5/Add.10 and Add.11, and A/CONF.116/L.6/Add.4)

219. The Conference adopted by consensus the text of paragraphs 274 to 283, 286 to 298 and 302 to 305 recommended by the Second Committee in its report (A/CONF.116/L.5/Add.10 and Add.11) and agreed to the Committee's recommendation that paragraphs 280 and 281 should be placed in chapter II. The Conference adopted also the text recommended in the First Committee's report (A/CONF.116/L.6/Add.4) for paragraphs 284 and 285, these two paragraphs to be placed in chapter III. In addition, the Conference adopted the following text of paragraphs 299 and 300 as recommended by the First Committee:

M. Refugee and displaced women and children

Paragraph 299

The international community recognizes a humanitarian responsibility to protect and assist refugees and displaced persons. In many cases refugee and displaced women are exposed to a variety of difficult situations affecting their physical and legal protection as well as their psychological and material well-being. Problems of physical debility, physical safety, emotional stress and socio-psychological effects of separation or death in the family, as well as changes in women's roles, together with limitations often found in the new environment including lack of adequate food, shelter, health care and social services call for specialized and enlarged assistance. Special attention has to be offered to women with special needs. Furthermore, the potential and capacities of refugees and displaced women should be recognized and enhanced.

Paragraph 300

It is recognized that a lasting solution to the problems of refugees and displaced women and children should be sought in the elimination of the root causes of the flow of refugees and durable solutions should be found leading to their voluntary return to their homes in conditions of safety and honour and their full integration in the economic, social and cultural life of their country of origin in the immediate future. Until such solutions are achieved, the international community, in an expression of international solidarity and burden-sharing, should continue providing relief assistance and also launching special relief programmes taking into account the specific needs of refugee women and children in countries of first asylum. Similarly, relief assistance and special relief programmes should also continue to be provided to returnees and displaced women and children. Legal, educational, social, humanitarian and moral assistance should be offered as well as opportunities for their voluntary repatriation, return or resettlement. Steps should also be taken to promote accession by Governments to the 1951 Convention relating to the status of refugees and to implement, on a basis of equity for all refugees, provisions contained in this Convention and its 1967 Protocol.

220. On the proposal of the delegation of Niger, supported by the delegations of Mali and Burkina Faso, the Conference agreed to insert the following text as an additional section in chapter IV:

Women in areas affected by drought

1. During the Decade, the phenomenon of drought and desertification grew and developed incessantly, no longer affecting merely some localities in a single country but several entire countries.

2. The scale and persistence of drought constitutes a grave threat, particularly for the countries of the Sahel, in which famine and a far-reaching deterioration of the environment set in as a result of the desertification process.

3. Hence, despite the considerable efforts of the international community, the living conditions of the peoples, particularly those of women and children, which were already precarious, have become particularly miserable.

4. In view of that situation steps should be taken to promote concerted programmes between the countries concerned for combating drought and desertification. Efforts should be intensified for the formulation and implementation of programmes aimed at food security and self-sufficiency, in particular by the optimum control and exploitation of hydro-geological resources.

5. A distinction should be made between emergency aid and productive activities. Emergency aid should be intensified when necessary and as far as ever possible directed towards development aid.

6. Measures should be adopted to take into account women's contribution to production, involve them more closely in the design, implementation and evaluation of the programmes envisaged and ensure ample access for them to the means of production and processing and preservation techniques.

Paragraph 306 (A/CONF.116/12)

221. The First Committee, to which the section of document A/CONF.116/12 entitled "Women and children under apartheid" containing the paragraph in question in square brackets had been allocated, had been unable to reach agreement on the text of the paragraph and referred it to the plenary of the Conference for consideration and decision. The Conference considered this paragraph at the 20th plenary meeting.

222. The representative of Egypt, speaking on behalf of the States members of the Group of 77 represented at the Conference, proposed that the first alternative of the paragraph should be adopted as it appeared in document A/CONF.116/12, and included in chapter III of the Forward-looking Strategies, subject to two changes: (a) the opening passage of the eighth subparagraph should read "In addition to measures already taken, further effective measures, including sanctions, should be taken to terminate ..."; (b) immediately after the ninth subparagraph an additional subparagraph should be inserted which would read:

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The international community must condemn the direct aggression committed by the armed forces of the racist régime of South Africa against the frontline countries as well as the recruitment, training and financing of mercenaries and of armed bandits who massacre women and children and who are used to overthrow the legitimate Governments of these countries by reason of their support for the people of South Africa and Namibia.

223. In the ensuing discussion statements were made by the representatives of Mali, Mexico, the United States of America, Namibia (represented by the United Nations Council for Namibia), Yugoslavia, Senegal, Trinidad and Tobago, United Republic of Tanzania and Kenya. The representative of the Special Committee against Apartheid and the observer for the South West Africa People's Organization also made statements.

224. After the discussion, the text of the proposed paragraph 306, as amended, was put to the vote, by roll-call, and was adopted by 122 votes to 1, with abstentions. The result of the vote was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaïre, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

25. Statements in explanation of vote were made or expressing reservations were made or submitted by a number of delegations.

26. The delegation of Swaziland stated that it had voted in favour of the paragraph just adopted but reserved its position with respect to the eighth and ninth subparagraphs for reasons which, it said, were well known to the Conference.

227. The delegation of Lesotho stated that it had voted in favour of the paragraph just adopted because of its firm conviction that apartheid was the root cause of many evils, and that the Government of Lesotho had made its position clear on this matter. However, so far as the eighth subparagraph was concerned, the delegation of Lesotho stated that it could not support economic sanctions against South Africa because of Lesotho's geopolitical position and its economic dependence on South Africa.

228. The delegation of Botswana stated that it supported the recommendations in the paragraph just adopted but that it reserved its position with respect to the eighth and ninth subparagraphs relating to sanctions, in conformity with the position always taken by Botswana when similar resolutions had been submitted to the General Assembly.

Paragraph 307 (A/CONF.116/12)

229. The First Committee, to which the section of document A/CONF.116/12 entitled "Palestinian women and children" containing the paragraph in question in square brackets had been allocated, had been unable to reach agreement on the text of the paragraph and referred it to the plenary of the Conference for consideration and decision. The Conference considered the paragraph at the 20th plenary meeting.

230. The representative of Egypt, speaking on behalf of the States members of the Group of 77 represented at the Conference, proposed that the second alternative of the paragraph as it appeared in document A/CONF.116/12 should be adopted and included in chapter III of the Forward-looking Strategies.

231. The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic proposed that in the second subparagraph a reference to Security Council resolution 497 (1981) should be added.

232. The delegation of Israel made a statement opposing the adoption of the paragraph.

233. Statements were made by the representative of Mali and the observer for the Palestine Liberation Organization.

234. On being put to the vote, by roll-call, the text of paragraph 307, as amended by the Syrian Arab Republic, was adopted by 98 votes to 3, with 28 abstentions. The result of the vote was as follows:

<u>In favour:</u>	Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Yemen, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles,
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Against: Australia, Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining: Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malawi, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Portugal, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Paragraphs 308 to 372 (A/CONF.116/L.5/Add.11, Add.12 and Add.13)

235. At the 20th plenary meeting the Conference adopted by consensus the text of paragraphs 308 to 372 recommended by the Second Committee in its report, as well as two additional new paragraphs recommended by the Committee (see A/CONF.116/L.5/Add.11-13).

* * *

236. Having considered the chapters, sections and paragraphs of the Forward-looking Strategies and adopted them (as amended or revised in certain cases) at successive meetings, the Conference at its 20th plenary meeting, on 26 July 1985, adopted the text of the Forward-looking Strategies as a whole by consensus. For the final text see chapter I.

237. After the adoption of the text of the Forward-looking Strategies, statements in explanation of vote or expressing reservations were made or submitted by France, Spain, Australia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Malaysia, Finland, Albania, Sweden, Switzerland, Luxembourg (on behalf of the European Community and Portugal and Spain), United States of America, Japan, Israel, Argentina, Portugal, Canada, Netherlands, Denmark, Uruguay, Ecuador, Holy See, Norway, Chile, Malaysia, Belgium, Federal Republic of Germany, Ireland.

238. The delegation of Malaysia expressed reservations concerning references to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women wherever they occurred in the texts adopted by the Conference. In that delegation's opinion, some provisions of the Convention would impose a duty on States which accept the Convention to introduce measures that could not be effected without countering problems. Examples were the provisions of Article 2 (a) and 2 (b) which would entail specific amendments not only to the legislation but also to the Federal Constitution of Malaysia. As some of the principles enunciated in the Convention may be fundamentally inconsistent with the matters permitted by the Federal Constitution, Malaysia was unable to accept the Convention as a whole. Nevertheless, Malaysia had initiated measures giving equal opportunity to women in a manner consistent with the objectives of the Convention, specifically Articles 6, 12 and 13. The Convention would, however, be used as a guideline, whenever possible, within the constitutional framework of Malaysia.

239. The representative of the Holy See stated that the participation of the Holy See in the Conference was intended to express, both by word and by action, the Holy See's strong interest in and commitment to the main goal of the United Nations

Decade for Women, namely to proclaim and foster the human dignity of women and their full participation in the life of society. Thus the delegation of the Holy See had participated in the consensus on the Forward-looking Strategies accepted by the Conference, giving special attention to the following:

(a) Measures to overcome the discrimination against women still existing in law and politics and in society as a whole where women are marginalized simply because of their sex, which prevent an authentic equality of women and men from being attained;

(b) Projects to promote women as agents and beneficiaries of the development of peoples and of the construction of peace, directed toward a better future and brighter destiny for all human beings;

(c) Proposals to recognize the family as the fundamental natural cell of society, even though such an orientation will require strong, attentive support and commitment in the future. However, only if the family retains an important place in the reflections about women (as well as men) can one look toward the future of humanity with hope. Such reflections allow a positive future for humanity because, above all, a mutual commitment to parenthood and a loving relationship of the woman with her husband, the father of their children, are the conditions for a stable family life and recognize one of the unique contributions that women make to society. While these goals should not be inconsistent with the presence of women in the different environments of public life, nor with the contributions women make to society, a necessary and renewed sharing of commitments within the family and beyond it for both women and men brings satisfaction to both partners, to the family and to society;

(d) Opposition to showing and using women as "sex objects", even if such opposition during the deliberations was not logically developed into a criticism of sexual permissiveness and irresponsibility;

(e) Activities on behalf of some particular and difficult situations of women: the poorest women, rural women, indigenous women, migrant and refugee women, old women, handicapped women, women forced into prostitution and those under apartheid. Special attention has been given to this category because a preferential option for the poor is a gospel imperative emphasized in the constant teaching of the Church.

240. At the same time, the delegation of the Holy See stated that it was obliged to express some serious concerns about some of the paragraphs which had been adopted and which hindered or detracted from the process of authentic human development:

(a) Political change and socio-economic progress were not enough to ensure the advancement of women in equality, development and peace, for they did not adequately deal with basic anthropological and ethical questions. The Strategies failed to reflect adequately the fundamental conviction regarding the dignity of every human person which was at the base of common humanity;

(b) The participation of a larger number of women in social life of and by itself was not sufficient. Women were not simply "human resources" to be used. While the usual sexual stereotypes were not to be repeated because of their discriminatory character, the alternative could not be a uniformity of human beings. This would be a sad impoverishment of humanity. Women's original contribution and particular qualities were not sufficiently reflected in the

strategies, and hence the diversity and richness of humanity failed to appear in the text;

(c) The development of the human person involved many levels of reflection, and therefore the only true human development was one encompassing ethical, cultural and religious aspects of the human person. The clear, convincing and consistent consciousness of this point was lacking in the text, even if occasional allusions to it occurred;

(d) Certain practices of family planning, which presupposed an ideological basis of sexual freedom as the final liberation of women, caused great concern. Often promoted by rich and powerful institutions, they threatened the unity and stability of marriage and the family and menaced the cultural values of third world countries, notably the healthy vitality and joy of living of their families.

241. The representative of the United States of America stated that her delegation had joined in the adoption of the Forward-looking Strategies document because of what it said about women and their unique concerns. The United States delegation was proud to have been a part of the Conference, and to have participated actively in the formulation of the final document.

242. In one sense, she said, the Forward-looking Strategies document was a milestone in the discussion of women's concerns and participation in societies throughout the world. In those areas of unique concern to the world's women, the Conference had truly accomplished a great deal. It had reaffirmed the right of women to full equality in every aspect of social, economic, cultural and political life. In so doing, it had placed a powerful weapon - that of international public opinion - in the hands of women throughout the world.

243. The participants had pledged their support for equal opportunities in employment, health and education. They had pointed to the need for greater attention to the role of women in industry, science, social services, trade, communications and community development, to name but a few.

244. Development, a crucial factor for the overwhelming majority of the women of the world, was also an area of broad general agreement. In the developing world, where most of the work was done by women while most of the wealth was controlled by men, there was a vital need to reorient development programmes toward the needs and aspirations of women. Her delegation was proud of the development section of the Forward-looking Strategies and the new insights it provided into the unique problems of women in the development process, but also the enormous potential force that women represented if only they were allowed to devote their energies to the betterment of their own lives, as well as the lives of their families.

245. The Conference had also focused on women whose concerns were special and thus deserved special attention - the elderly, the abused, the disabled and the destitute. They toiled in poverty in both city and countryside. They were ravaged by war, held against their will, forced into unimaginable degradation and denied their means of livelihood. They were forced to leave their homes to seek work, or to flee their homelands because of persecution based on race, religion, or political affiliation. All these problems were dealt with in the Forward-looking Strategies, and her delegation was proud that it has been possible to reach agreements and form a plan of action which, if implemented, could lead to substantial improvement in the situation of these women who suffer.

246. However, there were also sections of the Forward-looking Strategies which gave her delegation reason for concern. Too often there was a tendency for the document to call for State action to correct wrongs which stemmed from obstacles beyond the control of Governments - ranging from simple ignorance to deep-rooted socio-cultural traditions. The United States representative repeated her delegation's reservations with regard to paragraphs 70, 73 and 137 [paras. 69, 72 and 137 in the final text] and the formula "equal pay for work of equal value". As had been stated, the United States Government maintained the principle of equal pay for equal work.

247. Finally, there were sections of the Forward-looking Strategies to which the United States delegation strongly objected. Most obvious of these were elements of the paragraphs on apartheid and Palestinian women, although the delegation's difficulties extended to a lesser degree to other sections of the document as well. As was well known, her delegation had long been concerned and sought to minimize the insertion of general political issues with only a nominal connection with the unique concerns of women into the Conference - a Conference which should have been devoted to the unique concerns of women. Unfortunately, other delegations seemed to be less interested in those issues, and instead had used the Conference to pursue the same divisive political issues that permeated the entire United Nations system. While not wishing to belittle the suffering in the Middle East or southern Africa - nor in Afghanistan, Cambodia or Central America - her delegation considered that this Conference was neither the place nor the occasion to attempt solutions to these global issues so hotly debated elsewhere. Her delegation could not accept the unbalanced and at times even destructive language that marred these two sections of the Forward-looking Strategies.

248. The United States delegation viewed the Forward-looking Strategies as a reflection of two basic tendencies. There were those delegations who were interested in the special problems of women and worked tirelessly for a document that would air those problems and seek to formulate practical solutions. Unfortunately, there were still others who were more interested in using the Conference to pursue a separate political agenda. For the former, her delegation had only the greatest respect and admiration, all the more so because of the way they had continued to work for the cause of women, while the latter group had done everything it could to debase their cause and the Conference itself.

249. The United Kingdom stated that it had joined the consensus on the final document of the Conference entitled "The Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women". It considered this to be a valuable document containing practical and realistic ideas for progress over the next 15 years and attached great importance to its technical content. However, the United Kingdom did not consider that the Conference was an appropriate forum for the discussion of general political issues and wished to make clear that it had reservations on several paragraphs of the document, and to explain why it had abstained on certain of them.

250. The United Kingdom did not accept the tendentious and misleading explanations of the causes of underdevelopment and of the obstacles to the implementation of United Nations goals and objectives for the advancement of women in paragraphs 45 and 95 [paras. 44 and 95 in the final text] respectively of the Forward-looking Strategies: these took no account of the discrimination and other detrimental policies in various countries and regions of the world which hindered development and the advancement of women.

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251. The United Kingdom considered that the sweeping references in paragraph 94 bis [para. 94 in the final text] to unspecified measures by unspecified countries were irrelevant to this document. It had consistently opposed the use of binding treaty language in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States (para. 98) in order to impose far-reaching obligations of a long-term character. It did not accept that adjustment policies for developing countries (para. 99 bis) [para. 100 in the final text] were inadequate.

252. While the United Kingdom sympathized with the underlying sentiment of the first subparagraph of paragraph 306 [para. 259 in the final text], it believed that the language of this subparagraph was in some respects exaggerated. Its position on the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid was well-known. It was not prepared to support an armed struggle nor to give assistance to national liberation movements which condoned violence (third and eleventh subparagraphs). The United Kingdom had made clear on numerous occasions, most recently in the statement of the British Deputy Permanent Representative in the Security Council on 25 July, that it was opposed to the complete termination of contacts with South Africa (eighth subparagraph). It did not believe that this would be effective in bringing about the desired reforms in South Africa: dialogue and economic involvement in South Africa seemed more likely than isolation to help the black community.

253. The United Kingdom had great sympathy for the plight of Palestinian women, but had reservations about some of the formulations in paragraph 307 [para. 260 in the final text], which concerned political issues more appropriate to the United Nations forums.

254. The delegation of Portugal welcomed the adoption without a vote of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women as a very positive and important contribution to the United Nations activities for the promotion of the status of women. It wished, however, to record that the positions it had adopted on the controversial elements included in the text, namely those relating to political, economic and disarmament issues, should not be taken as prejudging the positions of the Government of Portugal in the appropriate United Nations forums.

255. The Government of Sweden stated that it had been pleased to join the consensus in the adoption of the Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women. It was important that the process initiated by the United Nations Decade for Women should continue and that progress made and obstacles encountered be monitored and evaluated also in the years to come. In this context, the Forward-looking Strategies would be of crucial importance. In the Swedish view, the document's importance was further enhanced by its adoption without a vote.

256. While strongly supporting the Forward-looking Strategies as a whole, the Government of Sweden had reservations concerning paragraphs containing formulations which Sweden could not fully subscribe.

257. As regards paragraph 94 bis [para. 94 in the final text] concerning economic and other coercive measures, Sweden objected to coercive economic measures which were not founded on decisions by the Security Council in accordance with the United Nations Charter. However, the principles involved should have a universal applicability and Sweden, therefore, had had to abstain in the vote on the paragraph as formulated.

258. In spite of certain reservations, Sweden had been in a position to support paragraph 306 [para. 259 in the final text] concerning women and children under apartheid. There could be no question about the urgent need to eliminate the abhorrent apartheid system, which Sweden had consistently condemned as an institutionalized form of racial discrimination, and to terminate South Africa's illegal occupation of Namibia through the speedy and effective implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978). Further effective pressure must be brought to bear on the régime in South Africa in order to bring about the urgently needed change. Therefore, the Government of Sweden reiterated its call for mandatory, economic sanctions decided by the Security Council. Pending such decisions, Sweden, in co-operation with the other Nordic countries, had adopted certain unilateral measures aiming at restricting relations with South Africa and also at inspiring other countries to similar action. Furthermore, Sweden had expanded its humanitarian assistance to the national liberation movements struggling against apartheid in South Africa, to refugees and to other victims and opponents of apartheid as well as to the front-line States in southern Africa.

259. The Government of Sweden, however, had to reserve its position on certain formulations of the paragraph in question which did not take into account the fact that only the Security Council could adopt decisions mandatory for Member States. Sweden also reserved its position on the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid.

260. While in agreement with the general thrust of paragraph 307 [para. 260 in the final text] concerning Palestinian women and children, Sweden had found it necessary to abstain in the vote on that paragraph because of its reservations concerning certain formulations using unbalanced language or failing to reflect adequately the complexity of the underlying political conflict. In that regard, the Government of Sweden continued to maintain that the principles contained in Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) should constitute the basis for a negotiated settlement. In the Swedish view, these principles implied an Israeli withdrawal from the territories occupied since 1967 in return for peace within secure and recognized boundaries. Furthermore, a settlement must enable the Palestinian people to exercise their right to self-determination, including the right to establish a State of their own.

261. Certain paragraphs, such as paragraphs 36 and 98 [paras. 35 and 97 in the final text], implied endorsement of instruments or resolutions to which Sweden had expressed reservations or which Sweden had not been able to support, either as a whole or in parts. The Swedish position regarding those documents had been repeatedly stated and remained unchanged.

262. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany stated that:

(a) With regard to paragraph 36 [para. 35 of the final text] of the Forward-looking Strategies it wished to recall that it had been unable to support the Declaration of Mexico and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the Decade;

(b) It reserved its position with regard to paragraphs 45 and 95 [paras. 44 and 95 of the final text] because it considered that these paragraphs did not adequately describe the reasons for discrimination against women and the obstacles to their integration into the development process;

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(c) It reserved its position with regard to paragraphs 94 bis, 98 and 99 bis [paras. 94, 99 and 100 of the final text] which in its view contained imbalances and inappropriate accusations at variance with the objectives of this document;

(d) It reserved its position with regard to paragraph 306 [para. 259 of the final text] because it could not support some of the measures demanded in order to eliminate apartheid;

(e) It reserved its position with regard to paragraph 307 [para. 260 of the final text] because it felt that the formulations in that paragraph should duly take into account all elements of a just and durable settlement of the Middle East conflict as laid down in Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973).

263. The delegation of Belgium expressed a general regret that certain questions concerning relations between States or the human condition as a whole and not having a specific bearing on the status of women had been discussed by the Conference and dealt with in the context of the Forward-looking Strategies. These questions were within the competence of other international forums, and accordingly Belgium reserved the position it had taken or would take in those forums with regard to such questions. In particular, Belgium expressed reservations with respect to certain passages of the Forward-looking Strategies document contained in paragraphs 94 bis, 99 bis, 306 and 307 [paras. 94, 100, 259 and 260 in the final text]. In addition, Belgium wished to reiterate the reservations it had expressed at the time of the adoption of the Forward-looking Strategies concerning certain declarations and instruments referred to in the Strategies. These reservations applied in particular to certain instruments referred to in paragraphs 36 and 98 [paras. 35 and 98 in the final text] of the Strategies document.

264. The Government of Finland stated that it had been pleased to join the consensus on the adoption of the Forward-looking Strategies for the advancement of women. It was important that the process initiated by the United Nations Decade for Women should continue and that progress should be made and obstacles encountered should be monitored and evaluated also in the years to come. In this context, the Forward-looking Strategies would be of crucial importance. In the Finnish view, the document's importance was further enhanced by its adoption without a vote.

265. While strongly supporting the Forward-looking Strategies as a whole, the Government of Finland had reservations concerning paragraphs containing formulations to which it could not fully subscribe.

266. As regards paragraph 94 bis [para. 94 in the final text] concerning economic and other coercive measures which were not founded on decisions by the Security Council in accordance with the United Nations Charter. However, the principles involved should have a universal applicability, and Finland, therefore, had had to abstain in the vote on the paragraph as formulated.

267. In spite of certain reservations, Finland had been in a position to support paragraph 306 [para. 259 in the final text] concerning women and children under apartheid. There could be no question about the urgent need to eliminate the horrent apartheid system which Finland had consistently condemned as an institutionalized form of racial discrimination, and to terminate South Africa's illegal occupation of Namibia through the speedy and effective implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978). Further effective pressure must be brought to bear on the régime in South Africa in order to bring about the urgently needed

change. Therefore, the Government of Finland reiterated its call for mandatory, economic sanctions decided by the Security Council. Pending such decisions, Finland, in co-operation with the other Nordic countries, had adopted certain unilateral measures aiming at restricting relations with South Africa and also at inspiring other countries to similar action. Furthermore, Finland had expanded its humanitarian assistance to the national liberation movements struggling against apartheid in South Africa, to refugees and to other victims and opponents of apartheid as well as to the front-line States in southern Africa.

268. The Government of Finland, however, had to reserve its position on certain formulations of the paragraph in question which did not take into account the fact that only the Security Council could adopt decisions mandatory for Member States. Finland also reserved its position on the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid.

269. While in agreement with the general thrust of paragraph 307 [para. 260 in the final text] concerning Palestinian women and children, Finland had found it necessary to abstain in the vote on that paragraph because of reservations concerning certain formulations using unbalanced language and failing to reflect adequately the complexity of the underlying political conflict. In that regard, the Government of Finland continued to maintain that the Security Council's resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) constituted the basis for a comprehensive settlement. According to these resolutions Israel must withdraw from Arab territories occupied since 1967. The rights of Israel and all other States of the area to exist within secure and recognized boundaries must be guaranteed. Furthermore, a settlement must enable the Palestinian people to exercise its right to national self-determination.

270. Finally, paragraph 98 implied endorsement of instruments or resolutions to which Finland had expressed reservations or which Finland had not been able to support, either as a whole or in part. The Finnish position regarding those documents had been repeatedly stated and remained unchanged.

271. The delegation of Japan stated that it had joined in the adoption by consensus of "the Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women", recognizing the importance of this document and respecting the spirit of co-operation and solidarity for the success of the Nairobi Conference.

272. As indicated at the time, Japan wished to clarify its position on some of the contents of the Strategies document.

273. Japan had contributed, in various forums, to the promotion of disarmament, as disarmament could play a great role for the achievement and the maintenance of world peace and stability, which were most important for the improvement of life and the welfare of all mankind. However, disarmament was inseparable from the security policies of each nation and no nation could be expected to implement disarmament unilaterally, because it might affect its own security. Japan did not believe that effective disarmament could be achieved by merely expressing idealistic slogans or principles and that true disarmament could be realized without sufficient verification measures.

274. Japan wished to make clear that its participation in the adoption by consensus of the Strategies document did not in any way mean a departure from its aforementioned basic positions on this matter.

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275. Japan was aware of the view of the developing countries on the establishment of a new international economic order (NIEO). However, Japan considered that a NIEO had not yet been fully discussed in the proper forum, and hence Japan's joining in the consensus did not mean any change in its past position on a new international economic order.

276. Japan had abstained from voting on paragraph 94 bis [para. 94 in the final text] because the thrust of this paragraph came from General Assembly resolutions 38/197 and 39/210, which Japan had voted against. In this regard, Japan wished to make the following two points:

(a) The paragraph in question dealt with a matter of a political nature inconsistent with the principal aims of the Forward-looking Strategies;

(b) The paragraph was not even-handed because it referred only to the "coercive" economic measures taken by developed countries against developing countries, without due regard to other cases.

277. Japan had voted in favour of paragraph 306 [para. 259 in the final text] but wished to make the following comments:

(a) With regard to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid referred to in the first subparagraph, although Japan understood the purposes of this instrument, owing to the ambiguity of the elements constituting a crime, Japan had difficulties in signing and ratifying the Convention, in view of the Japanese domestic laws concerned;

(b) With regard to the material assistance referred to in the second subparagraph, Japan's understanding was that this did not include military assistance;

(c) With regard to the eighth subparagraph, which sought to terminate all collaboration with the racist régime of South Africa in the political, military, diplomatic and economic fields, Japan understood that such termination did not include that of normal trade;

(d) With regard to the ninth subparagraph, which sought comprehensive and mandatory measures against South Africa, Japan did not believe that such measures would provide an effective and expeditious means of achieving a peaceful solution to the question of apartheid.

278. The delegation of Israel stated that its participation in the consensus on the final document on "Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women" did not include paragraph 260. Israel had voted against this paragraph, because it was completely biased and untrue, had been introduced only to serve the ongoing relentless political warfare against Israel, was thus totally unrelated and extraneous to the subject-matters of the Conference, and would only hinder the realization of its purposes.

279. The Government of Canada expressed its great satisfaction that the Conference, as a result of a spirit of compromise and co-operation on the part of all Governments present, had achieved consensus on the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies. This was a significant achievement. The Government of Canada, while pleased to join in the consensus, nevertheless wished to have its reservations noted in the official records of the Conference with respect to those paragraphs in

the vote on which the Canadian delegation had abstained, namely: 94 bis, 98, 306 and 307 [paras. 94, 98, 259 and 260 in the final text]. With respect to paragraph 36 [para. 35 in the final text], the Government of Canada stated that Canada was one of the Member States listed in the footnote as having reservations.

280. The Government of Argentina reserved its position with respect to the reference, in the first subparagraph of paragraph 307 [para. 260 in the final text] of the Forward-looking Strategies, to torture as one of the oppressive Israeli practices to which Palestinian women in the occupied Arab territories are allegedly vulnerable.

281. The Government of the Netherlands submitted the following comments concerning certain paragraphs of the Forward-looking Strategies:

(a) As regards paragraph 95 it stated that the reference in this paragraph to "all other forms of racism" could not, in the opinion of the Netherlands, be interpreted to include a reference to zionism;

(b) With regard to paragraph 306 [para. 259 in the final text] it stated that the Netherlands rejected the system of apartheid and agreed fully that as a result of the continued practice of this system women and children suffer from inhumane practices. The Netherlands had abstained from voting on this paragraph because it contains several elements which are not acceptable, notably the reference in the first subparagraph to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment on the Crime of Apartheid and the reference in the eighth subparagraph to the termination of all collaboration with South Africa in the political, military, diplomatic and economic fields;

(c) As regards paragraph 307 [para. 260 in the final text] the Government of the Netherlands stated that, although the Netherlands agreed that Palestinian women had for many years faced difficult living conditions, had suffered and were consequently a vulnerable group, it had had to abstain from voting on this paragraph, which contains various unacceptable elements. In the opinion of the Netherlands, reference to the right to self-determination of the Palestinian people should be placed in the context of a comprehensive, negotiated settlement of the problems in the region, including the right of Israel to exist within secure and recognized borders. One of the other problems for the Netherlands in this paragraph was the reference to the implementation of the programme of action for the achievement of Palestinian rights.

282. The delegation of Denmark stated that it had abstained in the vote on paragraph 94 bis [para. 94 in the final text] of the Forward-looking Strategies. Denmark confirmed its support for the relevant provision of the "Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations" (General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, annex). This provision reads: "No State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights and to secure from it advantage of any kind". Denmark could not accept, however, that the paragraph in question is addressed one-sidedly to developed countries only.

283. Furthermore, Denmark had reservations with respect to formulations in the Forward-looking Strategies document which are of a purely political nature and extraneous to the subject matter of the Forward-looking Strategies. Although

Denmark had voted in favour of paragraph 306 [para. 259 in the final text] it therefore had reservations on several of its subparagraphs, in particular the eighth subparagraph. For the same reasons Denmark had abstained in the vote on paragraph 307 [para. 260 in the final text] of the Strategies document.

284. The Government of Ireland expressed reservations with respect to certain paragraphs of the Forward-looking Strategies, in addition to paragraph 36 [para. 35 in the final text] where Ireland is included in the footnote listing the countries having reservations to that paragraph.

285. As regards paragraph 75 [para. 74 in the final text], the Government stated that Ireland had joined in the consensus on this paragraph on the basis that its second sentence was concerned with the principle of equality of rights, and did not imply any obligation on the part of a State to provide for dissolution of marriage, or to provide any special forms of divorce.

286. With respect to paragraphs 94 bis and 98 [paras. 94 and 98 in the final text], Ireland was of the view that the targeting of developed countries for blame for the economic and other difficulties experienced by developing countries was unbalanced and did not adequately reflect the complex nature of the problem. For these reasons Ireland had abstained in the separate votes on these paragraphs.

287. As regards paragraph 306 [para. 259 in the final text] the Government of Ireland stated that Ireland had voted in favour of this paragraph. This position had been adopted without prejudice to the following reservations:

(a) Ireland does not propose to sign or ratify the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid;

(b) Ireland supports the introduction of measures to bring about an end to the apartheid system on a graduated, selective mandatory basis but has grave reservations about the effectiveness and the practicability of attempting to isolate South Africa totally;

(c) While Ireland has consistently supported the full implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978) and the unconditional withdrawal of South African forces from Angola, Ireland feels that sanctions cannot be effective unless imposed and enforced by the Security Council;

(d) While Ireland has consistently opposed the apartheid régime in South Africa the Irish Government does not recognize that violence can be a legitimate means of securing political change. For this reason Ireland will continue its policy of granting material and financial assistance to humanitarian groups and those seeking change by non-violent means.

288. With respect to paragraph 307 [para. 260 in the final text] the Government stated that Ireland attached the greatest importance to matters affecting the rights of the population of the Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967 and fully supported the spirit of this paragraph. However, Ireland would have wished to see a number of modifications in the language of this paragraph and in particular the reference to torture. As a result Ireland had abstained in the vote on the paragraph as a whole.

289. The Government of France expressed reservations with respect to a number of paragraphs of the Forward-looking Strategies, viz.:

(a) France expressed a reservation concerning paragraph 36 [para. 35 in the final text], in particular as regards the reference to the Declaration of Mexico on the Equality of Women and their contribution to Development and Peace, 1975;

(b) France expressed a reservation concerning paragraph 45 [para. 44 in the final text] as adopted by the Conference;

(c) France expressed a reservation concerning paragraph 94 bis [para. 94 in the final text] as adopted by the Conference;

(d) France expressed a reservation concerning paragraph 95 as adopted by the Conference;

(e) France expressed a reservation concerning paragraph 98 as adopted by the Conference;

(f) France expressed a reservation concerning paragraph 99 bis [para. 100 in the final text] as adopted by the Conference;

(g) France expressed a reservation concerning paragraph 306 [para. 259 in the final text], in particular as regards the eighth and ninth subparagraphs. If the subparagraphs of this paragraph had been put to the vote separately, France would have been able to vote in favour of all the other subparagraphs;

(h) France expressed a reservation concerning paragraph 307 [para. 260 in the final text] which in its opinion did not reflect a balanced point of view regarding the situation referred to in chapter IV "Areas of special concern" [of document A/CONF.116/12] in the section entitled "Palestinian women and children".

290. As regards chapter III as a whole of the Forward-looking Strategies, France stated that the fact that it had joined in the consensus on the chapter did not prejudice the positions adopted by France with respect to the subject-matter in the appropriate forums.

291. The Swiss delegation submitted comments and reservations regarding certain paragraphs of the Forward-looking Strategies, viz.:

(a) With respect to paragraph 36 [para. 35 in the final text] Switzerland expressed a reservation at the time when the paragraph was adopted by consensus, for the paragraph contains inter alia a reference to the Declaration of Mexico City of 1975 which was not endorsed by Switzerland (Switzerland is one of the countries listed in the footnote to this paragraph);

(b) Switzerland abstained in the vote on paragraph 94 bis [para. 94 in the final text] on the grounds that, while opposed to the taking of restrictive commercial measures for political purposes - and this objection applies to all cases of such commercial measures and irrespective of the country against which such measures are directed - Switzerland considered that this paragraph dealt with a question for the settlement of which other forums were competent;

(c) Switzerland expressed reservations concerning paragraph 98 because the formulation implies an excessively general attribution exclusively to developed countries of the responsibility for the difficulties at present being experienced in international economic relations;

(d) Switzerland expressed reservations concerning the first, second and fourth subparagraphs of paragraph 99 bis [para. 100 in the final text]. In the opinion of Switzerland it was first and foremost protectionism as such that ought to be censured in the first subparagraph. Furthermore, the language of the second and fourth subparagraphs was not satisfactory in that it did not express a balanced view regarding the causes of indebtedness and of the deterioration of growth prospects;

(e) With regard to paragraph 293 [para. 292 in the final text] Switzerland, which expressed a reservation concerning this paragraph, considers that transnational corporations are by no means principally responsible for the excessive and inappropriate exploitation of the land;

(f) With respect to paragraph 306 [para. 259 in the final text] Switzerland abstained in the vote on this paragraph. Although it firmly condemns the apartheid system, which is incompatible with human rights and with Switzerland's own conception of the dignity of the human person, and although it hopes for a change in this respect, Switzerland, by virtue of the principle of universality which is the basis of its external relations, is also seeking a dialogue with States whose ideas differ from its own;

(g) As regards paragraph 307 [para. 260 in the final text] Switzerland abstained in the vote on this paragraph, for while attaching very great importance to the settlement of the Palestinian problem, both for the sake of world peace and for the sake of the populations concerned, Switzerland took the view that bodies other than the Nairobi Conference were responsible for finding a solution to the problem.

292. The representative of Australia stated that the Forward-looking Strategies contained much that would be of very real value to women all over the world. Australia had strongly supported the Conference as a way of advancing the status of women at both national and international levels and had every confidence that the Conference would be welcomed for the benefits it would bring to women in Australia and elsewhere, especially in developing countries. It was a tribute to the efforts of Kenya as host that potentially divisive issues had been defused and that good sense had prevailed.

293. As was obvious from Australian statements and votes, there were parts of the document which Australia did not like and could not support. However, in response to the spirit of co-operation and sisterhood at the Conference, Australia was not willing to allow these objections to prevent it from supporting the Forward-looking Strategies document. Australia regretted very much not being able to vote in favour of the section on apartheid. Its abstention did not in any way represent any tolerance whatsoever of this repugnant system but was necessary because of some specific unacceptable references.

294. The representative of Australia also regretted that a negotiated solution could not be found to the section on Middle East issues. However fundamental principles were involved, and the Conference had proven inappropriate for resolving such difficulties.

295. Australia sincerely believed that a strong and progressive document was the greatest and the most unique gift that could be given to the women of the world.

296. Speaking on behalf of the European Economic Community, its member States and Spain and Portugal, the representative of Luxembourg welcomed the adoption by consensus of the document on the Forward-looking Strategies, which represented a sound basis for the development at all levels of activities to promote equality of opportunity for women.

297. The Community was already embarked on a very advanced global policy in that field and the results of the Conference, particularly the document on the Forward-looking Strategies, would be of substantial help in supporting and strengthening its efforts. The representative of Luxembourg expressed regret that questions of general policy had often relegated the special problems of women to the background. The Community and its member States naturally wanted the positions they adopted on questions of general policy to be the same as those they take in other United Nations bodies. To a large extent that explained the votes of the member States of the Community on a number of paragraphs dealing with those questions.

298. The representative of Luxembourg reiterated the intention of the community, its member States and Spain and Portugal to continue the discussions and dialogue in the United Nations after the Conference. He stressed the need for a regular evaluation at all levels of the progress achieved in creating equal opportunities for women.

299. Uruguay endorsed the Conference document entitled: "Forward-looking Strategies of implementation for the advancement of women". It wished however to express its reservations on certain statements in paragraphs 306 and 307 [paras. 259 and 260 of the final text], with which it did not agree and which, moreover, in the view of the Government of Uruguay, went beyond the objectives of the Decade and were contrary to its general spirit.

300. While strongly supporting the Forward-looking Strategies as a whole the Government of Norway wished to submit its reservations with regard to certain paragraphs to which Norway could not fully subscribe.

301. Norway abstained in the vote on paragraph 94 bis (para. 94 in the final text) of the Forward-looking Strategies, concerning economic and coercive measures, as Norway objected to measures of that type that were not founded on decisions of the Security Council in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. Furthermore, the paragraph was unbalanced in that it addressed only the developed countries.

302. Norway had voted in favour of paragraph 306 (para. 259 in the final text) concerning women and children under apartheid, despite certain reservations. There could be no question about the urgent need to eliminate the abhorrent apartheid system, which Norway had consistently condemned as an institutionalized form of racial discrimination. South Africa's illegal occupation of Namibia should also be terminated through the speedy and effective implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978). Further effective pressure must be brought to bear on the Government of South Africa in order to bring about the necessary changes. Therefore, the Government of Norway reiterated its call for mandatory economic sanctions by the Security Council against South Africa. Pending such decisions, Norway, in co-operation with the other Nordic countries, had adopted certain unilateral measures directed at restricting economic and other relations with South Africa and hoped that other countries would implement similar measures. Furthermore, Norway had expanded its humanitarian assistance to South Africa, to

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refugees and other victims and opponents of apartheid as well as to the front-line States in southern Africa and co-operation with the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference. The Government of Norway, however, had to reserve its position on certain formulations of that paragraph which did not take into account the fact that only the Security Council could adopt decisions which were mandatory for the Member States. Norway also reserved its position on the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, to which Norway had not acceded.

303. As regards paragraph 307 [para. 260 in the final text] concerning Palestinian women and children, Norway, despite its great sympathy for the plight of the Palestinian women, had found it necessary to abstain in the vote because of certain formulations using unbalanced language and failure to reflect adequately the complexity of the underlying political conflicts. In that regard, the Government of Norway continued to maintain that the principles contained in Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) should constitute the basis for a negotiated settlement to the conflicts in the Middle East.

304. Certain paragraphs, such as paragraphs 36 and 98 [paras. 35 and 98 in the final text], implied endorsement of instruments or resolutions to which Norway had expressed reservations or had not been able to support, either as a whole or in part. The Norwegian position regarding those documents remained unchanged.

2. Action with respect to draft resolutions submitted to the First and Second Committees

305. In the course of their meetings the First and Second Committees considered a large number of draft resolutions which had been submitted to them. Particulars of these draft resolutions and of the action taken in Committee are set out in the reports of the two Committees (A/CONF.116/L.6/Add.6 and Add.6/Corr.1 and Corr.2 as regards the First Committee, and A/CONF.116/L.5/Add.14 and 15 as regards the Second Committee). In addition, a draft declaration (A/CONF.116/L.4/Rev.1) had been submitted.

306. At the 20th (closing) plenary meeting of the Conference the Vice-President for co-ordination, referring to the draft resolutions and the draft declaration submitted by delegations, suggested that since, owing to lack of time, the Conference had been unable to take action on any of them, they should be appended to the report of the Conference in their original, amended or amalgamated form.

307. This suggestion was agreed to by the Conference. (For the text of the decision see chap. I above. For the text of the draft resolutions and the draft declaration see annex I to the present report.)

308. In response to comments by the representatives of Ethiopia, Algeria, the Syrian Arab Republic and Morocco, the President stated that the draft texts reproduced in annex I to this report would be brought to the attention of the General Assembly for consideration and action as appropriate.

D. Report of the Credentials Committee

309. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 15 July 1985, the Conference, in accordance with rule 4 of its rules of procedure (A/CONF.116/2, as revised in accordance with the decisions taken by the Conference at the same meeting in connection with the adoption of its rules of procedure) appointed a Credentials Committee composed of the following States: Bhutan, China, Cuba, Equatorial Guinea, Italy, Ivory Coast, Paraguay, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and United States of America.

310. The Credentials Committee held one meeting, on 22 July 1985.

311. Mr. Achyut Bhandari (Bhutan) was unanimously elected Presiding Officer of the Committee.

312. The Committee had before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General of the Conference, dated 20 July 1985, on the status of credentials of representatives of participants attending the Conference (A/CONF.116/CC/WP.1). Additional information on credentials received by the Secretary-General of the Conference after the issuance of the memorandum was provided to the Committee by the Secretary of the Committee. On the basis of the information made available to it the Committee noted that as at 22 July 1985:

(a) Formal credentials issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign affairs, as provided for in rule 3 of the rules of procedure of the Conference, had been submitted by the representatives of the following 127 States participating in the Conference:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Byelorussian SSR, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Holy See, Honduras, Hungary, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaïre, Zambia;

(b) Credentials for the representatives of the following eight States issued by their respective Head of State or Government or Minister for Foreign Affairs had been communicated to the Secretary-General of the Conference, in the form of a note verbale or a cable:

Benin, Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Iceland, Pakistan, Peru, Rwanda, Solomon Islands;

(c) The designation of the representatives of the following 12 States had been communicated to the Secretary-General of the Conference by means of a cable, letter or note verbale from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs or other Ministry concerned:

Belize, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Yemen, Gambia, India, Kiribati, Mauritania, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Vanuatu;

(d) The designation of the representatives of the following 10 States had been communicated to the Secretary-General of the Conference by means of a letter, note verbale or cable from their permanent representatives or permanent missions to the United Nations (Geneva, Nairobi, New York or Vienna) or their embassies in Kenya or neighbouring countries:

Ecuador, Guinea, Italy, Lesotho, Malawi, Nicaragua, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Zimbabwe;

(e) In respect of Namibia, represented by the United Nations Council for Namibia, the designation of its representatives had been communicated to the Secretary-General of the Conference by a letter from the President of the United Nations Council for Namibia.

313. Statements concerning the information provided to the Committee on the status of credentials of representatives of participants attending the Conference were made by the representatives of China, Cuba, Equatorial Guinea, Italy, Paraguay, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America.

314. The representative of the USSR stated that there was no country, either on the geographical map, or in real international political life, that was called "Democratic Kampuchea". There was, however, a State - the People's Republic of Kampuchea - created by the will of the Kampuchean people, Kampuchean women, men and children who had survived the barbarous bombardments of American aviation and the genocide of Pol Pot's clique. The Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, formed on the basis of free, democratic and general elections, was firmly leading the country along the way of national reconstruction. Kampuchea had made its choice as regards the route of historical development and social progress. The Soviet delegation stood firmly in favour of the restoration of the legitimate rights of the People's Republic of Kampuchea in the United Nations. The delegation of the People's Republic of Kampuchea should be granted its legitimate right to address the Conference on behalf of its country. That would be the only just solution, which would contribute to the prestige of the Conference. As to the persons who played the role of delegates of so-called "Democratic Kampuchea", they represented nobody except the elements rejected by the Kampuchean people in the process of its struggle for liberation. "The coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea" was nothing more than a screen for Pol Pot's butchers. The presence of the "Democratic Kampuchea" delegation at the Conference constituted an insult to the memory of millions of Kampuchean people, particularly women and children, who had fallen victim to the policy of genocide pursued by Pol Pot's clique. Accordingly, the Soviet delegation opposed the acceptance of credentials submitted by the representatives of the so-called "Democratic Kampuchea" and requested that a separate vote be taken on this question.

315. The representative of China stated that Democratic Kampuchea was a sovereign State and a Member of the United Nations. The coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea was the sole legitimate representative of the people of Kampuchea. The legitimate status of Democratic Kampuchea had been recognized by the General Assembly of the United Nations at successive sessions. That fact could not be disputed. The "Heng Samrin régime" was nothing more than an agent of a foreign power, a puppet propped up by the armed forces of foreign aggression. It could in no way represent the people of Kampuchea. Any attempt to force the entry of such a puppet in the United Nations was bound to fail. The Chinese delegation considered that the Conference, being held under the auspices of the United Nations, should abide by resolutions adopted by the General Assembly. The Credentials Committee should therefore recommend that the Conference accept the credentials of the delegates of Democratic Kampuchea.

316. The representative of China added that his delegation wished to reiterate that allowing the Afghan representative to attend the World Conference should not, under any circumstances, be construed as a tacit acceptance of the situation created by the foreign armed occupation of Afghanistan.

317. The representative of Cuba stated that, with regard to the credentials of the delegation of so-called Democratic Kampuchea, the task of the Committee was very simple. The Committee should examine where the credentials of the group which had designated itself as the delegation of Democratic Kampuchea had been signed. They could have been signed anywhere except in the territory of the sovereign and independent State of Kampuchea whose legitimate Government was the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea. The Cuban delegation rejected the credentials of the representatives of Democratic Kampuchea and supported the request by the representative of the Soviet Union for a separate vote on the question of the acceptance of those credentials.

318. The representative of Cuba stated that the shameful facts of the situation whereby the most powerful imperialist Power dishonourably and in violation of its obligations under the Charter of the United Nations occupied tiny Grenada were well known. The authorities in Grenada at present were the product of that occupation and for as long as control was not returned to the people of Grenada to enable it to elect freely a sovereign Government, Cuba would not be in a position to accept the credentials of a delegation from Grenada. The same representative requested that a separate vote be taken by the Committee on the question of the acceptance of the credentials of the representatives of Grenada.

319. The representative of the United States of America stated that the questions relating to the seating of Democratic Kampuchea in United Nations meetings had been discussed extensively in the context of the General Assembly and had been conclusively resolved. In the view of the United States delegation, the precedents set by the General Assembly should be followed at this Conference. The same representative added that the delegation of the United States regretted that the delegations of the Soviet Union and Cuba felt constrained to request a vote on the acceptance of the credentials of the representatives of Democratic Kampuchea which was a well-settled issue.

320. The representative of the United States stated also that there were no grounds upon which the credentials of the representative of Grenada could be subject to challenge. Those credentials should be approved without question. The same representative added that the United States delegation regretted that another delegation had felt constrained to request a vote on that issue.

321. The representative of the Soviet Union stated that, as was known, on 25 October 1983 the United States of America had committed an act of plunder and aggression against Grenada and the people of this tiny country had been deprived of liberty. The right of the people of Grenada to decide upon its own destiny had been trampled. The whole world condemned the aggression and the aggressor, as could be seen from General Assembly resolution 38/7, which had been supported by the votes of 108 countries. It was the duty of the United Nations and of the Conference to stand up for the people, the women and children of Grenada. It was imperative to cease the foreign intervention and to restore a normal situation on the island. The people of Grenada had been deprived of its right to live independently and the Soviet Union could not recognize the imposed puppet régime. For as long as those circumstances persisted, the Soviet delegation was not in a position to accept the credentials of the delegation which was occupying places in the conference rooms behind the nameplate "Grenada". The Soviet delegation opposed the acceptance of the credentials submitted by the puppet régime imposed by the United States in Grenada and supported the proposal by the delegation of Cuba for a separate vote on that question.

322. The representative of the Soviet Union further stated that statements made in the Committee regarding the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan - a sovereign and non-aligned country and a full and equal Member of the United Nations - were completely irrelevant. Observations made by the delegation of China were manifestations of psychological warfare and an inadmissible attempt to interfere in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. The training and sending of mercenary bands from the territory of third countries to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan was the main obstacle to the solution of problems of Afghan women and to their liberation from the chains of age-old backwardness. It was the task of the international community and the Conference to help the people and women of Afghanistan to escape from the plunder by former feudal elements supported from outside.

323. The representative of the United States stated that the delegation of the Soviet Union had confused the facts relating to Grenada and Afghanistan. There were no foreign troops in Grenada but there were in Afghanistan. The people of Grenada had freely elected their Government and the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session had accepted the credentials of the representatives of Grenada submitted by that Government.

324. The representative of Italy stated that his delegation considered that in the light of the decisions taken by the General Assembly of the United Nations the Conference should accept as completely valid the credentials submitted for the representatives of Democratic Kampuchea and Grenada.

325. Acting on the request by the representative of the Soviet Union, supported by the delegation of Cuba, the Presiding Officer put to the vote the question of the acceptance of the credentials of the representatives of Democratic Kampuchea. The Committee by 7 votes (Bhutan, China, Equatorial Guinea, Italy, Ivory Coast, Paraguay and the United States of America) to 2 (Cuba and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) accepted as valid the credentials of the representatives of Democratic Kampuchea.

326. Subsequently, the Presiding Officer, acting on the request by the representative of Cuba, supported by the delegation of the Soviet Union, put to the vote the question of the acceptance of the credentials of the representatives of Grenada. The Committee, by 6 votes (Bhutan, Equatorial Guinea, Italy, Ivory Coast,

Paraguay and the United States of America) to 2 (Cuba and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) with 1 abstention (China), accepted as valid the credentials of the representatives of Grenada.

327. The Presiding Officer then proposed that, taking into account the statements made and positions expressed by members of the Committee, as reflected in this report, the Committee should adopt the following draft resolution:

"The Credentials Committee,

Having examined the credentials of representatives to the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women,

Taking into account the various statements made by delegations during the debate,

Accepts the credentials of representatives submitted in accordance with rule 3 of the rules of procedure of the Conference,

Accepts as provisional credentials the other communications received and reported to the Committee on the understanding that credentials in due form as required under rule 3 of the rules of procedure would be promptly submitted to the Secretary-General of the Conference by the authorities concerned,

Recommends that the Conference approve the report of the Credentials Committee."

328. The representative of the Soviet Union stated that his delegation would not object to the adoption of the Committee's report without a vote but dissociated itself from the report in so far as it related to the acceptance of the credentials of the representatives of Democratic Kampuchea and of Grenada.

329. The representative of Cuba stated that her delegation would similarly not object to the adoption of the Committee's report without a vote; however, it dissociated itself from the report in so far as it related to the acceptance of the credentials of Democratic Kampuchea and Grenada, and requested that this position should be duly reflected in the report.

330. The draft resolution proposed by the Presiding Officer was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

331. Subsequently, the Presiding Officer proposed that the Committee recommend to the Conference the adoption of a draft decision (see next paragraph). The proposal was approved by the Committee without a vote.

Recommendation of the Credentials Committee

332. The Credentials Committee recommended to the Conference the adoption of the following draft decision:

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"Credentials of representatives to the World Conference to Review
and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for
Women: Equality, Development and Peace

"The Conference,

"Having examined the report of the Credentials Committee,

"Approves the report of the Credentials Committee."

Action in plenary on the report of the Credentials Committee

333. The Conference considered the report of the Credentials Committee at the 17th plenary meeting on 25 July 1985.

334. The representatives of Democratic Yemen, Viet Nam, Cuba, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Syrian Arab Republic, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Albania, Mongolia, Congo and Ethiopia made statements expressing reservations with respect to the credentials of the representatives of Democratic Kampuchea.

335. The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement expressing reservations with respect to the credentials of the representatives of Israel.

336. The representative of Pakistan made a statement expressing reservations with respect to the credentials of the representatives of Afghanistan.

337. The representative of Cuba made a statement expressing reservations with respect to the credentials of the representatives of Grenada.

338. The representatives of the United States of America and China reiterated the position of their delegations, as recorded in the report of the Credentials Committee, with regard to the credentials of the representatives of Democratic Kampuchea and Afghanistan.

339. Having considered the report of the Credentials Committee, the Conference adopted the report and the draft decision recommended by the Committee. (For the text of the decision see chap. I.)

Chapter VI

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE

340. The Rapporteur-General introduced the draft report of the Conference (A/CONF.116/L.3 and Add.1 to 3) at the 17th plenary meeting on 25 July 1985.

341. The Conference considered chapters II, III and IV of the draft report and adopted them with certain amendments.

342. At the 20th (closing) plenary meeting on 26 July 1985, the representative of Denmark introduced a draft resolution expressing gratitude to the President of Kenya and to the Government and people of Kenya and designating the document on the Forward-looking Strategies adopted by the Conference as the "Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women".

343. The draft resolution was adopted by acclamation. (For the text of the resolution see chap. I.)

344. At the same meeting, the Conference adopted the draft report as a whole and authorized the Rapporteur-General to complete the report, in conformity with the practice of the United Nations, with a view to its submission to the General Assembly at the fortieth session.

345. After the adoption of the report statements were made by the representatives of Zambia, Egypt (on behalf of the Group of 77), the Philippines (on behalf of the Group of Asian States), the USSR (on behalf of the Group of Eastern European States), Canada (on behalf of the Group of Western European and other States), Mexico (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States), Mali (on behalf of the Group of African States) and Colombia.

346. The Secretary-General of the Conference made a concluding statement.

347. The President of the Conference also made a concluding statement and declared the Conference closed.

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ANNEX I

TEXT OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS AND A DRAFT DECLARATION ON WHICH
NO ACTION WAS TAKEN BY THE CONFERENCE

1. Draft resolutions submitted to the First Committee of the Conference

Benin, Congo, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Ghana,
Hungary, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mongolia, Nicaragua,
Nigeria, Panama, Poland, Romania, Suriname, Togo, United
Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe:
draft resolution

The role of women in the preparation of societies for life in peace

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.3)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United
Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Reaffirming the lofty purposes and principles of the Charter of the United
Nations,

Recalling the Declaration of Mexico on the Equality of Women and their
Contribution to Development and Peace, 1975, the World Plan of Action for the
Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year and the
Copenhagen Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for
Women, 1/

Proceeding from the timely objectives of the United Nations Declaration on the
Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace, 2/

Recalling also that the Declaration of Mexico on the Equality of Women and
their Contribution to Development and Peace, 1975, has stated that "women have a
vital role to play in the promotion of peace in all spheres of life: in the
family, the community, the nation and the world", 3/

Noting that the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations
Decade for Women stipulated inter alia that "in accordance with their obligations
under the Charter to maintain peace and security and to achieve international
cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental

1/ Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, Mexico
City, 19 June-2 July 1975, United Nations publication, document E/CONF.66/34, pp. 2
and 8, and Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women:
Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14-30 July 1980, United Nations
publication, document A/CONF.94/35, p. 2.

2/ General Assembly resolution 33/73 of 15 December 1978.

3/ Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year ...
cit., p. 2.

freedoms, bearing in mind, in this respect, the right to live in peace, States should help women to participate in promoting international co-operation for the sake of the preparation of societies for a life in peace", 4/

Recalling further the resolution of the Copenhagen Conference on the role of women in the preparation of societies for life in peace, 5/ which emphasized the distinct role of women in educating young generations in the spirit of tolerance, equality, respect for other nations, their cultures and traditions, and in strengthening international peace and co-operation,

Welcoming the adoption by the United Nations General Assembly, during the United Nations Decade for Women, of the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation 6/ and the Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace, 7/

Taking into consideration General Assembly resolutions 36/104 and 39/157, which inter alia reaffirmed the lasting importance of the preparation of societies for life in peace and reiterated the appeal for concerted action on the part of Governments, the United Nations system, other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to increase their efforts towards the implementation of the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace and strengthening a just and durable peace for present and future generations,

Reaffirming the important role of women as agents of national and international political, social and economic change in building more just national societies, and in the struggle for fundamental national rights and self-determination of people and against wars of aggression and interference in the internal affairs of States, in strengthening peace, détente and security, enhancing disarmament and establishing a new international economic order,

Convinced that colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism and racial discrimination, apartheid, alien domination, acquisition of land by force, foreign occupation, attempts at destabilization of Governments, the armaments race and prejudices of all kinds impede the active participation of women in all fields of human endeavour,

Stressing with utmost concern that the arms race, in particular in the nuclear field, and the development of new types and systems of weapons, based on modern scientific principles and achievements threaten world peace,

Noting the importance of the mass communication media and the schooling systems in determining the attitudes and values of the community, as well as their great potential as a vehicle for social change which can exercise a significant influence in helping to remove prejudices and negative stereotypes, thereby accelerating the acceptance of women's expanding role in society and promoting equality,

4/ Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women ..., op. cit., p. 11.

5/ Ibid., p. 69.

6/ General Assembly resolution 37/63.

7/ General Assembly resolution 39/11.

Encouraging more active participation by women in national and international governmental and non-governmental organizations working for the strengthening of international peace, development and co-operation,

Mindful of the great victory over nazism, fascism and militarism in the Second World War, which effected in the founding of the United Nations 40 years ago, now constituting a unique opportunity for all States to reaffirm their commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Considering that the year 1985 is being observed as the year of the United Nations, in which the International Year of Peace will also be proclaimed, 8/

Aware of and concerned over the current state of international relations, which calls for renewed efforts to promote confidence and create lasting guarantees for a propitious climate of international relations,

Expressing its satisfaction that the implementation of the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women has significantly increased the participation of women in all aspects of the promotion of peace, including education for peace at national, regional and international levels,

1. Stresses that every nation and every human being, regardless of race, conscience, language or sex, has the inherent right to life in peace and that respect for that right, as well as for other human rights, is in the common interest of all humankind and an indispensable condition of the advancement of all nations, large and small, in all fields;

2. Reiterates that peace is a pre-condition of life and survival and that the preparation of societies for life in peace calls for a special kind of education, the ultimate goal of which is to bring about a situation in which all the future generations will not have to overcome the legacies of ignorance, intolerance and prejudices of the past epochs;

3. Recognizes the important role and historic responsibility of Governments, heads of State or Government as well as other statesmen, politicians, diplomats and civic leaders, both women and men, for the establishment, maintenance and strengthening of a just and durable peace for the present and future generations;

4. Reaffirms the determination of women of the world, who have an equal and vital interest with men to contribute to international peace and co-operation and establish lasting conditions of peace and international understanding and to actively participate in the preparation of societies for life in a just and peaceful world;

5. Stresses that preparation for peace starts with and in the family, the basic unit of society, where women and men should be encouraged to instil in their children the values of mutual respect and understanding for all peoples, tolerance, racial equality, sexual equality, the right of every nation to self-determination and the desire to maintain international co-operation, peace and security in the world;

8/ General Assembly resolutions 39/161 and 37/16 of 17 December 1984 and November 1982, respectively.

6. Appeals to all women, including in particular those involved in decision-making in the public and political life of their respective countries, to make every effort to discourage and eliminate incitement to racial hatred, prejudice, national or other discrimination, injustice or advocacy of violence and war;

7. Appeals also to women artists, writers, journalists, educators and civic leaders to act perseveringly and consistently with a view to implementing the noble ideas of preparing societies for life in peace, an important part of which is elimination of the bias and stereotypes prevailing in different quarters, inter alia by the revision of textbooks and school curricula and the adaptation of teaching methods;

8. Requests Governments, intergovernmental organizations, including those of the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and individuals to take every effort to encourage the participation of women in processes of education for peace, based on the General Assembly Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace and other important United Nations documents, and to provide practical opportunities for such participation;

9. Urges all States, in a joint co-operative effort:

(a) To ensure that their relevant policies, including educational processes and teaching methods as well as information activities, incorporate contents compatible with the task of the preparation of societies for life in peace;

(b) To provide women with new opportunities to become more closely involved, both on a national and international plane, in the process of preparing societies for life in peace;

(c) To give practical effect, in the form of appropriate legal acts, to the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights that any propaganda for war and any advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence shall be prohibited by law;

10. Invites Governments and international organizations to promote studies and publications on the involvement of women in peace activities, as well as on the role and great historic responsibility of women for the maintenance and strengthening of peace for the present and future generations;

11. Urges all Governments, national and international organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, the mass media, educational bodies and all individuals concerned, to strengthen their efforts to disseminate information on women and their contribution to the promotion of the processes of preparing societies for life in peace.

Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, India, Iraq, Italy, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, United States of America, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Yemen, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

International Youth Year: women's right to education

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.4, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 34/170 of 17 December 1979, 35/191 of 15 December 1980, 36/152 of 16 December 1981 and 37/178 of 17 December 1982 on the right to education and resolution 30, entitled "Promotion of equality in education and training", adopted by the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women (Copenhagen, 14-30 July 1980),

Aware of the paramount importance of the implementation of the right to education for the full development of the human personality and for the enjoyment of other fundamental human rights and freedoms,

Noting with satisfaction that according to the 1985 report of the Secretary-General on the status of women in the world, the gap in education between young women and young men is beginning to grow narrower,

Aware of the important contribution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to the full implementation of the right to education without discrimination,

Concerned at the fact that in some regions of the world a large number of young women do not fully enjoy the right to education,

Recognizing that the complete elimination of illiteracy is of special priority and urgency for the effective implementation of the right to education,

Noting the importance attached to the specific needs of young women in the recommendations formulated by the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year and approved by the General Assembly,

Welcoming the actions for young women at the national, regional and international levels provided for within the framework of the International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace,

Emphasizing the importance of education and training for young women and women revealed by the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development (A/CONF.116/4) and other Conference documents,

1. Invites all States to consider appropriate legislative, administrative and other measures, including material guarantees, to ensure full implementation of the right of young women to education, above all through free and compulsory primary education, universal and gradually free-of-charge secondary education, and equal access to all educational facilities;

2. Invites all Governments to adopt concrete measures, in the context of national policies, to ensure the educational and multidisciplinary vocational training of young women with a view to increasing their participation in and contribution to the overall national development process;

3. Urges Governments to take greater account, in organizing national education systems, of the need to offer young women effective opportunities in order to enable them to widen the choice of fields of study and professions, particularly in areas traditionally reserved for men;

4. Requests the regional commissions of the United Nations to undertake research into and studies of the difficulties in the field of promoting the right of young women to education and to contribute to identifying the most appropriate ways and means of overcoming them;

5. Invites all the specialized agencies of the United Nations, within their spheres of competence, to assign priority attention to the education and training of young women;

6. Commends the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for the inclusion in its medium-term plan of the question of the implementation of the right to education for all without discrimination, and requests the organization to continue increasing its efforts for the promotion at the universal level of the right of young women to education.

Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Gabon,
Japan, Niger, Nigeria, United States of America and Venezuela:
draft resolution

Assistance from non-governmental organizations to women and
children, particularly in drought-stricken countries

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.5)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the
United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Noting with satisfaction the activities undertaken by non-governmental organizations for the benefit of the developing countries, particularly their determination to come to the assistance of populations stricken by famine and drought,

Considering that non-governmental organizations are the preferred channels for collecting and distributing various kinds of assistance from individuals and bodies corporate,

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Noting, however, the ever-increasing number of non-governmental organizations and concerned at the risk of the dispersal of the efforts of non-governmental organizations,

1. Encourages all non-governmental organizations concerned to continue their efforts in behalf of such populations, in particular women and children in drought-stricken areas;
2. Recommends that those organizations pay special attention to the role of women in food production and to increasing the participation of women in the regions concerned in their projects;
3. Draws the attention of non-governmental organizations to the need to co-ordinate their activities and carry out concerted and integrated programmes.

Pakistan: draft resolution

Assistance to refugees from Afghanistan

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.6)

The World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace: Equality, Development and Peace,

Gravely concerned at:

- (1) The mass exodus of Afghan refugees, the majority of them women and children, who have sought refuge outside their country,
 - (2) The psychological, economic and political difficulties faced by Afghan refugee women and children,
 - (3) The vast magnitude of the social and economic problems posed for neighbouring countries by the flow of the Afghan refugees into these countries,
1. Urges the international community to make greater efforts to meet the immediate and special needs of Afghan refugee women and children and provide humanitarian assistance to the Afghan refugees;
 2. Reaffirms the right of the Afghan refugees to return to their homes in safety and honour and calls for a speedy solution to this vast humanitarian problem;
 3. Expresses its appreciation and support for the sincere efforts made by the United Nations Secretary-General to promote political settlement of the situation in Afghanistan in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly so as to enable the Afghan refugees to return to their homes in safety and honour.

Angola, Congo, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Dominican Republic, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Italy, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Philippines, Poland, Seychelles, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, and Zambia:
draft resolution

Elimination of discrimination against women as one of the most important conditions for social and economic progress

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.7)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.

Considering that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of any kind, including distinction as to sex,

Reaffirming that women and men should, on a basis of equality, participate in and contribute to the political, economic and social processes of development, sharing equally in improved conditions of life,

Considering the fact that a just and stable peace, social progress, the establishment of a new international economic order and the full and effective implementation of human rights and fundamental freedoms require the active participation of women, their equality and the improvement of their status,

Affirming the importance of the adoption by the United Nations of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, an instrument promoting the equitable and effective participation of women in all fields of the political, economic, social and cultural life of society at both the national and the international level, which is an indispensable condition for their social and economic progress,

Considering the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to be an important instrument of international law which facilitates the implementation of the principal goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Noting with regret that, in spite of the entry into force of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and also despite many resolutions, declarations and recommendations adopted by the United Nations and its specialized agencies with a view to furthering equality without distinction as to sex, discrimination against women continues to exist to a considerable extent in a number of countries,

Expressing concern at the fact that some countries still have not become parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

1. Calls upon the Governments of all countries to increase activities aimed at completely eliminating discrimination against women and providing them with the necessary conditions for social and economic progress;

2. Calls upon all countries that have acceded to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to make maximum efforts with a view to the speedy implementation in practice of all of its provisions;

3. Notes with satisfaction the work of the Committee of Experts on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, an important international body which promotes the improvement of the status of women and the guaranteeing of their equality and of their fuller participation in social and political life and in social and economic development;

4. Calls upon all States that have not yet become parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to ratify it or accede to it.

Belgium, China, France, Mali, Switzerland, Thailand and
United States of America: draft resolution

Women's health and well-being

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.8, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recalling resolution 38/27 WHA of the World Health Assembly,

Recalling that health is a global state of physical and mental well-being, and affects all the functions and abilities of the individual and the social group,

Recalling the goals of the strategy of "Health For All by the Year 2000",

Acknowledging that economic and social development presupposes and brings about changes in perception, life-styles, and behaviour patterns,

Fully aware of the importance of people's and individuals' cultural identity and the value, on the one hand, of traditions, and, on the other hand, of new ideas and practices which contribute to the fulfilment and well-being of populations and allow their active participation in development without loss of identity,

Recalling the importance of the role women and men play in the protection and promotion of family and public health,

Alarmed, on the other hand, by the risks, associated with some practices, both traditional and modern, for health and well-being,

Concerned in particular at the frequent and severe repercussions on women's health due to nutrition habits and certain other practices, notably during pregnancy and childbirth, but also during puberty or childhood,

Aware that in the majority of countries the general public does not know enough about the nature of the risks to the health or even the life of women presented by certain customs and practices,

1. Calls upon Governments to show greater concern for the reduction of maternal mortality rates and the elimination of harmful practices which have severe repercussions on women's physical and mental health, particularly during pregnancy and childbirth and also during childhood and puberty, and to this effect:

(a) To promote and enhance practices and technologies which have a positive health impact and to strengthen measures favouring this outcome;

(b) To give support to professional and other non-governmental organizations for activities aimed at encouraging people to give up practices detrimental to the health and welfare of women and children;

(c) To provide and distribute information on the inherent dangers of certain practices and to promote relevant training of field workers in public health, education and social welfare;

(d) To supply the necessary support and technical co-operation for the setting up and implementation of comprehensive programmes which recognize the physical and mental health needs of women and which take into account health affirming cultural and social values of communities and utilize wherever possible existing local structures;

2. Requests the international organizations, in particular the World Health Organization, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Fund for Population Activities, and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to ensure the dissemination, among Governments and populations, of available information and knowledge on women's health status and needs and to supply the appropriate technical co-operation for the implementation of programmes promoting the health and well-being of women;

3. Calls upon Governments, in co-operation with the World Health Organization, to implement resolution 38/27 of the World Health Assembly on women, health and development;

4. Further calls upon countries which have not done so to establish focal points on women, health and development to stimulate and monitor the implementation of this and complimentary resolutions.

Austria, Mali, Sweden and Switzerland: draft resolution

Women and children living in zones affected by armed conflict

(documents A/CONF.116/C.1/L.9 and L.67 amalgamated)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Concerned at the rapid propagation of foci of tension throughout the world,

Considering the difficult situation of women and children living in zones affected by armed conflict,

Determined to work for the maintenance of peace and the improvement of security conditions of women and children living in zones affected by armed conflicts,

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Recalling in particular General Assembly resolution 3318 (XXIX) (1974) and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1515 (XLVII) (1970) and 1861 (LVI) (1974), concerning the protection of women in periods of armed conflict,

Welcoming the inclusion in the Protocols of 8 June 1977 Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 relating to the protection of victims of international armed conflicts (Protocol I) and the protection of victims of non-international armed conflicts, of specific provisions regarding better protection for women and children (art. 76, Protocol I, and art. 5(2)(a), Protocol II),

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 32/44 of 8 December 1977, 34/51 of 23 November 1979, 37/116 of 16 December 1982 and 39/77 of 13 December 1984,

Concerned at the fact that many States have not yet ratified the Additional Protocols, which came into force on 7 December 1978,

1. Deplores the existence of armed conflicts throughout the world that principally affect categories of disadvantaged persons, particularly women and children;
2. Appeals to all countries engaged in armed conflict to put an end to them as rapidly as possible in order to create conditions of peace, security and development for women and children, who are the sources of life and the guarantee of the future;
3. Calls on States directly or indirectly concerned in armed conflicts to take the necessary measures to ensure the maximum protection of women, children and other categories of disadvantaged persons, who are most grievously affected by these conflicts;
4. Invites all States that are not yet bound by the Additional Protocols of 8 June 1977 to accede to these instruments;
5. Recommends the United Nations General Assembly to take every opportunity to ensure better protection for women and children, making it effective in all circumstances, in times of peace and in times of armed conflict.

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Congo, Cuba, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Madagascar, Mali, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Togo and Zambia: draft resolutions

Assistance to Sahrawi women

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.11)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recalling the principles enunciated in the Charter of the United Nations and particularly the right of all peoples to self-determination,

Recalling the inalienable right of all peoples to self-determination and independence in accordance with the principles enunciated in the Charter of the

United Nations and in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recalling the profound concern of the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity and the non-aligned countries about the completion of the process of the decolonization of Western Sahara,

Recalling the resolution entitled "Assistance to Sahrawi women" adopted in Copenhagen by the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Seriously concerned about the deteriorating situation of the people of Western Sahara, and especially of Sahrawi women and children, resulting from the continuing Moroccan occupation of the territory of Western Sahara,

Considering that the denial of the right of the people of Western Sahara to self-determination is the cause both of the alarming flow of Sahrawi refugees and of the difficult situation affecting Sahrawi refugee women and children forced to flee their homeland,

1. Reaffirms that the question of Western Sahara is a question of decolonization which remains to be completed on the basis of the exercise by the people of Western Sahara of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence;

2. Reaffirms that the solution of the question of Western Sahara lies in the implementation of resolution AHG/Res.104 (XIX) of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity and of resolution 39/40 adopted on 5 December 1984 by the United Nations General Assembly, which establish ways and means for a just and definitive political solution to the Western Sahara conflict;

3. Expresses its solidarity and support for the just cause of the Sahrawi people in seeking self-determination and independence;

4. Appeals for the immediate and unconditional implementation of General Assembly resolution 39/40 and resolution AHG/Res.104 (XIX) of the Organization of African Unity in order to put an end to the distressing conditions endured by Sahrawi women and children;

5. Calls upon women throughout the world to redouble their efforts at the national, regional and international levels to help the Sahrawi women to regain their rights to independence and dignity;

6. Invites the international community, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the international organizations concerned to continue and increase their assistance to Sahrawi refugee women and children in order to meet their vital needs and alleviate their living conditions until the right of the people of Western Sahara to self-determination and independence has been realized.

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Document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.82

Amendment submitted by the delegations of Comoros, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco and Zaïre to the draft resolution contained in A/CONF.116/C.1/L.11

Assistance to Sahrawi women

Fourth preambular paragraph

Replace the completion of the process of the decolonization of by the continuing conflict in

Sixth preambular paragraph

Replace the continuing Moroccan occupation of the territory of Western Sahara, by the Western Sahara conflict,

Seventh preambular paragraph

Replace flee by leave

Operative paragraph 1

Replace a question of decolonization which remains to be completed by a disturbing question to be solved

Operative paragraph 2

Replace resolution ARG/Res.104 (XIX) ... General Assembly by all the relevant resolutions of the Assemblies of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations General Assembly

Operative paragraph 4

Replace of General Assembly resolution ... Organization of African Unity by all the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and the Organization of African Unity

Operative paragraph 5

Before independence and dignity insert self-determination,

Operative paragraph 6

Before United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees insert Office of the and after Sahrawi refugee women and children insert duly registered by the Office of the High Commissioner

Bahrain, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait,
Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Somalia, Sudan, Yemen and Zambia:
draft resolution

Obstacles preventing women from practising their role in
realizing the aims of the United Nations Decade for Women:
Equality, Development and Peace, due to the continuation
of the Iraq-Iranian armed conflict

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.12)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the
United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Convening with a view to achieving the three goals of women: equality,
development and peace, endeavours to achieve those goals in an interrelated and
integrated manner,

Considering the fact that such armed conflicts constitute a grave threat to
women and children, cause destruction and devastation and have adverse effects on
the process of development and consequently on the efforts of integrating women
into such process,

Noting that the armed conflict between Iran and Iraq and its prolongation and
escalation and the great human and material losses caused by it in the strategic
area that is important politically and economically pose a danger to international
peace and security,

Conscious of its responsibilities of upholding the purposes and principles of
the United Nations with a view to finding a peaceful, comprehensive, prompt and
just settlement to the dispute,

1. Voices its deep concern over the continuation of the armed conflict;
2. Expresses regret at the prolongation and escalation of the armed conflict
between the two countries and the consequent heavy losses in life and property;
3. Calls upon the two parties to the dispute to:
 - (a) Arrive at a comprehensive settlement to the dispute by ceasing all
hostilities in all areas, including striking at civilian and economic targets;
 - (b) Exchange prisoners of war comprehensively and immediately;
 - (c) Withdraw their forces to the internationally recognized borders;
 - (d) Hold negotiations between the two parties in order to resolve current
problems between them through peaceful means in accordance with the United Nations
Charter and the principles of international law;
4. Calls for a response to Security Council resolutions and other
international initiatives in order to realize peace between the two parties and in
order to help women to participate positively in the process of development.

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Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Cuba, Democratic Yemen, German Democratic Republic, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Jordan, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mongolia, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Somalia, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam and Yemen: draft resolution

The obstacles that prevent the Syrian Arab woman in the occupied Syrian Golan from exercising her role in the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace

(A/CONF.116/C.1/L.13 and L.13/Corr.1)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Proceeding from the objectives and recommendations of the World Conference of the International Women's Year held in Mexico in 1975,

Referring to the objectives, strategies and resolutions of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, held in Copenhagen in 1980,

Referring also to resolution 38/108 of the United Nations General Assembly concerning the Preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, paragraph 4 of which states that, within the framework of item 7 of the provisional agenda proposed by the Commission at its first session as the preparatory body for the Conference, particular attention will be paid to the problems of women in territories under racist colonial rule and in territories under foreign occupation, on the basis of appropriate documentation from the international conferences on women, held at Mexico City and Copenhagen, with the theme equality, development and peace,

Recalling resolution ES-9/1 of the United Nations General Assembly dated February 1982 that declares that Israel's decision of 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan Heights null and void and of no legal effect constitutes an act of aggression under the provisions of Article 39 of the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 3314 (XXIX); resolution 39/146 B of 27 November 1984 on the situation in the Middle East concerning the Golan Heights and the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of August 1949; resolution 39/95 of 11 February 1985 on the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories, in particular part (f) thereof concerning the occupied Syrian Arab Golan Heights,

Taking into consideration resolution 497 (1981) of the Security Council which considers Israel's decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration in the Golan null and void and having no legal effect,

Taking note of the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights concerning the occupied Syrian Golan, the latest being resolution 2/1985 which also refers to the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 to the Golan,

1. Condemns strongly the continued Israeli occupation of the Syrian Golan and the continuing inhuman oppressive Israeli practices against the Syrian citizens in the Golan - both men and women - which prevent the Syrian woman in that territory from exercising her role in realizing the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, and which are considered a flagrant violation of the principles of international law, the United Nations Charter, international humanitarian conventions and the resolutions of the United Nations, and specialized international agencies;

2. Strongly condemns also the insistence of Israel - the Power of occupation - on imposing its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan Heights in contravention of the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council, and the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, which constitutes an act of aggression that directly affects the status of the Syrian woman in the Golan, restricts her progress and enjoyment of her rights;

3. Decides that the oppressive measures exercised by Israel, the occupying authority, against the Syrian woman in the occupied Golan and Israel's continuing attempts to impose the Israeli identity on her and on the man in these territories are considered an essential obstacle in the way of the exercise of the woman of her activity, freedom and rights in the various economic, social, cultural and health fields, and others;

4. Requests all States to take appropriate measures bound to compel Israel the occupying authority - to enable the woman in the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the United Nations General Assembly at its forty-first session about the condition of woman in the Golan.

Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Spain and Sweden: draft resolution

Women and development priorities

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.14)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Considering that the Decade did not bring about sufficient changes in women's material and social conditions, especially in the developing countries. The situation of the family and society is thereby influenced negatively,

Alarmed at the aggravated food situation, especially in Africa, where the existence of millions are threatened by hunger,

Convinced that women are an essential productive force in the economy including the production of food,

Recognizing that improvement of the condition of women is the pre-condition for a humane and progressive society,

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1. Calls upon the United Nations and the specialized agencies to strengthen the promotion and integration of women into all aspects of development and to plan and implement aid policy and development assistance with special emphasis on production-oriented projects, notably in the agricultural sector;

2. Urges Governments to involve in their national planning the specific concern of women and their role as active agents in and beneficiaries of development, particularly considering their role as a productive force, inter alia facilitating women's access to resources such as land, capital, training, income, employment, information and know-how;

3. Requests development aid agencies and donor countries to recognize women as a direct target group or as part of a target group, so as to secure that the planning of the form, level and scale of support takes women into specific and realistic account, and to ensure that the project in question in no way affects women negatively;

4. Requests Governments and aid agencies to acknowledge that the overall endeavours should be directed towards increasing women's economic base thereby promoting their self-sufficiency;

5. Urges the United Nations system and Governments to always involve target groups actively in the planning of a project in order to secure that local socio-cultural factors are taken into due account;

6. Further urges planners - on the recipient as well as on the donor side - concerned with the integration of women into development to carefully study the position of women in the local society, their means of production, legal rights, level of education etc. and, if necessary, to supplement development programmes with supportive facilities, for instance, kindergartens, credit scheme, adjustment of credit worthiness criteria and additional training;

7. Appeals to Governments, the United Nations specialized agencies and donor agencies to co-operate closely with non-governmental organizations, especially women's grass-root organizations, in order to promote awareness of programmes and projects and to benefit from their assistance in identifying needs, and formulating, presenting and implementing projects.

China, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, France, Gambia, Greece, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey and United Republic of Tanzania: draft resolution

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.15)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Bearing in mind that discrimination against women violates the principles of equality of rights and respect for human dignity and constitutes an obstacle for the political, social and cultural development of a country,

Reaffirming that women and men should, on the basis of equality, participate in and contribute to the development of a country and share benefits from it equally,

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

Having taken note with appreciation of the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women submitted to the Conference,

1. Invites States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women as soon as possible by ratifying or acceding to it;
2. Emphasizes the importance of the strictest compliance by States parties with their obligations under the Convention;
3. Requests States parties to make all efforts to ensure the effective functioning of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women;
4. Recommends that the Commission on the Status of Women should take into account the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in its activities related to the status of women;
5. Requests the Secretary-General to provide continued support to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women for the effective performance of its function.

Belgium, Cameroon, Denmark, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Liberia, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Rwanda, Senegal, Spain and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Future perspectives and equal opportunities

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.16)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recognizing the importance of the United Nations Decade for Women and the stimulus it has provided for improving the status of women at national, regional and international levels,

Bearing in mind the efforts remaining to be accomplished for improving the status of women and for ending the discriminations to which they are exposed in numerous regions of the world and at various levels of society,

Considering that legislative provisions on equal treatment are not in themselves sufficient to eliminate de facto inequalities existing in social structures and attitudes, if they are not accompanied by parallel and simultaneous actions, at all levels of society, to counteract the de facto inequalities affecting women,

Conscious, moreover, of the necessity, in a period of economic crisis, to intensify actions for women at both national and international levels with a view to promoting the achievement of equal opportunities in practice, particularly in respect of access to employment, vocational training and working conditions,

Underlining the importance of supporting women in developing countries with a view to enhancing women's work, improving their living conditions, expanding their role and improving their status in the production and development process,

Bearing in mind the resolution on equal opportunities and equal treatment for men and women in employment adopted by the International Labour Conference at its seventy-first session,

1. Recommends that legislative efforts to guarantee equality in law be pursued and that appropriate bodies with sufficient expertise ensure that equal treatment between men and women is respected;
2. Decides that positive action aimed at compensating for de facto inequalities linked with attitudes and stereotypes must be developed with a view to promoting equal opportunities in practice;
3. Calls upon all parties concerned to develop actions aimed at promoting diversification of vocational choices and desegregation of employment, in particular by encouraging women's participation in sectors and occupations in which they are under-represented and especially in emerging sectors linked with the introduction of new technologies;
4. Encourages Governments to adopt the measures necessary to ensure that the economic situation has no discriminatory effects against women and that the principle of the equal right of men and women to economic independence is respected;
5. Invites Governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and specialized agencies to pay particular attention to access by women in the developing countries to all aspects of training, to more advanced technologies, to credit and to co-operative organizations, as well as to appropriate technology aimed at alleviating the arduous nature of their tasks;
6. Requests that action be taken at the national, regional, subregional and international levels to implement the provisions contained in the forward-looking strategies of implementation for the advancement of women and concrete measures to overcome obstacles to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women for the period 1986 to the year 2000: Equality, Development and Peace;
7. Recommends that such action be regularly assessed at all levels;
8. Recommends to the General Assembly that it adopt at its fortieth regular session, in the light of the results of the World Conference, the appropriate measures to put into effect the above-mentioned action programmes;
9. Recommends to the General Assembly that at its fortieth regular session, instruct the Commission on the Status of Women to continue its work in line with the decisions which the General Assembly may take, particularly with regard to the periodicity of its sessions.

Argentina, Australia, Egypt, India, Indonesia, New Zealand,
Peru, Spain, Sri Lanka and Tunisia: draft resolution

Increased participation of women in United Nations activities in
the field of peace, disarmament and arms limitation

(document A/CONF.115/C.1/L.17)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United
Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.

Bearing in mind the long-standing commitment of the United Nations to the equal rights of women and men as expressed in the Preamble to the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and, in particular, Article 8 of the Charter of the United Nations on the eligibility of men and women to participate in the work of the Organization,

Recalling also that the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women affirms that the Strengthening of international peace and security, the relaxation of international tension, mutual co-operation among all States irrespective of their social and economic systems, general and complete disarmament and, in particular, nuclear disarmament under strict and effective international control, the affirmation of the principles of justice, equality and mutual benefit in relations among countries and the realization of the right of peoples under alien and colonial domination and foreign occupation to self-determination and independence, as well as respect for national sovereignty and territorial integrity, will promote social progress and development and, as a consequence, will contribute to the attainment of full equality between men and women,

Recognizing the prominent role women have always played in the promotion of international peace and disarmament,

Welcoming the decision of the Secretary-General to designate, on a temporary basis, a senior official with the title of Co-ordinator for the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat of the United Nations, to review the situation of women in the Secretariat,

Urges Member States and the United Nations Secretary-General to support increased participation of women in United Nations bodies dealing with peace, disarmament and arms limitation issues, and to this end specifically urges:

(a) The United Nations Secretary-General to nominate women to the United Nations Advisory Board on Disarmament Studies;

(b) Member States to nominate women for the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship Programme to allow the United Nations Secretary-General to select a greater number of women for the Programme;

(c) Member States to nominate women for positions in United Nations expert and study groups on disarmament and arms limitation and the United Nations Secretary-General to appoint a greater number of women to these positions.

Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Democratic Yemen, Ethiopia, German Democratic Republic, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritius, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Poland, Syrian Arab Republic, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Contribution of women to the realization of the
right of peoples to peace

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.19)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recalling that the primary purpose of the United Nations, set forth in its Charter, is to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war,

Referring to the Declaration of Mexico on the Equality of Women and their Contribution to Development and Peace, 1975, and to the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, 1980,

Noting with satisfaction that the General Assembly in its resolution 39/11 of 12 November 1984 adopted the Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace,

Conscious that peace is one of the greatest hopes of humanity and that a major responsibility of every State is to attain and ensure the right of peoples to peace,

Aware that the strengthening of international peace and co-operation is one of the main conditions for further improving the status of women,

Noting the growth of the mass anti-war and anti-nuclear movement which is taking place throughout the world,

Reaffirming the increasing contribution of women to the strengthening of international peace and security,

Highly appreciative of the activities of international, including non-governmental, organizations in strengthening peace and security, in particular the initiative to hold a world signature collection campaign under the motto "For the Right of Peoples to Peace", aimed at ensuring the rights of women and children and promoting peace and disarmament,

1. Welcomes the Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace adopted by the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session;
2. Requests all Governments and international organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, to take appropriate measures to ensure the right of peoples to peace;
3. Calls upon all Governments to take effective measures to enable women to take, on an equal footing with men, their contribution to the realization of the right of peoples to peace.

Algeria, Australia, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Congo, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Finland, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, India, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Lesotho, Liberia, Nigeria, Peru, Sierra Leone, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela and Zaire: draft resolution

Women and health

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.20)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Considering that the total development of society requires the effective participation of all its citizens, men and women, in good health, and that all human beings have the right to health care and protection,

Considering that women constitute approximately half of the world population and that the health of future generations depends on their health,

Considering that situations entailing discrimination on grounds of sex, violation of the dignity of women, maltreatment and violence and the use of women as sex objects persist in many countries,

Considering that the appropriate and responsible participation of women in political, economic and social life is frequently hampered owing to:

- Their poor health conditions,
- Their limited access to health education,
- The fact that it is frequently impossible for them to occupy decision-making posts with regard to questions of health policy,
- Their limited access to preventive medical care,

Considering that in many countries of the world conditions do not exist that would enable women to exercise reasonably and responsibly the basic human right to decide on the number and spacing of their children,

Considering that the female population continues to carry the burden of health care of the family, a function that is in most cases carried out under unfavourable and inappropriate conditions,

Considering that comprehensive health care for women, with specific reference to stages and situations involving risk, such as childhood, adolescence, pregnancy, delivery, and old age, as well as the diverse forms of physical and mental handicap, constitutes the basis for the health development of women as an active element in society,

Exhorts all Governments, in the exercise of their sovereignty and self-determination, to make available resources under their national budgets for the development of health programmes that include:

1. Full access of women to medical and hospital care as well as to vaccination against communicable diseases, without distinction of age, race and economic resources;
2. The training of women for decision-making posts at all levels of national health policy, from the national to the local level;
3. Appropriate health education of the population, specifically women, so that they can acquire the necessary training to contribute actively to the development of the population's health;
4. The prevention of situations entailing exploitation, abuse, physical and mental maltreatment, injustice and disadvantage for women on grounds of sex;
5. Priority attention to women in life situations entailing risks such as childhood, adolescence, maternity and old age as well as physical and mental disability;
6. Comprehensive counselling and education to enable women and their partners to receive training related to family planning, in the sense of the sovereign human right to decide on the number and spacing of children, for which purpose the population should be given easy access to a wide range of effective, low-cost and scientifically tested contraceptive measures. In this context, special attention should be devoted to the prevention of adolescent pregnancy;
7. Particularly careful attention for pregnant women in order to contribute to the birth of healthy children and to ensure that the mother enjoys optimum health in order to carry out comprehensively the very important function of maternity for the benefit of new generations;
8. The implementation of studies and research on the state of health of the female population in order to establish guidelines for health policies consistent with genuine problems existing in each country.

Australia, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Fiji, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu: draft resolution

Health and well-being of the women of the South Pacific

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.21, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.

Recalling that the themes of the United Nations Decade for Women are Equality, Development and Peace,

Reaffirming resolution 37 of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women in Copenhagen, July 1980 on the health and well-being of the women of the South Pacific,

Gravely concerned that despite repeated demands of the peoples and Governments of the South Pacific for a nuclear-free zone, there has been persistent testing of nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices,

Deeply disturbed by the consequences of continued nuclear testing for the health and well-being of the peoples of the South Pacific,

Further disturbed by the detrimental effects of nuclear testing on the environment, of land, sea and air,

Recognizing that the health of women and children is of primary importance for the achievement of the aims and objectives of the Decade,

1. Strongly urges all nuclear-weapon States to cease conducting any testing of nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices, and any further dumping of nuclear waste in the South Pacific environment;

2. Calls upon all States to support the conclusion of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty to bring about the cessation of all nuclear testing;

3. Invites the World Health Organization to continue its ongoing study of the effects of nuclear tests on the health of populations, including the health of pregnant women and children.

Afghanistan, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Congo, Cuba, Democratic Yemen, Dominican Republic, German Democratic Republic, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Mali, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Poland, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Zimbabwe;
draft resolution

Fortieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.24, as revised)

The World conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Noting that the participants of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace have met in Nairobi in the year of the fortieth anniversary of the end of World War II,

Noting also General Assembly resolution 39/114 of 14 December 1984, in which the General Assembly declared 8 and 9 May 1985 the days of the fortieth anniversary of victory of nazism and fascism in World War II and of the struggle against them,

Recalling that the United Nations embodies the resolve of peoples to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war and to reaffirm faith and fundamental human rights and the dignity and worth of the human person,

1. Pays a tribute of respect to the women whose great efforts and suffering contributed to the ending of World War II and to the establishment of the United Nations 40 years ago;

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2. Expresses its conviction of the need for the active participation of women in the political, social, economic and cultural life of their countries as well as the advancement of their status;

3. Considers that the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace has played a positive role in enhancing the participation of women in the promotion of lasting peace, human rights and fundamental freedoms and in particular the fundamental right to life, liberty, security of person, and social and economic development.

Canada: draft resolution

Women and development: principles and priorities

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.26)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recognizing that development is a total process which requires the participation of both women and men in order to be effective,

Recognizing further the extent to which women have not benefited equally with men from the development process,

Recalling that the United Nations Decade for Women has resulted in important advances for women but that progress has been insufficient,

Considering that inadequate account has been taken by development planners in national Governments and in multilateral and bilateral development agencies of the role of women as contributors to economic development and social progress, particularly of the fact that the income of women is crucial not only to women's individual self-reliance, but also to raising the standard of living of the family, and to the overall development of the community and society,

Recognizing the significant contribution women have already made to national economies and the enormous resource they represent which remains untapped, particularly in less developed countries,

Bearing in mind the challenge to public and private sectors to find ways of fulfilling their potential by incorporating women fully in the economic process,

Considering also that while some development policies and programmes have had a positive impact on the social and economic condition of women, there have also been cases where the impact has been negative,

Aware that many countries have accepted commitments to the rights of women to participate in the process of development, and to benefit from its fruits,

Concerned, however, that lack of progress in building women's autonomy and raising their status has impeded their integration in development on an equal basis with men,

Recognizing the need to relieve the time and energy constraints on women in order to free their energies to engage in productive enterprise,

Noting with particular concern that insufficient attention has been given in development policies and programmes to the role of women in agriculture and food production, forestry, energy and water management,

Alarmed at the aggravated food situation especially in Africa where the existence of millions is threatened by hunger, recognizing in particular the extent to which women's lack of access to land and modern technologies has contributed to the problem and recognizing the capacity of women to solve food production problems,

1. Calls upon national Governments and multilateral and bilateral development agencies to make explicit their policies on women and development and in particular to ensure that sectoral development policies and programmes include strategies to promote the participation of women as contributors and beneficiaries on an equal basis with men;

2. Urges national Governments and multilateral and bilateral development agencies to give high priority to programmes and projects which strengthen women's autonomy, including programmes to stimulate the formation and growth of women's organizations and women's groups and to give financial and organizational support to their activities when needed;

3. Recommends strongly that in order to transform policies into concrete results that specific and reviewable plans of action be developed by all programming units in all sectors and endorsed at the highest organizational level; such plans should establish responsibility, accountability and timeframes for implementation, provide for monitoring and evaluation, establish quantitative targets and should include necessary support programmes such as staff training on women's role in development in all sectors;

4. Urges that in national development planning, priority be given to women's training and income generation, including the alleviation of women's time and energy constraints stemming from the demands of household work in order to free women to engage in productive enterprise and protect women from health-damaging overwork; priority should also be given to increasing women's access to and control over productive resources particularly title to land, credit, technical training and appropriate technologies;

5. Recommends that all development projects include a strategy to benefit women and that all project evaluations include an assessment of impact on women; to this effect, women in the project's target population should be involved in all phases of the project cycle from planning through to evaluation, and this at all levels from local to national;

6. Calls upon national Governments, multilateral and bilateral development agencies to consult with each other and with non-governmental organizations in order to co-ordinate and reinforce programming activities in support of women's integration in development;

7. Recommends that increased and co-ordinated effort be given at the national, regional and international levels to the improvement of information bases on women and development including sex - disaggregated statistics on a macro and micro level, action-oriented research as well as methodologies to identify and

monitor over time the extent to which financial and technical support is provided to development programmes and projects which improve the situation of women;

8. Urges that priority attention be given to women's participation in sectors where their important role has often been ignored in the past, such as agriculture and food production, processing, marketing and distribution, particularly in Africa where women have a vital contribution to make to the resolution of the critical food situation, as well as to other sectors such as water and sanitation and human settlements which are important to human health and well-being and to energy, forestry and protection of the natural environment which help sustain all people;

9. Recommends that review of progress under this resolution take place in conjunction with the review of the Forward-looking Strategies.

Afghanistan, Cuba, Democratic Yemen, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Nicaragua, Sierra Leone, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukrainian SSR, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

The role of women in the promotion of peace and international co-operation, for the removal of all obstacles to ensuring peace and social progress

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.27, as amended)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Reaffirming the noble purpose enshrined in the United Nations Charter to maintain international peace and security as well as the determination of the United Nations member countries, expressed therein, to save the present and succeeding generations from the scourge of war,

Welcoming General Assembly resolution 37/16 of 1 November 1982, proclaiming the year 1986 the International Year of Peace,

Recalling the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women, the Declaration of Mexico on the Equality of Women and their Contribution to Development and Peace, 1975, as adopted, the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, as adopted, the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation and the relevant resolutions on the participation of women in the struggle for peace adopted by the World Conferences in Mexico and Copenhagen as well as by the United Nations General Assembly,

Gravely concerned about the recent deterioration in the international situation, the existence of dangerous hotbeds of tension which pose a threat to peace, the preservation of colonialism, apartheid and racism in some regions of the globe, and the occupation of foreign territories,

Considering adherence to the cause of universal peace, justice and co-operation, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, to the struggle against imperialism and neo-colonialism, apartheid, racism, and all forms of racial discrimination and foreign domination, aggression, intervention, occupation and

pressure, to the acceleration of the process of self-determination of the peoples which are under colonial and foreign domination, and to the consolidation of national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of States as well as to the social and economic development of their peoples as an irreversible factor of world history and as necessary prerequisites for the elimination of inequality and discrimination against women,

Welcoming the contribution made by women to promoting international peace and co-operation, to eliminating colonialism, apartheid, all forms of racism and racial discrimination, foreign aggression and occupation and all forms of foreign domination, and to promoting the unrestricted and effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Noting with satisfaction that women all over the world, everywhere on the globe make efforts to attain harmony and peace, peaceful co-operation and, above all, the elimination of the threat of nuclear catastrophe,

Convinced that women are called upon to play an ever increasing role in the removal of all obstacles to ensuring peace and social progress,

1. Highly appreciates the tremendous contribution made by women and women's organizations of all countries to the promotion of peace and international security, the prevention of nuclear war and the removal of all obstacles to ensuring peace and social progress;

2. Calls upon all Governments to take special measures at the national and international levels so that women could contribute on an equal basis with men to promoting peace throughout the world and to removing all obstacles to ensuring peace and social progress;

3. Declares that the solidarity of all women is a vital element in the promotion of peace, in the elimination of the arms race, including the threat that it poses to the survival of mankind and is not merely a lofty ideal but rather the paramount necessity;

4. Acknowledges that the repressions in a number of countries against women and women's organizations participating in the efforts for peace, international security, elimination of the threat of nuclear war and national liberation inflict a grave damage to the cause of peace and constitute a flagrant form of discrimination against women as well as a violation of human rights in general;

5. Requests the Secretary-General in his report to the General Assembly on the International Year of Peace to pay special attention to the role of women in efforts for peace and international co-operation for the elimination of the threat of war including nuclear war, and the removal of all obstacles to ensuring peace and social progress.

Australia, Egypt, New Zealand, Spain and Sri Lanka: draft resolution

Disarmament, development and women

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.28, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Conscious that the nations of the world devote a vast and growing quantity of resources to armaments,

Recognizing the stark contrast between this huge expenditure on armaments and the vast unmet economic and social needs around the world, including hundreds of millions of people who in large measure lack even the basic necessities for a dignified and productive existence such as adequate food, housing, clothing, medical facilities and educational possibilities,

Recognizing also that the burden of poverty and under-development falls particularly heavily on women and children and that the goal of improving the status of women throughout the world is intimately related to accelerated economic and social development,

Noting the accumulating evidence of the negative economic and social effects of military expenditures on the present scale and, conversely, of the positive relationship between disarmament and development,

Noting in particular the conclusions of the Secretary-General's report on the relationship between disarmament and development,

Recognizing that disarmament and development are each vital goals in their own right and that efforts to promote development should not be made dependent upon the achievement of disarmament,

1. Urges all Governments to recognize and act upon the evidence that the arms race and its underlying causes are seriously retarding global economic and social development and thus placing at risk security both nationally and internationally;
2. Urges all Governments to contribute actively to the preparatory process for the proposed United Nations Conference on Disarmament and Development;
3. Urges Governments to take into account the views of women in determining their policies for the proposed Conference on Disarmament and Development;
4. Urges women to convey their views on the vital issues to be considered by the Conference direct to their Governments.

Australia, Belgium, Benin, Cameroon, Central African Republic,
Chad, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, India, Jamaica, Kenya,
Morocco, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Somalia, Sri Lanka,
Sudan, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe:
draft resolution

The promotion of breast-feeding

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.29, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recognizing that a nation's future depends largely on the health and well-being of its children,

Recognizing further that breast-feeding is the healthiest method of feeding infants, when feasible,

Considering that as in the past misleading information about breastmilk substitutes has created problems for women,

Considering further that it is essential that women who are breast-feeding their infants have opportunities to continue to breast-feed as long as appropriate,

1. Calls on Governments which have not yet responded to the issues addressed by the International Code of Marketing of Breast Milk Substitutes to take appropriate action;

2. Recommends that Governments encourage the use of locally available weaning foods of proven safety and nutritional value;

3. Recommends that Governments adopt ILO conventions and recommendations on maternity protection;

4. Recommends that national health authorities encourage the activities of breast-feeding support groups within the context of primary health care, and support NGOs, particularly women's organizations, in disseminating factual information to mothers about breast-feeding;

5. Recommends that national health authorities support the training of health workers in all aspects of breast-feeding;

6. Recommends that Governments and employers undertake appropriate measures to enable lactating mothers to harmonize their work and parental responsibilities.

Canada, France and Federal Republic of Germany: draft resolution

Responsibilities of Governments for the advancement of women

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.30, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recalling the proposals for action of the World Plan of Action for Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year, the relevant recommendations of the Programme of Action to realize the objectives of the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Convinced that legislative measures to guarantee equality of women and men, appropriate machinery for the integration of women in national development, and support for the work of non-governmental organizations concerned with the advancement of women, together constitute a highly effective means of accelerating progress in achieving the goals of the Decade,

Bearing in mind that discrimination against women violates the principles of equal rights and respect for human dignity and further constitutes an obstacle to the political, economic, social and cultural development of a country,

Acknowledging that the elimination of all forms of discrimination opens the way to equality between women and men,

Convinced that women make a significant contribution to the economic, social, cultural and political development of States, and that there is a need to strengthen integration mechanisms at the national level in order to ensure further progress in implementing the Forward-looking Strategies up to the year 2000,

Welcoming the significant progress made by many countries during the United Nations Decade for Women establishing national machineries for the advancement of women in a large majority of countries as documented in the Review and Appraisal of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace (A/CONF.116/5/Add.1),

Concerned by the fact that lack of adequate human and financial resources, as well as low status, lack of authority and limited scope of responsibilities still constitute obstacles to the effective functioning of national machineries,

Bearing in mind the increasing awareness of women of their rights and opportunities, the increasing activities of women's organizations and other NGOs during the Decade, and the instrumental role of NGOs in furthering the advancement of the status of women,

Recognizing that it is crucial that women come together to exchange views and formulate strategies for their advancement,

Recognizing that equal and fair access to all educational opportunities is the basis for ensuring fair and productive participation of women in the development of all sectors,

1. Calls upon Member States that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women by ratifying or acceding to it;

2. Stresses the importance of the strictest compliance by States Parties with obligations assumed under the Convention;

3. Urges Governments, in accordance with their own administrative systems of work, to make every effort to establish and strengthen national machinery to overcome the marginalization of women and accelerate their integration in economic, political, social and cultural development;

4. Recommends that such national machinery comprise political responsibility at the highest level of government; a general body responsible for policy co-ordination and development, promotion and advice on matters relevant to women in the formulation of overall national development plans; and sectoral co-ordination points responsible for the integration of women's concerns;

5. Urges all Governments to provide national machineries with adequate political, financial and human resources in order to strengthen their institutional base as the mechanism for accelerating the achievement of equality of women in society, their full and equal participation in the development process and their contribution to the attainment, maintenance and strengthening of peace;

6. Recommends that development assistance agencies respond positively to requests from national Governments for assistance to strengthen national machinery;

7. Urges Governments of developing countries to give priority within the contents of their overall requests for development assistance to requests for assistance to strengthen national machinery;

8. Recommends that Governments make every effort to support women's non-governmental organizations working to promote the status of women in accordance with the goals of the Decade and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;

9. Calls upon Governments to effectively secure the participation of women and women's non-governmental organizations in the decision-making processes at all levels through legislative and administrative measures, in order to bring about a lasting improvement in the welfare of societies.

Algeria, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Congo, Dominican Republic, German Democratic Republic, Madagascar, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela and Zambia: draft resolution

The role of women in society

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.31, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Reaffirming the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, as well as the importance of the Declaration of Mexico, the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women,

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Noting that the safeguarding of just and lasting peace, the prevention of the danger of a nuclear war and the achievement of social progress as well as the establishment of a new international economic order require the active participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation and in the process of development,

Considering that economic inequality, colonialism, racism, racial discrimination, apartheid, acts of aggression and interference in the internal affairs of others and gross and mass violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms constitute an impediment to the active participation of women in all spheres of life,

Convinced of the necessity to secure for all women full and effective enjoyment of the rights embodied in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the international covenants on human rights and in other relevant instruments in this field,

Reaffirming that the achievement of equal and full participation of women in all spheres of activities is an inseparable part of the political, economic, social and cultural development of all countries,

Bearing in mind that the efforts to promote the status of women in all its aspects and their complete integration in society go beyond the problem of legal equality and that deeper structural transformations of society and changes in the present-day economic relations, as well as elimination of traditional prejudices through education and dissemination of information are required with a view to creating conditions for women to develop fully their intellectual and physical capacities and to participate actively in the decision-making process in their political, economic, social and cultural development,

Recognizing the important role of women as mothers and their vital interest in safeguarding the right to life and strengthening of international peace and security,

Appreciating highly the increasing participation of women in political, economic, social and cultural life as well as in the promotion of international peace and co-operation and in safeguarding the right to life,

1. Appeals to all Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to pay due attention in their activities to the importance of all interrelated aspects of the role of women in society - as mothers, as participants in economic development and as participants in public life - without underestimating any one of them;
2. Appeals to all Governments to encourage such social and economic development that would secure the participation of women in all spheres of work, equal pay for equal work, equal opportunities for education and professional and vocational training, while taking into consideration the necessity to combine all the aspects of the role of women in society;
3. Invites Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to promote the creation of conditions that would enable women to participate as equal partners with men in public and political life, in the decision-making process at all levels and in the management of different spheres of life in society;

4. Urges Governments to recognize the special status and social importance of motherhood and to take within their special abilities and conditions all necessary measures to promote the protection of motherhood, including maternity leave with pay, and to provide security for their jobs as long as necessary with a view to allowing women to fulfil their role as mothers without prejudice to their professional and public activities;

5. Appeals to Governments to promote the establishment of appropriate facilities for child-care and education of children as a means of combining motherhood with economic, political, social, cultural and other activities of women and thus to provide assistance to women in their full integration in their societies;

6. Calls upon the United Nations in its future activities aimed at the realization of the objectives and tasks of the forward-looking strategies of implementation for the advancement of women for the period up to the year 2000 to duly take into account all aspects of the role of women in society.

Barbados, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Grenada, Jamaica, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, and Trinidad and Tobago: draft resolution

Support for women in island developing countries

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.34, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Mindful of the fact that many countries of the United Nations system are island developing countries,

Recalling United Nations General Assembly resolutions concerning island developing countries including resolution 39/212, which recognizes the difficult problems faced by island developing countries, in particular those which suffer handicaps due especially to their smallness, remoteness, vulnerability to natural disasters, constraints in transport, great distances from market centres, a highly limited internal market, lack of natural resources, heavy dependence on few commodities, shortage of administrative personnel and heavy financial burdens,

Noting the special problems of insularity including difficulties of creating efficient transport and communications links, the fragility of ecosystem and the difficulties encountered in the effective management of ocean space,

Recognizing further the specific constraints of small size, including small internal markets, with consequent diseconomies of scale, heavy dependence on one or few commodities or services, limited natural resources, limited ability to promote research and development in social and technological spheres, migration of skilled personnel, high per capita cost of infrastructure as well as inadequate infrastructure administration and other essential services,

1. Recognizes that in their quest for integration into economic activity, women in many island developing countries are constrained by the absence of a wide variety of options for employment and enterprise, thereby limiting their progress in achieving the goals of the Decade;

2. Notes that the consequent tendency to migrate adversely affects the stability of the family with attendant negative impact on society;
3. Recognizes that the difficult problems of island developing countries, including the lack of national infrastructure, impede the establishment and operation of social support services oriented towards the integration and participation of women in society, especially in the areas of employment, health and education;
4. Emphasizes the importance of increasing social support systems and activities in formal and non-formal education, vocational and professional training and in health services;
5. Calls for Governments to allocate increased resources for programmes which will expand women's options for employment and integrate them more fully into the development process through inter alia increased access to credit, increased training in science and technology for greater participation in agricultural and industrial sectors and improvement in entrepreneurial skills;
6. Requests United Nations organizations, including the regional commissions, specialized agencies, international financial institutions and the international non-governmental organizations, to take account of the specific circumstances and needs of women in island developing countries, especially with respect to resource allocation, technical assistance and training;
7. Requests continued support for research and data collection on the special needs of women in island developing countries;
8. Urges that all seminars or workshops on the situation of island developing countries held within the United Nations system include consideration of and recommendations for activities and measures to promote the integration and participation of women in development to the year 2000 and beyond;
9. Requests the Secretary-General in the preparation of the report to be presented to the forty-first session of the General Assembly in accordance with resolution 39/212 to examine the special situation of women in island developing countries.

Barbados, Canada, Japan, Kenya, Norway, Philippines
and Sierra Leone: draft resolution

Health immunization

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.35, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Bearing in mind the extreme financial and emotional strains that hundreds of millions of women experience as a result of the recurring illnesses, disabilities and deaths of their infants and children (these deaths alone are estimated at a million a year), with the full recognition that this condition is further compounded by the budgetary reductions in social services brought about by the economic recession,

Reaffirming the United Nations goal of universal immunization by the year 1990,

Calls upon all Governments, intergovernmental agencies, and non-governmental organizations to intensify and accelerate their efforts to provide nation-wide basic preventive health measures for all women and children, setting as one major target immunization against the six childhood killer diseases (tuberculosis, polio, whooping cough, diphtheria, tetanus and measles) and against tetanus for pregnant women in the context of primary health care. Where appropriate, immunization against rubella should be given to girls before puberty.

Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Spain and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Women and education, training and job promotion

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.36)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Noting that the number of women workers has nearly doubled during the latest 25 years,

Considering that women to a great extent still occupy the lowest paid, monotonous and automation-threatened jobs,

Concerned that the female unemployment rate is generally more serious than that of men, i.e. women are more often and for longer periods rendered jobless,

Aware that women's special lack of job opportunities is often the result of traditional and stereotyped views on sex roles, resulting inter alia in different levels of education between men and women, and in a lack of appropriate and specialized qualification of women,

Conscious that to some extent women's narrower choice of occupation and different level of aspirations plays a part in their weaker position at the labour market,

1. Calls upon specialized agencies, such as the ILO and UNESCO, to promote the understanding of the importance of women's equal admission to the labour market and occupation, on an equal footing with men, at all levels, including the top executive levels;

2. Appeals to INSTRAW (United Nations Institute for Training and Research for the Advancement of Women) and other relevant national and international research institutions to study the obstacles to women's equal job opportunities, and, if possible, to set forward action-oriented proposals aimed at reverting the uneven situation;

3. Requests research institutions to establish research by, about and for women, making more visible women's contributions and views;

90. 4. Calls upon Governments, other authorities, institutions, parents and employers to pay special attention to girls' school education at all levels and to opening girls' minds to new possibilities, with a view to:

(a) Broadening girls' choice of courses and vocational education and encouraging girls' entering into new fields of employment or fields previously the domain of men;

(b) At the same time securing that the girls/women pioneers are not by themselves and thus in an isolated situation, but making provisions for more girls/women to go together into non-traditional fields and thus enabling them to support each other;

(c) Changing negative attitudes towards the capabilities of female employees;

(d) Opening the eyes of authorities, social partners, teachers and vocational guides for the advantages of breaking down the gender monopoly in many occupations;

(e) Attaching special consultants on equality on the labour market to institutions responsible for assignment of work and employment exchange;

(f) Recognizing the use of positive action, for instance extra job training, as a provisional means to bringing about a more equal job distribution between men and women; and

(g) If necessary, changing the contents of jobs and occupations to better correspond with women's conditions, interests, values and expectations.

Botswana, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Italy, Ivory Coast, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, Pakistan, Rwanda, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zambia and Zimbabwe:
draft resolution

Women's contribution to food security

(document A/CNRP.116/C.1/L.39, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recognizing the major role that women play in producing and providing food,

Noting that cultivation of food crops and raising of small ruminants and poultry are often women's responsibility but are generally neglected in national and international assistance,

Recalling the resolutions of Governments particularly in Africa to place more emphasis on women's contributions in the food system and stimulate more action on their behalf as expressed in the Preparatory Regional Meetings for the United Nations Conference to Review and Appraise the Women's Decade, the Lagos Plan of Action and the Harare Inter-Governmental Regional Conference,

Recalling also the Declaration of Principles and the Programme of Action as adopted by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 34/14 of 9 November 1979, particularly with regard to the integration of women in rural development, (source: General Assembly resolution 37/59, fifth preambular paragraph),

Concerned that food shortages in many developing countries increase dependency on food imports and food aid while food self-reliance could be economically justified,

Concerned about the introduction of technology and changes in cropping patterns which often harms rather than benefits rural women and the cause of food security at both national and household levels,

Determined to increase rural women's access to resources and opportunities which can support the realization of their full potential,

1. Calls on Governments to:

(a) Reflect in government development plans the contribution which women farmers make to development, and the importance to food security of channelling more assistance to them as a priority;

(b) Give new emphasis in policies, plans, action and research to food crops and women's related responsibilities, in order to ensure food security;

(c) Improve the information on women in agriculture and its use particularly in connection with national statistics programmes with greater attention to adequacy of indicators and disaggregation of data by sex;

(d) Give emphasis to research into traditional foods, their production, processing, preservation, storage, marketing, nutritional aspects and modes of use and promotion;

(e) Endeavour to sensitize the relevant Ministries to the activities of rural women related to food security; ensure liaison between women's associations and central planning authorities in monitoring and co-ordinating the development of projects under the various Ministries, in order to avoid duplication and fill in the principal gaps;

(f) Encourage more women to participate in planning and decision-making processes to ensure that the above points are respected;

(g) Train rural women in the process of project identification, planning and preparation and monitoring and evaluation; consider liaison with non-governmental organizations as well as international agencies and donors in the implementation of this recommendation;

(h) Respect women farmers' needs for land and guard against deterioration of land rights they may already have, while working to promote ownership and access;

(i) Change existing laws and practices which may limit women's ownership and access to land itself or to better quality land;

(j) Establish programmes which make land available to women's groups for collective production and for use as collateral for services and inputs which may otherwise be denied them;

(k) Promote drainage and irrigation programmes for production of food as well as cash crops, and make these available to women farmers as well as men;

(l) Make necessary provisions for the development of appropriate tools and technologies for women farmers' tasks; and provide assistance to ensure the proper management and maintenance of equipment;

(m) Facilitate the provision of credit to women on an equal basis with men as individuals and in groups for all food production processes in the food cycle;

(n) Promote and strengthen women's participation in existing farmers' organizations and co-operatives both as members and in leadership capacities;

(o) Encourage decentralization and the delivery of extension and training so that it will be available close to rural women's homes, promoting women's centres where the need exists, and providing integrated services through these including day-care centres;

(p) Include men and women together in training and extension programmes wherever feasible;

(q) Encourage more women to embark upon training in agricultural subjects and sensitize male personnel to the special needs of women;

2. Urges the international community particularly specialized agencies with programmes addressing rural women in food security - such as FAO, UNICEF, ILO and the World Bank would want - to intensify their efforts and actions to consult and support rural women through;

(a) Continuing and strengthening their assistance to Governments for these and related activities for women farmers as the basis for food security;

(b) Consulting and co-operating with respect to policies, programmes and projects in relation to women in food security;

(c) Devising new approaches and mobilizing resources to support rural women in their role and contribution to food security.

Botswana, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Women and industrialization*

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.40)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Bearing in mind the significant contribution of women to production processes in both developed and developing countries and the impact of industrial development on women as producers and consumers of manufactured goods,

Considering the findings of the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development, and provisions of the Third and Fourth General Conferences of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, 1/ "Women in Industry" and of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, 2/ "Women, Science and Technology" on the implications of industrialization on the situation of women,

Considering that the economic recession and the changing technological environment in which industrial development is taking place strongly affect the participation of women,

Considering that the majority of women engaged in manufacturing in developing countries is employed in the small-scale and informal production sector where they struggle against social and cultural prejudices, lack of access to credit and the means of production and specialized training,

Considering that women in rural areas have been seriously affected by industrialization and have lost traditional income-generating occupations through industrial production of basic commodities and have been forced to become consumers where they were previously producers,

Recalling that women in the modern industrial sector are mainly concentrated in unskilled low-paid jobs with little upward mobility and are more vulnerable than men to displacement by the introduction of new technologies as men are generally given preference in training for the use of these technologies, and further considering the exploitation of women in export-processing zones,

Considering that women are still generally looked upon as supplementary income earners despite the fact that on average one third of all households in the world are headed by women as sole supporters of families, and consequently considering that existing obstacles towards equal access of women to training and employment contribute significantly towards a feminization of poverty,

* This draft resolution was referred to the Second Committee for consideration.

1/ ID/CONF.4/22, 11 April 1980, ID/CONF.5/46, 11 September 1984.

2/ A/CONF.81/16, 31 August 1979.

1. Requests Member States to take into consideration the different implications of industrialization on men and women and therefore involve women in the design of industrial policies and strategies;
2. Urges Member States to encourage and ensure equal access of women to technical training and education and to prepare girls and young women through vocational guidance and career counselling for increased participation in production and production-related activities at all levels, particularly at the policy and decision-making level;
3. Requests Governments to adopt policies to support informal and small-scale production sectors where women are concentrated and which play an important role in supplying basic needs for local communities and to ensure that women have equal access with men to resources and means of production and technical and managerial extension services;
4. Further requests Member States to promote appropriate technologies for the needs and situations of women so as to liberate them from unnecessary time- and energy-consuming tasks and thus enable women to engage in income-generating activities;
5. Requests Member States to monitor scientific and technological advances to industrial production to ensure that any resulting reduction in employment or in working hours is equally shared by men and women;
6. Urges Member States to involve women in the planning and decision-making process in science and technology and in all phases of implementation and to take special measures to employ qualified women at managerial levels and improve working conditions for women in science and technology fields;
7. Calls upon UNIDO and other relevant United Nations organizations, including the regional commissions, and national and international non-governmental organizations, and bilateral and multilateral development organizations to devise instruments and machineries to involve women and consider the situation of women in the design and implementation of their programmes and projects and ensure access of women to vocational, technical, scientific and managerial education and training.

Mexico: * draft resolution

The effects of the external debt of the developing countries on women

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.43, as corrected)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Considering that the majority of the developing countries are at present suffering from a serious financial, economic and social crisis which has placed them in a precarious situation leading to increasing deterioration in the situation of broad groups of the population and particularly women,

- * On behalf of the States members of the Latin American and Caribbean Group.

Bearing in mind that the problems of the developing countries caused by the critical situation mentioned are fundamentally aggravated by the growing and disproportionate external debt, the deterioration of the terms of trade and protectionism,

Gravely concerned at the negative consequences of the above-mentioned factors for the peoples of these countries and in particular for women, and at the difficult situation of these countries in meeting their international financial commitments,

Recognizing that one of the principal obstacles faced by the developing countries in their disproportionate external debt, for the servicing of which they must devote enormous sums of their export income and which have obliged them to adopt drastic adjustment measures that seriously affect their development targets, abruptly restricting domestic demand and imports at a considerable economic, social and political cost,

Recalling that just as there was shared responsibility between the parties involved at the origin of the debt, there must also be shared responsibility in the search for a permanent solution, which would benefit both the developing and the creditor developed countries,

Affirming that it is necessary to propose concrete and effective action both for the urgent and effective solution of the problem of the debt of the developing countries and for the full implementation of the measures contained in the Declaration and Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, which will benefit all peoples of the world, and especially women,

1. Urges the creditor developed countries to become fully aware of the need to find urgent and viable solutions to the problem of the external debt of the developing countries and to express their political will in that direction, by agreeing on payment conditions and interest rates compatible with acceptable growth rates in the economies of the debtor countries, which would contribute to the effective improvement of the living conditions of their populations and towards stimulating the process of economic and social development, which would help to reactivate the entire world economy;

2. Requests the Commission on the Status of Women to examine periodically the negative effects on the status of women of the critical situation in the developing countries that has been caused inter alia by the disproportionate external debt, by the deterioration in the relationship of trade prices, by all forms of growing protectionism and inequitable financial and monetary practices and to inform the Economic and Social Council at its summer sessions;

3. Requests the Secretary-General and the relevant organs and agencies of the United Nations system, particularly the regional economic commissions, to prepare the corresponding studies and to submit appropriate recommendations to serve as an input for the Commission on the Status of Women in implementation of the mandate specified in paragraph 2 and above.

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Bangladesh, Barbados, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Grenada, Haiti,
India, Jamaica, Kenya, Mauritius, Morocco, Nepal, Pakistan,
Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Sierra Leone,
Switzerland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia and
Zambia: draft resolution

Women, population and development

(text amalgamating documents A/CONF.116/C.1/L.45 and L.74)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Reaffirming the principles and objectives of the report of the International Population Conference in Mexico in 1984, which inter alia states:

- That the principal aim of social, economic and cultural development, of which population goals and policies are integral parts, is to improve the standards of living and quality of life of the people;
- The urgency of achieving the full integration of women in society on an equal basis with men and of abolishing any form of discrimination against women;
- That the ability of women to determine their own fertility forms an important basis for the enjoyment of other rights;
- That in order to provide women with the freedom to participate fully in the life of society, it is equally necessary for men to share fully with women responsibilities in the areas of family planning, child-rearing and all other aspects of family life;
- That it is important to raise the level of education attained by women as an end in itself and because of its close link to child survival and spacing;
- That too many, too close, too early and too late pregnancies are a major cause of maternal, infant and childhood mortality and morbidity;
- That in the design and implementation of fertility policies, Governments must respect individual rights while at the same time giving full recognition to the important role of the family,

1. Requests all Governments to provide all women and men with information and education about family planning and with access to high quality, safe and effective family planning services, including appropriate care follow-up. The family programmes should be integrated with efforts to reduce maternal, infant and child mortality, female illiteracy and steps to improve the condition of women in society;

2. Further requests all Governments to ensure that adolescents, both boys and girls, receive adequate education, including family-life education, with due consideration given to the role, rights and obligations of parents to changing individual and cultural values. Suitable family planning information and services should be made available within the changing socio-cultural framework of each country;

3. Recognizes and supports the innovative role which non-governmental organizations, in particular women's organizations, can play in improving the availability and effectiveness of family planning services;

4. Stresses the need to increase the quality of family planning programmes, and to that effect give priority to training and operational research, including research on socio-cultural attitudes and traditions;

5. Urges all Governments to ensure the participation of women in the formulation and implementation of population policies, plans and programmes, including family planning;

6. Calls upon the international community to assist Governments in implementing these recommendations and to increase support to ensure that women participate in and benefit from all population and family planning programmes. The United Nations system, particularly the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and the World Bank, as well as WHO and UNICEF, have a special responsibility in this area.

Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Dominican Republic,
Equatorial Guinea, France, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger and
Senegal: draft resolution

The Family Code

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.47)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

In view of continuing illiteracy in many developing countries and particularly among the female population,

Considering the fact that the female population is often ignorant of its most elementary rights, and in particular of provisions regarding family law,

Aware of the inappropriateness in certain States of texts governing family matters, inherited from the colonial past, in the light of social realities and mentalities,

Recommends:

1. That particular support be given by the international community and the institutions in the United Nations system to States wishing to set up a Family Code that would be consistent with realities;

2. That information campaigns be organized in these States in order to make women in urban and rural environments aware of the provisions of the Code thus worked out.

Algeria, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Italy, Liberia, Morocco, Paraguay, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela: draft resolution

Commercial publicity harmful to the dignity of women

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.50)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

In view of the moral aggression of which women are victims in the second half of the Decade owing to the mass communication media in the majority of countries:

- (a) By the use of their image as a sex object,
- (b) By the use of their image to stimulate the consumption of tobacco and alcohol,

Urges Governments to establish specific measures to eradicate from publicity harmful propaganda that affronts the dignity of women, offends children and encourages young persons to consume alcohol and tobacco.

Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Panama, Paraguay and Venezuela: draft resolution

Classification of women in census documents

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.51)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Noting that in the United Nations Decade for Women one of the recommendations of the World Plan of Action has not been fulfilled, namely, the one referring to the introduction of classification parameters to break down data on women in census documents,

Noting also that this recommendation is of the utmost importance for measuring progress in the integration of women in development,

Urges the Governments of the countries to make recommendations to their planning bodies so as to permit an improvement of census data collection forms, separating parameters on women, especially as far as health, education, and employment are concerned.

Cameroon, Central African Republic, Djibouti, Kenya, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mexico, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia and Venezuela: draft resolution

Women and shelter

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.52)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recognizing that adequate shelter, water and sanitation is a basic human necessity, and aware that one billion, a quarter of the world's population, do not have adequate shelter and live in extremely unsanitary and unhealthy conditions,

Aware that women and children form the majority of the population of squatter areas and yet are the most vulnerable to severe unhealthy conditions,

Deeply concerned that, in spite of increased action by Governments and international organizations, the housing situation for the poor in third world countries is deteriorating rapidly,

Concerned also that women in many countries do not have adequate access to land and security of tenure nor do they have access to credits and loans for upgrading their shelter, or to training and opportunities for livelihood activities to augment family resources for shelter,

In full support of the objectives of and programme for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, 1987 as endorsed by General Assembly resolution 37/221 of 20 December 1982,

1. Calls upon the women of the world to organize themselves with the aim to initiate, promote and implement shelter and settlement development and upgrading for the urban and rural poor in developing countries;

2. Urges Governments to give high priority to the development and upgrading of the shelter and sanitary conditions of the poor and disadvantaged through programmes that adequately relate to the massive scale of the problem;

3. Recommends that these programmes form part of an integrated and comprehensive shelter strategy which includes the upgrading and improvement of housing, water supply and environmental conditions, primary health care, education, training and income-generating activities, in particular for the urban and rural poor with special emphasis on satisfying the needs of women and their active participation;

4. Further recommends that Governments take appropriate action, through legislation and other means, to ensure equal rights and opportunities for women with respect to access to land and security of tenure, access to credits and loans for shelter improvements and access to services and public utilities, as well as to training and opportunities to contribute to family income for shelter;

5. Urges the specialized agencies and other international organizations, as well as financial institutions, bilateral aid agencies and non-governmental organizations, to co-operate with the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements in promoting and supporting the efforts of Governments.

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Australia, Bangladesh, Barbados, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, German Democratic Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Hungary, India, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Papua New Guinea, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Sweden and Trinidad and Tobago: draft resolution

Maternal mortality

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.53, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recalling the resolution of the thirty-eighth World Health Assembly, which called upon Member States "to show greater concern ... for women's physical and mental health" (WHA 38.27),

Concerned that complications of pregnancy and childbirth are the leading cause of death among women in many developing countries,

Emphasizing that data from the World Health Organization show that women in these countries, when they give birth, have a chance of dying that is more than 100 times greater than that of women in developed countries, and that these women run this risk many times during their lives,

Considering that most maternal deaths can be avoided through preventive care (such as prenatal and family planning services), the assistance of trained health personnel during delivery, and prompt medical treatment of unavoidable complications,

Urges Governments, in co-operation with intergovernmental agencies and non-governmental organizations, to make the reduction of maternal mortality and morbidity a priority, and to take appropriate action without delay within primary health care.

Central African Republic, Chad, Dominican Republic, Gabon, Niger, Senegal and Togo: draft resolution

Chadian women and children living in the armed conflict areas

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.54, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Determined to work for the maintenance of peace and the improvement of security conditions of women and children living in zones affected by armed conflict,

Considering that, in working out strategies of action for the advancement of women, peace, security and national independence are indispensable prerequisites for the pursuit of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women,

Considering the violence of which Chadian women and children living in the armed conflict areas are victims and the serious threat to their lives,

Considering that the advancement of Chadian women must necessarily be brought about through peace,

1. Deplores the inhuman situation suffered by Chadian women and children living in the armed conflict areas;

2. Appeals for solidarity to all the countries present and to women in the whole world to undertake new action to ensure that Chadian women and children living in the armed conflict areas should regain the peace that is necessary for their development and advancement;

3. Calls on the international community to give total support to the search for a definitive peace in Chad.

Austria, Dominican Republic, Finland, Greece, Pakistan, Spain,
Sweden and Tunisia: draft resolution

Unemployment

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.58, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Noting that the widespread unemployment results in increased hardship for the lowest strata of wage earners, and particularly for women,

Aware of the fact that working conditions and real wages and social benefits deteriorate as a consequence of the scarcity of jobs,

1. Requests States to consider measures to impede a further deterioration of working conditions and of levels of income, especially among low-income groups where many women are to be found;

2. Requests to eliminate segregated employment markets through special educational and training schemes;

3. Calls upon Governments to encourage job creating programmes in industries;

4. Calls for a general reduction of working hours without reduction of wages;

5. Urges Governments to take measures for an equitable distribution of job opportunities;

6. Demands that unemployed people should enjoy social security and should receive a satisfactory minimum income that should in a satisfactory way cover their living expenses.

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Cameroon, Dominican Republic, Hungary and Indonesia:
draft resolution

Participation of women in the process of restructuring international
economic relations on a just and democratic basis

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.60)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United
Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Taking into account that women play an important role in the economic development of their countries, as well as in the process of economic co-operation among all countries and peoples, and reaffirming the decisions of the World Conferences in Mexico City and Copenhagen, which emphasized the important role played by women in socio-economic development at both national and international levels and in the establishment of a new international economic order,

Referring to General Assembly 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, resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, resolution 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation and resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980, containing the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,

Considering that restructuring world economy with the emphasis on the new international economic order is one of the most important problems of our time,

Taking into account that the implementation of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace depends to a significant extent on establishing equitable international economic relations as an essential condition for comprehensive economic and social development of the developing countries and the world as a whole,

Taking also into account the deterioration of the international economic relations and the continuing world economic crisis, which constitute not merely a cyclic phenomenon but rather a symptom of structural disproportions marked, inter alia, by the growing imbalances and inequalities detrimental to the prospects of the developing countries,

Reaffirming once again that imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, apartheid, racism, exploitation, policies of force and all manifestations of foreign occupation and domination constitute a serious obstacle to economic and social progress and that the elimination of those factors is essential for economic development of all countries, improving the status of women, ensuring effective international economic co-operation and establishing a new international economic order based on equality and justice,

Reaffirming once again that the problems of women are also the problems of society as a whole and that they are closely related to the level, structure and pace of overall development and that slow progress in certain countries in improving the status of women results from inadequate economic and social development,

Emphasizing the importance of effective mobilization and integration of women in the overall process of development and of a full and meaningful participation of women in the social, political, economic and cultural life of society,

1. Emphasizes once again an urgent need for restructuring international economic relations on an equitable and democratic basis as a major factor for advancement of the status of women and the important role of women in this process;

2. Calls upon the Governments of all countries to take effective measures to influence the process of international economic co-operation, focusing on matters of substance and bearing in mind the need to resolve the urgent structural problems facing world economy and to promote the establishment of a new international economic order using for these purposes the early convening within the United Nations of global negotiations in accordance with resolution 34/138;

3. Considers that the objectives, strategies and measures to improve women's socio-economic status and their role in economic development should be an integral part of national development plans and of efforts to establish a new international economic order;

4. Recommends the Governments of all countries to take effective measures for organizing and implementing concrete programmes aimed at integrating women in the process of development in order, inter alia, to expand the participation of women in matters of international economic co-operation;

5. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to transmit to the Committee on the Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, as part of the documents of that Committee, a special report to consider the contribution of women to the solution of problems of restructuring international economic relations on an equitable and democratic basis.

Afghanistan, Algeria, Bangladesh, Cape Verde, Cuba, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, India, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Morocco, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Senegal, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Uganda and Viet Nam: draft resolution

Palestinian women and children

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.61)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Having been apprised of the situation of Palestinian women, particularly in the territories under Israeli occupation,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Recalling further the provisions of the International Covenants on Civil and Political Rights and on Social, Economic and Cultural Rights, and in particular article I of the said Covenants,

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Recalling the United Nations resolutions relevant to racism and racial discrimination,

Recalling also the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 and the applicability of this Convention to the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem,

Alarmed by the persistence of Israel in its policies and practices to deny the Palestinian people the exercise of their inalienable rights,

Affirming that such denial by Israel constitutes an obstacle to the development and equality of Palestinian women,

Expressing regret that the United Nations endeavours to convene an International Peace Conference on the Middle East in conformity with General Assembly resolutions have met with a negative response by some Governments,

Affirming that the establishment of peace in the Middle East and the attainment of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people enhance the opportunities for the development and equality of Palestinian women,

1. Demands that Israel, the occupying Power, abide by the above-mentioned Declaration, Covenants and resolutions and cease and rescind all its policies and practices against the Palestinian population in the occupied Palestinian territory,

2. Endorses the call of the United Nations General Assembly to convene an International Peace Conference on the Middle East in conformity with the provision of United Nations General Assembly resolution 38/58 C,

3. Calls on all United Nations organs and specialized agencies and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide immediate and adequate assistance projects which will contribute to improving the living condition of Palestinian women and children.

Austria, Dominican Republic, Pakistan and Somalia: draft resolution

Genetic technology

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.62)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Affirming that the decision of a woman to reproduce life should be left to the choice of the individual,

Considering that the desire to have children has led to new discoveries in science and research,

Aware of the problems that have arisen as a result of new scientific developments, in particular in the field of genetic technology,

Considering that the capability of women to reproduce life should not be infringed by political programmes which do not allow freedom of choice to the individual,

Taking into account that awareness should equally be promoted to the possibility that human organs could be used commercially,

1. Urges Governments to closely monitor developments in the field of genetic technology;

2. Urges further Governments to seek ways to guarantee the application of genetic technology exclusively for purposes that are accepted by mankind;

3. Calls upon Governments to draw attention to problems presented by the possible misuse of the reproduction of human life for profiteering purposes and by the system of surrogate mothers;

4. Requests Governments of all countries to take effective steps to prevent the commercial use of human organs.

Austria, Liberia, Spain, Tunisia and United States of America:
draft resolution

Sexual violence against women and children

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.63)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Taking into consideration that people in various societies are scarcely aware about sexual violence against women,

Recognizing the lack of public awareness of the detrimental effect of violence on the mental and physical health of women,

Gravely concerned about the fact that female children become victims of sexual abuse and violence much more frequently than is, up to now, generally being assumed,

Recognizing that due to potential public discrimination women often refrain from prosecuting the offender,

1. Calls upon Governments to take appropriate steps to protect, in an effective manner, women and children from any form of violence;

2. Urges Governments to take legislative measures in the penal law to ensure that women are not victimized again and criminalized as victims and that penal law procedures should prevent to the effects:

- That court decisions take into consideration the way of living of the victim before the assault;
- Should guarantee that a person of confidence attends the trial;
- Should enable the court to rule out the public upon the request of the victim;

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- Should protect the victim's privacy by a general prohibition to take photographs in court and a prohibition to mention the name of the victim in the media;

3. Requests Governments to provide psychological training of court members (judges).

Islamic Republic of Iran: draft resolution

Global concerns for peace and the plight of women

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.64)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recalling the principles of the United Nations Charter,

Considering and respecting the supreme human values and international laws and documents such as the Fourth Geneva Convention, 1949 and First Protocol, resolution XIII of 12 May 1968 and the resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations; resolutions 2444 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968, and resolution 2597 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, 2674 (XXV) and 2675 (XXV) of 9 December 1970 and resolution 3318 (XXIX) of 14 December 1974 which concerns the degradation of women's status and calls for the protection of women and children during periods of war,

With respect to the particular emphasis of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace on the issue of women in areas affected by armed conflict, foreign intervention and threats to peace,

1. Deplores the inhuman plight of women and children under the apartheid régime in South Africa and the usurper zionist régime in Palestine. The Conference hereby urges the condemnation of these crimes committed against humanity, especially women and children;

2. Condemns the superfluous expenditures of the arms race and its expansionist strategies into space (Star Wars) and urges the diversion of the expenditures to deprived parts of the world, in particular, the famine-stricken parts of Africa, wherein the lives of thousands of women and children are endangered;

3. Appeals to the international community to take the necessary and actual positive measures to protect rights of people living or residing in the non-military zones, with special consideration given to women and children;

4. Appeals to parties involved in war to refrain from taking women and children as captives, and subjecting women to sordid and immoral acts such as rape. The international community should not hesitate to condemn and punish the perpetrators of such crimes;

5. With regard to United Nations Security Council reports S/15834 of 10 June 1983 and S/16897 of January 1985 concerning the breach of international

laws and regulations, prohibiting attacks on non-military zones and residential areas, and concerning the crimes committed against the women (in Iran) by the Iraqi forces, the Conference strongly urges the condemnation of the aggressor.

Document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.79

Amendment submitted by the delegation of Iraq to the draft
resolution contained in document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.64

Replace paragraph 5 by:

5. Affirms the need for compliance with Security Council resolutions and other international initiatives designed to bring about peace between the two parties to the armed conflict between Iraq and the Islamic Republic of Iran, in order to save women in the area from the sufferings inflicted on them as a result of the conflict and to give them the opportunity of participating in the development process in accordance with the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.

Mali:* draft resolution

Namibia

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.66)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Considering the fact that 1985 marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Realizing that the United Nations Decade for Women is coming to an end,

Gravely concerned with the delay in the implementation of Security Council resolution 435 of 1978,

Deeply concerned by the perpetual sufferings of the Namibian women under the illegal occupation of the racist South African régime backed by its imperialist allies and further concerned by the utilization of Namibian territory as a springboard for attacking and destabilizing neighbouring States,

1. Demands the immediate implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 435 of 1978;

2. Condemns in no uncertain terms the racist régime of South Africa for its installation of a so-called interim government in Windhoek and declares it null and void and states that no recognition will be accorded either by the United Nations or any Member State to it or to any representative or organ established in pursuance thereof;

* On behalf of the States members of the African Group.

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3. Condemns in the strongest terms the forceful conscription of Namibian men from the age of 17-55 years into the racist army in order to consolidate and facilitate widespread repression throughout the country;

4. Demands the release of all Namibian political prisoners including Mrs. Ida Jimmy and Gertrude Kandanga;

5. Rejects South Africa's insistence on linking the independence of Namibia to irrelevant and extraneous issues as incompatible with resolution 435 (1978) and vigorously condemns the use of Namibian territory as a base to infiltrate into Angola and other independent neighbouring States by the armed bandits, recruited, trained and financed by the racist régime of Pretoria;

6. Calls upon all women of the world to support and assist all the bodies fighting to put an end to colonialism in Namibia.

Mali: * draft resolution

Refugee and displaced women

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.68, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General to the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women on the activities and programmes concerning refugee and displaced women,

Recalling all relevant conventions, resolutions and decisions adopted by the United Nations, regional organizations, in particular the Organization of African Unity on the problems of refugees,

Having also considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the programmes and activities concerning women refugees,

1. Expresses its deep concern on the painful conditions in which refugee and displaced women, mothers in particular, find themselves;

2. Appeals to all States Members of the United Nations to take all the necessary measures to eliminate the root causes that give rise to refugees;

3. Appeals also to the international community to give material and financial assistance to refugee and displaced women, in particular African refugees who constitute a considerable proportion of the refugee population;

4. Invites the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to increase its assistance to host countries in financing specific programmes geared towards women refugees;

* On behalf of the States members of the African Group.

5. Appeals to the international community, donor countries and funding agencies to give increased assistance to host countries to alleviate their burden by strengthening their existing infrastructures;

6. Urges those States that have not so far signed or ratified the 1951 United Nations Convention on the Status of Refugees, the 1967 Protocol on refugees, the relevant regional instruments, in particular the 1969 OAU convention on refugees, to do so;

7. Urges all countries to find durable solutions to the tragic situation of refugees;

8. Requests the United Nations Secretary-General to sensitize to the maximum world opinion on the condition of refugees and the particular problems of refugee and displaced women.

Dominican Republic, Mali* and Suriname: draft resolution

Front-line States

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.69, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Gravely concerned about the undeclared war being waged by the Pretoria régime against the independent neighbouring States,

Alarmed by the suffering imposed on the neighbouring States, especially on women and children as the direct result of the massacres and other acts of terrorism perpetrated by the South African racist army and puppet armed bandits,

Commending the front-line States and Lesotho for their resistance to Pretoria's military pressures and economic blackmail aimed at forcing them to abandon their traditional support of the struggle for the liberation of Namibia and South Africa itself,

Convinced of the imperative and urgent need for the international community to render more material and moral support to these countries in conformity with the relevant United Nations resolutions,

1. Strongly condemns the South African racist régime for the unprovoked and premeditated acts of aggression against the independent neighbouring States, and in particular the recent attacks against the People's Republic of Angola and the Republic of Botswana, Lesotho and Zambia;

2. Further strongly condemns the Pretoria régime for the recruitment, training and financing of mercenaries and armed bandits used to commit massacres and other acts of terrorism against the innocent civilian population of the front-line States, including women and children;

* On behalf of the States members of the African Group.

3. Commends the front-line States and Lesotho for their unswerving commitment to the liberation struggle in South Africa and calls on the international community to assist these States;

4. Demands an immediate cessation of all South African acts of destabilization and aggression against the front-line States;

5. Demands the immediate and unconditional withdrawal by all the South African racist troops from the territory of the People's Republic of Angola.

Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and Venezuela: draft resolution

Latin American and Caribbean women and the critical economic situation

(document A/CONF.115/C.1/L.70)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Considering that the majority of the Latin American and Caribbean countries are passing through a serious economic crisis, characterized by low rates of economic growth, high inflation, persistent unemployment, a restricted volume of trade and net export of financial resources towards the advanced countries, all of which has reduced production and per capita income to the levels that the region had attained a decade earlier,

Considering that in recent years the countries in the region have had to make drastic efforts for economic adjustment, being obliged to interrupt or restrict programmes directed towards improving the living conditions and welfare of the population, thus directly affecting women,

Considering that this serious situation originated inter alia from fiscal, monetary and commercial policies adopted unilaterally by the developed countries, without taking due account of their negative effects on the international economy as a whole and the economy of the Latin American and Caribbean countries in particular,

Considering that the crisis particularly affects women and especially those in the lower income groups, since it is they that bear responsibility for compensating for the reduction in family income and available social services by an increase in domestic work, while their level of health and nutrition deteriorate and they enter the labour market on increasingly unfavourable conditions,

1. Urges Governments to take into account in programmes of economic adjustment the urgent need to satisfy the demand of the female population for employment, health and education;

2. Urges the industrialized countries to:

- Put an end to the protectionist tendencies that have a negative effect on the developing countries' exports of manufactures, in the production of which there is large participation by female labour;

- Contribute to the stabilization of prices of raw materials, the decline in which seriously affects rural women in Latin America;
- Protect the labour rights of women working in transnational corporations, particularly in in-bond assembly plants; and
- Provide the best conditions for the reception of female workers who emigrate to the more advanced countries in order to satisfy labour demand, most of whom wish to return to their own countries when economic conditions improve;

3. Urges the Governments of the creditor countries and other interested economic agents to initiate a political dialogue in order to find a long-term global solution to the problem of debt and barriers to international trade. This dialogue will open the way for a search for stability and economic recovery which inter alia will make it possible to advance towards the expansion of employment and the improvement of health and education for the women of Latin America, who have the right to demand that genuine equality, development and peace are achieved by the year 2000;

4. Appeals to the solidarity of all women so that, according to their special circumstances, they may recognize the joint responsibility of the creditor and debtor countries for the present economic crisis in Latin America and the need for equitable sharing of the costs of economic adjustment.

Bangladesh, Cameroon, China, Democratic Kampuchea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Indonesia, Ivory Coast, Japan, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:
draft resolution

Women and the environment

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.71)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Notes with appreciation the activities of Governments, non-governmental and international organizations, particularly the United Nations Environmental Programme, to protect, enhance, improve and manage more effectively the environment,

Recognizes that significant progress has been made since the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held in Stockholm in 1972, in the identification of environmental problems, the institutional and technical measures for resolving these problems, as well as the understanding of the interrelationships between people, development, resources and environment,

Conscious that development must not only increase standards of living, but must also improve the quality of life for men and women equally,

Agrees that development must not destroy the ecological base on which critical life support systems, such as water, soil, forests, on which human survival is dependent,

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1. Urges women to be more conscious of the crucial role they play in environmental and natural resource management;

2. Requests international organizations, particularly the United Nations Environment Programme, to provide information on how women can play an active role in combating serious environmental problems such as desertification, deforestation, depletion of plant genetic resources, proliferation of hazardous chemicals and mismanagement of water resources, water pollution, urban noise and air pollution as well as in preventing the wasteful use of resources in the home, agriculture, commerce and industry;

3. Recommends government, bilateral and multilateral funding agencies to adequately take environmental considerations into account in development projects and, where appropriate, assess the environmental impact of such projects, particularly during feasibility studies and project planning stages;

4. Further recommends that in addition to economic criteria for evaluation of projects, societal benefits must also be included, specifically assessment of the participation of and impact upon women;

5. Calls upon Governments to promote, adopt and implement sustainable development policies that, while promoting development, will ensure that natural resources are rationally used and prudently conserved as well as the environment protected, for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.

Japan, Pakistan and Sierra Leone: draft resolution

Reporting system on the advancement of women

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.72)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.

Recalling resolutions 3520 (XXX) and 33/186 which stressed the crucial importance of a reporting system for the effective implementation of the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women,

Taking into account resolution 40 of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace and Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/20 on the need to strengthen future work of the Commission on the Status of Women,

Considering both the considerable effort required from Member States and the various components of the United Nations system in order to answer increasingly complex and diversified questionnaires and the need to streamline the present reporting channels in order to ensure a more effective integrated reporting system,

1. Requests that the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-first session consider ways and means of ensuring a more efficient integrated system and that the inter-agency meeting convened by the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs/Branch for the Advancement of Women, acting as focal point of the United Nations system, establish appropriate reporting procedures accordingly;

2. Requests, meanwhile, that in order to permit the Commission on the Status of Women to have a complete picture of all issues pertaining to the advancement of women, all reports on such issues presented directly to the General Assembly or to other Commissions of the Economic and Social Council be submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women for its information;

3. Recommends that questionnaires for the reporting be prepared with the assistance of selected national machineries.

Australia, Cameroon, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Guinea, Iceland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Netherlands, Niger, Norway, Pakistan, Rwanda, Senegal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Women and development: principles and priorities

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.76)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recognizing that development is a total process which requires the participation of both women and men in order to be effective,

Recognizing further the extent to which women have not benefited equally with men from the development process,

Recalling that the United Nations Decade for Women has resulted in important advances for women but that progress has been insufficient,

Considering that inadequate account has been taken by development planners in national Governments and in multilateral and bilateral development agencies of the role of women as contributors to economic development and social progress, particularly of the fact that the income of women is crucial not only to women's individual self-reliance but also to raising the standard of living of the family, and to the overall development of the community and society,

Recognizing the significant contribution women have already made to national economies and that the resource which they represent remains only partially tapped,

Bearing in mind the challenge to public and private sectors to find ways of fulfilling their potential by incorporating women fully in the economic process,

Considering also that while some development policies and programmes have had a positive impact on the social and economic condition of women, there have also been cases where the impact has been negative,

Aware that many countries have accepted commitments to the rights of women to participate in the process of development, and to benefit from its fruits,

Concerned, however, that lack of progress in building women's autonomy and raising their status has impeded their integration in development on an equal basis with men,

Recognizing the need to relieve the time and energy constraints on women in order to free their energies to engage in productive enterprise,

Noting with particular concern that insufficient attention has been given in development policies and programmes to the role of women in agriculture and food production, forestry, energy and water management,

Alarmed at the aggravated food situation especially in Africa where the existence of millions is threatened by hunger, recognizing in particular the extent to which women's lack of access to land and modern technologies has contributed to the problem and recognizing the capacity of women to make a vital contribution to the solution of food production problems,

1. Calls upon national Governments and multilateral and bilateral development agencies to make explicit their policies on women and development and in particular to ensure that sectoral development policies and programmes include strategies to promote the participation of women as contributors and beneficiaries on an equal basis with men;

2. Urges national Governments and multilateral and bilateral development agencies to give high priority to programmes and projects which strengthen women's autonomy, including programmes to stimulate the formation and growth of women's organizations and women's groups and to give financial and organizational support to their activities when needed;

3. Recommends strongly that in order to transform policies into concrete results that specific and reviewable plans of action be developed by all programming units in all sectors and endorsed at the highest organizational level; such plans should establish responsibility, accountability and timeframes for implementation, provide for monitoring and evaluation, establish quantitative targets and should include necessary support programmes such as staff training on women's role in development in all sectors;

4. Urges that in national development planning, priority be given to women's training and income generation, including the alleviation of women's time and energy constraints stemming from the demands of household work in order to free women to engage in productive enterprise and protect women from health-damaging overwork; priority should also be given to increasing women's access to and control over productive resources particularly title to land, credit, technical training and appropriate technologies, and if necessary to supplement development programmes with support services, e.g. day care and nursery schools, adjustment of credit-worthiness criteria and additional special measures such as training, to set women on an equal footing with men;

5. Recommends that all development projects include a strategy to benefit women and that all project evaluations include an assessment of impact on women; to this effect, women in the project's target population should be involved in all phases of the project cycle from planning through evaluation, and this at all levels from local to national;

6. Calls upon national Governments, multilateral and bilateral development agencies to co-ordinate with each other and with non-governmental organizations, especially women's grass-root organizations, in order to benefit from their assistance in identifying needs and formulating projects, and to ensure that women's integration into development is based on women's own priorities;

7. Recommends that increased and co-ordinated effort be given at the national, regional and international levels to the improvement of information bases on women and development, including detailed studies of the position of women in the local society, their access to and control over means of production, legal and de facto rights, level of education, prevailing cultural factors, etc. The studies should contain sex-disaggregated statistics on a macro and micro level, action-oriented research as well as methodologies to identify and monitor over time the extent to which financial and technical support is provided to development programmes and projects which improve the situation of women;

8. Urges that priority attention be given to women's participation in sectors where their important role has often been ignored in the past, such as agriculture and food production, processing, marketing and distribution, particularly in Africa where women have a vital contribution to make to the resolution of the critical food situation, as well as to other sectors such as water and sanitation and human settlements which are important to human health and well-being and to energy, forestry and protection of the natural environment which help sustain all people;

9. Recommends that review of progress under this resolution take place in conjunction with the review of the Forward-looking Strategies.

Dominican Republic, Japan, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines,
Republic of Korea, Somalia, Thailand and United States of
America: draft resolution

Refugee and displaced women

(text amalgamating documents A/CONF.115/C.1/L.33, L.38 and L.77)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Noting the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

Recalling previous calls for implementation of relevant United Nations resolutions posing solutions to those international situations which have given rise to the problem of refugees, thereby creating conditions enabling safe and honourable repatriation,

Noting with regret that, despite efforts by the international community and the agencies concerned of the United Nations system, there has been a lack of progress in finding solutions to such situations,

Noting with great concern that refugees and displaced persons continue to flee their countries in great numbers and that women and children constitute a vast majority among them,

Bearing in mind the various root causes which have brought about nearly 10 million refugees and many more displaced persons in the world today,

Recognizing that, in the various parts of the world where there are refugee and displaced women and their children, special needs continue to exist for their relief, physical security, rehabilitation, voluntary repatriation, and resettlement,

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Noting with appreciation the special programmes being implemented by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in recognition of such special needs and interests of refugee women and their children,

Aware that a large number of refugee women are found in developing countries of South and South-East Asia, the Middle East, Africa and Latin America, and that an excessively heavy burden has been placed on the economies and infrastructures of these developing countries, particularly the first asylum countries, adversely affecting their economic and social development, as well as their security and stability,

Recognizing that these countries cannot by themselves bear the heavy burden of providing adequate shelter, protection from rape and other forms of sexual violence, nutrition, health care, education and employment opportunities,

Noting with appreciation the role played by the voluntary humanitarian non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental organizations, the International Red Cross, the United Nations system and in particular the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Programme in rendering assistance to the best of their limited resources,

Noting also with appreciation the humanitarian aid extended both bilaterally and through the United Nations system by many Member States,

1. Strongly opposes all acts of violation of the United Nations Charter and international law, particularly the denial of the right of people to self-determination and independence and the use of force by foreign aggressors and their occupation, which are recognized as major root causes of the refugees and displaced persons problem;

2. Strongly urges Governments, in co-operation with the United Nations agencies' durable solutions to the problems of refugees, to take all necessary measures to create conditions of peace leading to their voluntary return to their homes in safety and honour;

3. Calls for the renewed commitment of all States, particularly in light of the auspicious occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations, for the full implementation of the major relevant United Nations conventions and resolutions that relate to situations which gave rise to the problems of refugees and displaced persons;

4. Reaffirms the principle of international solidarity and burden-sharing in responding to the refugee problem, particularly in view of the heavy burden borne by receiving countries on account of the presence of large numbers of refugees and displaced persons, the majority of whom are women and children;

5. Urges all States to extend all possible humanitarian assistance to ensure that the needs of refugees and displaced persons notably women and children are adequately met and their interests safeguarded;

6. Urges the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, bearing in mind its overriding commitment to ensure the well-being of all refugees, to draw upon the expertise of all concerned United Nations bodies and, in consultation with countries of first asylum and resettlement countries, to carry

out detailed studies and research with a view to developing and implementing further special programmes dealing with all facets of the relief effort which should be especially directed to the critical needs of displaced and refugee women, and requests the Office of the High Commissioner to report annually to the Executive Committee on the status, the progress and the implementation of these resolutions;

7. Further recommends that the High Commissioner ensure that the number of women at all levels on his/her staff, particularly in the field, is increased so as to ensure a better response to the needs of refugee women;

8. Requests the United Nations Secretary-General, in conjunction with the High Commissioner for Refugees, to report to the United Nations General Assembly at its forty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Belgium, Benin, Cameroon, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Haiti, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Morocco, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, and United States of America:
draft resolution

Women and education: perspectives for the year 2000

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.78, amalgamating documents A/CONF.116/C.1/L.1, L.2, L.18, L.49, L.73 and L.75)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Aware that the fundamental human right to education carries with it full guarantee, on the basis of equality, irrespective of sex as a necessary ingredient to social, cultural, technological, and economic progress of any nation,

Mindful of the crucial role of education as a decisive factor in the development of each country,

Reaffirming that each country is responsible for its national development plans and programmes and accordingly for its educational plans, programmes and projects,

Considering that women and men should have equal access to all levels of formal, non-formal and vocational training in all sectors, both urban and rural,

Acknowledging that the training of women and girls in new technologies is particularly important and that the training and exposure of women to leadership roles by drawing out the full potential of women is urgent,

Recalling that attitudinal constraints constitute major impediments to the achievement of educational equality as stressed in the World Plan of Action adopted at Mexico City in 1975 and reiterated in the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, adopted at Copenhagen in 1980,

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Gravely disturbed by the fact that because of traditional attitudes towards women (sex-role stereotyped), women suffer disproportionately from poverty due to low level of employment, low priority on promotions for women who are equally deserving and qualified,

Notes with concern that women, by virtue of their gender, experience discrimination in terms of denial of equal access to the power structure that controls society and determines development issues,

Notes with grave concern the high rates of illiteracy and school drop-outs among young girls and women and the continued low levels of female participation in formal and adult education programmes in many countries which in turn hinder women's opportunities to benefit from and participate in the developmental process,

Fully convinced that a major obstacle to women's full participation in society is the contrast between policy or legislative changes and effective implementation of these changes and further convinced that de facto and indirect discrimination persist despite legislative actions,

Recognizing the urgency to achieve by the year 2000, complete elimination of stereotyped roles and negative perceptions of and attitudes towards women; and recognizing further the important role that respective Governments as well as international organizations and non-governmental organizations have to play in the promotion of equality,

1. Urges Member States and relevant United Nations agencies, particularly the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to adopt as a priority area in their agenda, the increased and accelerated access of women, particularly in developing countries, the leadership training and exposure of women in economic and financial, scientific and technological fields to facilitate and accelerate their actual and equal participation with men as policy- and decision-makers, policy formulators, educational planners, contributors and innovators in the economic, scientific and social development of their countries; that the commitment should guide the effective implementation of policies, plans, programmes, and projects coupled with the conviction that development projects of every country will be improved and society advanced if the full potentials of women are optimized;

2. Recommends that Member States and non-governmental organizations intensify efforts to substantial and continuing improvement in educating people (especially parents), through the mass media, in the portrayal of women, projecting them as intellectuals, leaders, executives, innovators, inventors, politicians and active participants;

3. Also recommends that Member States, if they have not done so, adopt policies to continuously evaluate and update textbooks, instructional materials, curricula at all levels, and if necessary, to rewrite or redesign them to ensure that the image of women is reflected as positive, dynamic and participatory;

4. Requests Member States to adopt in their educational plans and programmes, an expanded in-service and pre-service training of teachers and guidance counsellors in all levels and in all types of schools in sensitizing them to the problems which impede educational equality, training and providing them with proper perspective and instructional materials to eliminate sex-role stereotyping and thus enable them to develop successfully among their students, certain values and attitudes and ultimately change their behaviour;

5. Also requests that Member States take immediate steps, if they have not done so, to facilitate and monitor the access of women and girls in all levels desiring to re-enter formal education or professional life, by developing continuing or life-long educational programmes; accrediting (through examinations or other strategies) non-formal and informal learnings;

6. Further recommends Member States to take into account in their educational plans, supporting measures of adopting flexible entry and re-entry to formal schooling, flexible time schedules in the education facilities to enable women who in the discharge of their fundamental roles as wives and mothers, normally face tremendous constraints;

7. Encourages Member States and non-governmental institutions to intensify research activities, by identifying discriminatory practices so as to chart future directions making realistic targets towards their eradication; by investigating the discrepancy between the law and implementation phase, and by identifying factors that would prohibit participation of women in educational programmes and to formulate measures to overcome such barriers;

8. Encourages further Governments and non-governmental organizations and institutions to promote increased enrolment of women in technical and vocational training institutes and centres including intermediate technical courses in plans and programmes for intermediate, formal and non-formal education; and to expand and allocate equitably to girls and boys scholarships and grants, including educational loan packages with special emphasis to the disadvantaged girls and women, to encourage them to pursue their studies suited to their capabilities, particularly encouraging them to receive technical and professional training, particularly in the fields that have been traditionally men-oriented, monitor their progress and placement, job recruitment and promotions to ensure that equality between men and women is achieved;

9. Calls upon Member States which have not yet done so, to adopt innovative measures and programmes to enable them to achieve the highest literacy rate (women and men), if possible up to 100 per cent by the year 2000; and calls upon Member States to support adult literacy training, drawing upon governmental and non-governmental organizations as appropriate, to develop adult learning generally and adult literacy and basic skills specifically; including the production of appropriate teaching materials for literacy and post-literacy courses;

10. Calls upon appropriate international organizations to facilitate an exchange of gathering and dissemination of information regarding programmes and practices, technical assistance, evaluation of programme effectiveness and promotion of dialogue and communication among the myriad providers of literacy training, to develop a clearer international understanding of the problems and possibilities related to adult literacy;

11. Urges Governments, interested United Nations bodies, particularly the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and non-governmental organizations to support programmes of women's organizations directed to promote non-formal educational activities, addressed to the education of women about their rights and possibilities of full participation in society;

12. Calls upon Member States to continue prioritizing education in the national budgets so that education can contribute more fully as the driving force in the elimination of present shortcomings and inequalities, thereby achieving substantially the full potential of women in nation-building.

Dominican Republic and Mali:* draft resolution

Apartheid

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.80)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Having considered the report on the future strategies, and in particular the section on equality, peace and other areas of special concern,

Having heard the statements made by the representatives of the South African liberation movements on the condition of women under the apartheid régime,

Considering that the African majority in South Africa are oppressed economically, socially and politically by the racist white minority régime,

Recalling that apartheid has been rightly denounced by the General Assembly of the United Nations as a crime against humanity, and a threat to peace and international security,

Gravely disturbed by the daily massacres perpetrated by the apartheid régime against innocent and defenceless people within South Africa itself, Namibia and neighbouring States,

Further recalling the resolutions and other pertinent decisions adopted by the Mexico and Copenhagen Conferences,

Noting with indignation that the structural violence resulting from the influx control, forced removals, bantustanization and denationalization of the African people, as well as other apartheid legislative measures responsible for breaking up family life have always been harshest on women and children,

Noting on the other hand with profound anxiety the fact that peace in the region is being threatened more than ever before,

Convinced that the struggle for emancipation of women in South Africa is inextricably linked to the struggle for national liberation and self-determination,

Convinced that there cannot be peace, stability and prosperity in South Africa until the apartheid system is eradicated and replaced by a united, non-racial and democratic society in South Africa,

Convinced that it is incumbent on the international community to lend its fullest support to the dispossessed and oppressed people of South Africa in their legitimate struggle, waged in all forms, including armed struggle, for the eradication of the apartheid system,

Convinced that the constitutional and other so-called reforms by the Pretoria régime are insidious plays designed to weaken the liberation struggle and to further entrench white minority rule,

* On behalf of the States members of the African Group.

Recognizing that the singularly arduous plight of women and children under apartheid deserves special concern and assistance of men and women around the world,

Recognizing that the condition of women and children under apartheid is sui generis and represents an intolerable and abhorrent affront to the conscience and dignity of mankind,

Determined to do everything within its power so that the objectives of equality, development and peace become a reality for the South African black women as is the case with the women of the other regions of the world and so that apartheid, which is the major stumbling block, is completely eliminated,

1. Condemns in the strongest terms the apartheid régime and its system which result in the dispossession of the African people of South Africa;

2. Strongly condemns the policy of constructive engagement and other forms of collaboration with the Pretoria régime;

3. Urges the United Nations and the entire international community to take all the necessary measures, including the imposition of mandatory sanctions as stipulated in Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, which will lead to quick elimination of apartheid;

4. Also urges the United Nations to step up aid to the South African liberation movements until the total dismantling of the racist apartheid régime is accomplished;

5. Perverently calls upon the United Nations Member States to sever and abstain from establishing any relations whatsoever with the racist South African régime;

6. Demands the immediate release of all political prisoners held by the apartheid régime and the termination of all trumped-up treason charges currently before the racist court;

7. Takes note with appreciation of the commendable work of the Special Committee against Apartheid for giving special attention to women and children under apartheid and, in this respect, for the Declaration of the International Conference on Women and Children under Apartheid convened by the Special Committee in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 7 to 10 May 1985, and calls on all Member States of the United Nations, specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations participating at the Nairobi Conference to review and appraise the United Nations Decade for Women, to give immediate and practical effect to the Declaration;

8. Commends the women and men of conscience throughout the world whose contribution has strengthened the anti-apartheid movement;

9. Warmly welcomes the emergence of the free South Africa movement, the divestment involvement and the campaign of sanctions in the Western countries, especially North America and Western Europe, and call for its intensification;

10. Reaffirms the continuing need to pay particular attention to the unacceptable condition of women and children under apartheid, with a view to ensuring the immediate, effective and practical elimination of the system of

apartheid and by consequence the liberation of women and children, consistent with the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women and taking into account the relevant Forward-looking Strategies for women and children under apartheid;

11. Appeals to the international community to increase its moral, diplomatic, political and material support to the national liberation movements of South Africa.

Botswana, Kenya, Malawi, Tunisia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Women and water

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.81, as revised, and amalgamating documents A/CONF.116/C.1/L.44 and L.48)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recalling resolution 25 of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women held in Copenhagen in 1980, entitled "International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade",

Recognizing that many people in developing countries have severely limited access to adequate safe drinking water and adequate water for agricultural purposes (including irrigation, livestock, fishponds) and for sanitation,

Noting that, particularly in the underdeveloped and developing countries where domestic water is difficult to obtain, women have traditionally had the major family responsibility for transporting, conserving and using water for drinking, washing and hygiene,

Noting further that this responsibility is often onerous and time-consuming, and has an adverse effect on the daily lives of millions of women in developing countries of the world,

Recognizing that insufficient water and unsafe water has a detrimental effect on the health and hygiene of women, and will undermine the health and nutrition goals of the United Nations Decade for Women,

Recognizing the need to conserve both new and established water supplies for domestic use and irrigation and to keep them free from pollution,

1. Urges all countries and United Nations agencies including specialized agencies, to promote water supply projects, to preserve established water systems and to promote irrigation schemes as appropriate;

2. Urges further Governments to establish collaborative arrangements between technical ministries responsible for water and socially-oriented agencies, and in particular non-governmental organizations including women's organizations or groups;

3. Appeals to Governments to take special measures to provide education and training for women to upgrade their qualifications to assume responsibilities at all levels in the water sector;

4. Requests that international, multi- and bilateral organizations and specialized agencies take measures to ensure that adequate attention is given to women's involvement not only in identification, design, implementation and evaluation, but also in operation, maintenance and administration of projects;

5. Recommends choice of technology appropriate to women's needs, taking particularly into account their potential involvement in village level operations and maintenance;

6. Recommends also the collection and dissemination of information and research concerning actual cases of women's active involvement;

7. Calls on Governments to ensure women's effective representation in all decision-making bodies dealing with water for domestic use and agriculture by such means as:

- Including national women's organizations or other bodies in national action committees for the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade or other similar bodies;
- Increasing the number of women at decision-making levels in ministries with primary responsibility for water projects;
- Ensuring appropriate numbers of women are included in relevant community-level committees.

Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden and the United Republic of Tanzania: draft resolution

Women and peace

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.83, amalgamating documents A/CONF.116/C.1/L.22 and L.42)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Convinced that the arms race is a fundamental obstacle to peace, equality and development,

Firmly believing that the pattern of search for security, based almost exclusively on national aspirations and armaments, has to be broken, if humankind is to survive,

Considering that the concept of peace includes not only the absence of war, violence and hostilities at international and national levels, but also social justice and equality for all human beings and for all nations,

Aware that achieving peace, security, disarmament, economic and social development is an indivisible task,

Recognizing that for true equality between women and men to become a reality, the sharing of power by women on equal terms with men is vital,

Recognizing the valuable role of women and their organizations in raising political consciousness of people, parliaments and Governments on this question,

1. Urges Governments to take practical institutional, educational and organizational measures to facilitate for women to exercise their right to influence, on an equal footing with men, the decision-making process concerning war and peace, military budgets and structures, disarmament negotiations and resolution of conflicts;

2. Expresses appreciation of the forceful support given by women's organizations and their representatives in parliaments and governmental bodies the world over, to constructive initiatives such as the appeal of Heads of State and Governments of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden and Tanzania contained in the Joint Declaration of New Delhi (January 1985);

3. Recommends the United Nations and its specialized agencies, in particular the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, to promote within the scope of the International Year of Peace, 1986, specific activities of women's organizations in support of peace, including the encouragement of education for peace, and dissemination of information about the danger of nuclear holocaust, and its fatal consequences for the survival of humanity;

4. Recommends the reallocation of funds from military to non-military research and development, limits on international arms transfers, and the conversion and redeployment of resources released from military purposes to economic and social assistance to developing countries and to the enhancement of the status of women of the world;

5. Proposes, as transitional measures, an immediate moratorium on the testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons and their delivery vehicles, reciprocally undertaken by the Soviet Union and the United States, followed by the other nuclear Powers;

6. Further proposes negotiations aiming at formal agreements beginning with a comprehensive test-ban treaty;

7. Calls for the urgent conclusion of agreements to prevent an arms race in space.

Austria, Belgium, Finland, Germany, Federal Republic of, Italy, Japan, Kenya, and Trinidad and Tobago: draft resolution

Women and new technologies

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.84, amalgamating documents A/CONF.116/C.1/L.10, L.46 and L.59)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Bearing in mind that the current technological and scientific revolution can be a great opportunity for progress, in that it will provoke profound changes in the economy and in society; it will, however, only be positive for women if they are able to control the process of change and to participate in it,

Bearing in mind the potential and acute impact of science and technology on the integration of women in the development process,

Appreciating national and international efforts which seek to ensure that women benefit from development of science and particularly technology based on local initiatives and skills,

Recalling the decisions of the Third and Fourth General Conferences of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Mexico Plan of Action on Women and the Copenhagen Programme of Action as well as General Assembly resolution 39/164 and the United Nations resolution on women, science and technology, adopted in Vienna in 1979,

Recalling that the women in the modern industrial sector are mainly concentrated in low-paid jobs with little upward mobility and are more vulnerable than men to displacement by the introduction of new technologies, as men are generally given preference in training for the use of these technologies,

Aware of the fact that new technologies in agriculture, industry and in services very often have adverse effects upon occupational health and safety and quality of jobs,

Considering that the changing technological environment strongly affects the situation of women in working and everyday life,

Bearing in mind that the question of poverty-stricken women both in the developed and developing world is one of the issues which needs to be strongly stressed,

Considering that the majority of women engaged in manufacturing industries in developing countries is employed in the small-scale and informal production sector and they usually lack both the means of production and specialized training,

Considering also that women in rural areas have been seriously affected by industrial production of basic commodities and have so lost traditional income-generating occupations,

Bearing in mind that the utilization of new technologies inside the productive units implies a different work organization and a different distribution between productive activities and all others, with the risk of increasing unemployment and worsening living and working conditions for those groups of women who are the weakest on the job market,

Noting furthermore the growing risk that employees remain without the necessary prospects regarding advancement in their careers, quality of their jobs, working conditions and levels of pay,

1. Calls upon all Governments and other appropriate bodies to ensure that national scientific and technological plans and programmes take into account the specific interests and potentials of women;

2. Further calls upon Governments and other appropriate bodies to involve women equally with men in the assessment, choice, acquisition and adaptation of technology;

3. Invites Governments to facilitate:

- A better distribution among the two sexes, of the advantages derived from the introduction of new technologies, which have spread through the sphere of economic systems and from the application of the results of scientific research;
- The participation of women in phases of planning which relate to new technologies, in the finalizing of scientific research and the introduction of innovations in such a way as to strengthen their economic position and to improve their living conditions;
- Equal access for both men and women to training in technical and scientific subjects;

4. Requests Governments:

- To carry out positive actions geared towards overcoming the occupational segregation between sexes, and to improve career prospects;
- To stimulate the education and training of women and girls so as to enable them to enter the applied and decision-making field in the area of new technologies, to increase the female work-force in the new occupations;
- To delineate comprehensive and specific interventions geared towards the weakest sectors of the female work-force and for those in need of retraining;

5. Requests Member States to promote technologies appropriate for the needs and situations of women, particularly in agricultural production, so as to liberate them from unnecessary time- and energy-consuming tasks;

6. Further requests Governments to adopt policies to support small-scale production sectors where women are concentrated and which play an important role in supplying basic needs for local communities and to ensure that women have equal access to resources and means of production;

7. Calls upon Governments, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the International Labour Organisation and other relevant United Nations organizations, including the regional commissions, on national and international non-governmental organizations, on bilateral and multilateral development organizations to devise instruments and machineries to involve women in the design and implementation of their programmes and projects and ensure access of women on an equal footing to vocational, technical, scientific and managerial education, training and retraining;

8. Calls upon relevant United Nations organizations, particularly the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the United Nations Development Programme, including the regional commissions, to support scientific research and application on the impact of science and technology on women;

9. Recommends that measures be encouraged in order to introduce minimum standards regarding contents and job descriptions as well as rationalization and humanization of work, according to international standards, such as the definition of the shortest permissible repetitive unit of work to be carried out by one and the same employee over a period of time;

10. Requests the existing institutional arrangements within the United Nations system in the area of science and technology and women be further strengthened particularly in the area of training, through improved harmonization of programmes and through joint technical co-operation activities;

11. Calls upon Governments and international organizations to include the issues of women and science and technology in their periodic review of the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies;

12. Requests the Commission on the Status of Women and other functional intergovernmental bodies including the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development to review periodically issues of women and science and technology, particularly those relevant to developing countries;

13. Further requests that the Commission on the Status of Women at its next session give consideration to women and science and technology.

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Greece, Guyana, Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand and Spain: draft resolution

Improving the conditions of work and life

(document A/CONF.116/C.1/L.85, amalgamating documents A/CONF.116/C.1/L.23, L.25, L.37 and L.41)

A. Workers with family responsibilities

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Bearing in mind the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and other relevant international instruments,

Urging countries to implement measures to ensure that men and women workers with responsibilities for dependent children, or the members of their immediate family in need of care and support, are not subject to discrimination in engaging in or seeking employment, and experience minimal conflict between their employment and other responsibilities,

Considering that women, in order to participate in development, equality and peace, must take their place at all levels of political and social life,

Recognizing that women continue to bear the major responsibility for the care of children and other dependent family members,

Recognizing that while women continue to bear this major responsibility they will be hampered in their participation in the labour market and will suffer constraints in their choice of employment, its location and the hours worked,

Recognizing further that while more equitable sharing of family and domestic responsibilities should be encouraged, immediate action is required to redress the work-force inequality suffered by women and other workers with family responsibilities,

Recommends that countries implement measures to ensure:

(a) That workers with family responsibilities may become and remain integrated in the labour force and re-enter the labour force after an absence due to those responsibilities. Access to training and retraining programmes should be ensured;

(b) The provision of child care facilities and other support services appropriate to the needs of workers with responsibilities for children and other family members;

(c) The availability of leave to workers of either sex to enable them to care for children and other family members in their care;

(d) The development of more flexible working time arrangements to facilitate the employment of workers under terms and conditions which are compatible with family responsibilities;

(e) That all types of work patterns should be covered by equitable pay and conditions;

(f) That there should be progressive reduction of daily hours of work and overtime;

(g) That the provision of taxation, social security and child support systems do not bias decisions by men and women as to how they allocate their time between paid employment and other activities;

(h) The development of support services to provide assistance to workers with family responsibilities.

B. Parental leave

Reaffirming the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women,

Recalling Convention No. 156 of the International Labour Organisation, concerning workers with family responsibilities,

Believing that the primary objective for the elimination of discrimination against women is the full participation of women, on equal footing with men, in all spheres of social, economic and political life,

Considering that the economic self-sufficiency of women stemming from work is one of the most basic factors for their social liberation and their personal development,

Bearing in mind the need for equitable sharing of responsibilities between men and women in family and social life,

Recognizing the important role of motherhood and fatherhood in society,

Believing that motherhood should not constitute a restraining factor for the full participation of women in society,

Bearing in mind that the sharing of the care of children between parents constitutes a positive factor for the family ties as well as for the full development of the personality of the child,

Considering that in countries where legislation for parental leave is provided, that leave is being almost exclusively used by working mothers only,

1. Invites the States Members of the United Nations, which have not yet done so, to consider taking legislative measures for granting parental leave to working parents, beyond the maternity leave (pregnancy, confinement and breast-feeding). These parental leaves will allow both parents to share the caring of their children during the first period of their lives;

2. Urges that Governments and the appropriate bodies when adopting such legislation or administrative measures to take into consideration that the period of parental leave should in the case of two-parent families be granted in equal proportions to each parent.

C. Equal pay

Considering that many Member States have introduced during the United Nations Decade for Women legislation and attempts in collective bargaining in order to eliminate disparities regarding wages for women and men,

Aware that those measures have not yet resulted in satisfactory improvements with regard to the level of wages for women,

Recognizing the need to reduce the wage gap between women and men,

Emphasizing that the income of women as a substantial source of subsistence of families and is even, for an increasing number of women, the only source of income for themselves and their dependants,

Recognizing the ILO resolution on equal opportunities and equal treatment for men and women in employment, adopted in June 1985 and the Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951, No. 100,

Calls upon Governments and other appropriate bodies to:

- Ensure equal pay for equal work performed by both women and men;
- Create comprehensive implementation machinery to ensure the application of the principle of equal pay for equal work;
- Advise and support workers in case of investigation and complaint with regard to the principle of equal remuneration;
- Promote public awareness and understanding of the principle and practice of equal pay for equal work.

D. Fair employment practices

Bearing in mind the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of discrimination against Women,

Recognizing the pervasiveness of occupational segregation by sex and that many women are employed in marginal areas of the labour market, including casual and part-time work, home-based work, domestic work and occupations not covered by the regulated labour market,

Recognizing that occupations of this sort are characterized by poor remuneration and conditions such as lack of job security or promotion prospects, piece-work and lack of regulation,

Considering that such workers are particularly susceptible to unfair treatment, occupational health and safety problems, long hours without payment of overtime, and sexual harassment,

Noting further that occupations in the labour market in which women predominate, including assembly line and office work, are particularly vulnerable to adverse employment conditions as a result of technological change,

Calls upon Governments and other appropriate bodies to take all possible steps to:

1. Eliminate employment policies and practices which discriminate against women; such as gender-based recruitment, classification schemes, career prospects, social security schemes, pensions and other benefits;
2. Encourage the regulation of all patterns of work including home-based employment;
3. Encourage the development of regulated patterns of employment that take account of the diverse demands on, and wishes of women workers outside their employment;
4. Set standards and involve women workers in decision-making for the introduction of new technology in the workplace, both in terms of equipment and work requirements;
5. Facilitate improvement in the status of occupations where women predominate by adoption of training standards and the provision of associated training;
6. Increase trade union training and the industrial bargaining power of women workers; and
7. Follow economic policies which will increase employment opportunities and thus reduce the pool of workers competing for jobs;
8. Calls upon United Nations development systems and specialized agencies such as ILO to:
 - gather and disseminate reliable information on exploitative employment practices that affect women;

- set international standards to prevent such exploitative employment practices.

2. Draft resolutions submitted to the Second Committee of the Conference

Bangladesh, China, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Finland, France, Greece, India, Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Malawi, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa and Thailand: draft resolution

Establishment of a system of data and information networks on women

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.3, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.

Considering the need to improve data and information on the situation of women in order to evaluate the progress made by women towards development,

Noting that timely and reliable statistics on the situation of women are valuable in helping to improve the condition of women,

Noting also that a data and research base on women will be strengthened through collaboration with other States, specialized agencies and regional organizations,

Convinced that establishment of a system of information networks is required to facilitate the exchange of information,

1. Calls upon all States to develop a data base, including gender-specific statistics, and research on women and to establish an information system on women;

2. Invites regional organizations to develop information systems for the administration of data on the situation of women in each country of the region;

3. Recommends that the Commission on the Status of Women, in consultation with the Statistical Commission, should assist in developing a system of data and information networks at the national, regional and international levels.

Austria, China, Holy See, Indonesia, Japan, Liberia, Malta, Mauritania, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka and Thailand: draft resolution

Women and aging

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.5, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.

Noting the significant amount of work being undertaken by Governments and voluntary organizations to alleviate the problems and hardships faced by aged women;

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Conscious that women already at a disadvantaged position in employment remuneration and benefits, are facing even more handicaps when aged,

Concerned that there is still a need for more effective policies and actions to correct and improve these inequalities,

1. Urges all Governments to review and assess their policies with regard to aged women in order to determine whether the specific needs of these women are adequately catered to with regard to medical facilities, human settlements and transportation;

2. Requests Governments, international and non-governmental organizations to integrate aged women into community activities so that they will not be left isolated and felt unwanted but will be considered a part of the community to which they belong;

3. Calls upon Governments, international and non-governmental organizations to develop and implement specific programmes to meet the needs of aged women, whether or not they are at home, with transport, medical care and a sense of belonging to the community.

Bangladesh, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka
and Thailand: draft resolution

Participation of men in reaching the objectives of the United Nations
Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.6, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United
Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

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

Emphasizing the importance of undertaking at the World Conference a critical and realistic review and appraisal of the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, and the progress made at the international, regional and national levels in the attainment of the objectives of the Decade,

Recognizing that it is necessary to change men's attitudes towards the development of women and that the co-operation of men will facilitate strategies and the implementation of women's programmes and projects,

Conscious that further efforts are needed to implement the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace at the international, regional and national levels, since the objectives originally propounded did not sufficiently take into account the active participation of men as a complement to the development of women,

1. Urges Governments, international and non-governmental organizations to develop supporting facilities, such as information, training and technical assistance, in order to encourage men's understanding of women's development programmes, and to adopt measures designed to eliminate sex stereotyping in instructional materials in all types of educational systems and to integrate women into all tasks traditionally assigned to men and vice versa;

2. Calls upon all Governments to formulate and implement national plans of action to promote the active participation of men in women's development programmes and projects;

3. Requests international and non-governmental organizations to formulate and implement similar plans of action to complement and support those formulated by Governments.

Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, India, Indonesia, Japan, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Collaboration with non-governmental organizations
in the field of health

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.7, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.

Bearing in mind that one major aspect of the Forward-looking Strategies of implementation for the advancement of women and concrete measures to overcome obstacles to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for the period 1986 to the year 2000: equality, development, peace concerns the improvement of health, nutritional and other social services for women which are essential to the full participation of women in development activities, to the strengthening of family life and to a general enhancement of the quality of life,

Recognizing the commitment of non-governmental organizations and the valuable nature of the expertise, talents and resources that they can mobilize for the achievement of such an improvement,

Recalling resolution WRA 38.27 of the World Health Assembly,

1. Expresses its appreciation of the valuable efforts undertaken by non-governmental organizations, including voluntary bodies, in the field of health and social services and their important contribution as a complement to the formal services provided by statutory agencies and by multilateral organizations;

2. Calls upon Governments and non-governmental organizations to continue, in a spirit of partnership, their close collaboration and consultation in the field of health and social services for the implementation of the recommendations contained in the strategies for health adopted by the Conference and to encourage and support self-care and self-help groups at the community level as an adjunct to primary health care.

Australia, Botswana, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Holy See, India, Indonesia, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Italy, Kenya, Kuwait, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia and Viet Nam: draft resolution

Improvement of the condition of physically and mentally disabled women of all ages

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.8)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 3447 (XXX) of 9 December 1975, by which it proclaimed the Declaration of the Rights of Disabled Persons,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 31/123 of 16 December 1976, by which it proclaimed the year 1981 International Year of Disabled Persons,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 34/154 of 17 December 1979, on the International Year of Disabled Persons, with the theme of full participation and equality,

Recalling resolution 2 adopted by the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, held at Copenhagen in 1980, which called for the improvement of the situation of disabled women of all ages,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 37/52 of 3 December 1982, by which it adopted the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, and 37/53 of 3 December 1982, by which it proclaimed the period 1983-1992 United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons as a long-term plan of action,

Noting with appreciation the activities of Governments, United Nations organizations, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations in connection with the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,

Recognizing that disabled women of all ages constitute a significant number of disabled persons and encounter particular difficulties in developing their individual abilities and skills as a consequence of their mental, physical or sensory impairment which affects their responsibilities and their rights to enjoy a decent life,

1. Appeals to all Governments to contribute to the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and to explicitly take into consideration, through the implementation of this Programme at the national level, the special needs of disabled women in order to facilitate their practical participation in daily life and to provide them with recreational activities;

2. Urges all States to give special attention to the training programmes for the habilitation and rehabilitation of disabled women in order to give them more and better opportunities to participate in all aspects of life;

3. Requests the specialized agencies, in particular the World Health Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organisation, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the other United Nations bodies and programmes concerned to take into consideration in their activities and programmes the needs of disabled women of all ages and the necessity to improve their condition, through preventive and rehabilitative measures, and requests them to co-ordinate their activities in this area;

4. Decides that, in implementing the Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women for the period 1986 to the year 2000, the needs of disabled women of all ages should be taken fully into consideration at the international, regional and national levels.

Finland, Greece, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden
and Turkey: draft resolution

Migrant women

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.9)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Considering that labour migration involves over 20 million workers in the world, excluding members of families and the increasing number of undeclared migrants, and that international labour migration has led to the creation of new cultural, ethnic and religious communities in host countries,

Recognizing the increased involvement of women in international migration and their contribution to the development of both sending and host countries and also the particular difficulties facing women in migration,

Concerned that, despite the efforts made in the past decade by Member States, the regional intergovernmental organizations and the United Nations specialized agencies, migrant workers, and particularly women, are still not entitled in many countries to exercise their fundamental human rights,

Deeply concerned about the precarious situation of many migrant women, including undocumented migrant women, and the prospects of the children of migrants,

Recognizing the need for international co-operation on a bilateral, regional and international level in matters pertaining to all aspects of labour migration in order to safeguard the basic human rights of migrants,

Recalling the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural rights,

Taking into consideration the Migrant Workers Convention, 1975, and the Recommendation concerning Migrant Workers, 1975, adopted by the General Conference

of the International Labour Organisation, and the Convention against Discrimination in Education, 1960, adopted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

Endorsing the recommendations contained in the World Population Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women pertaining to migrant women and resolution 3 concerning migrant women adopted by the United Nations World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

1. Calls upon all Member States concerned to ratify existing conventions pertaining to the rights of migrant workers and their families and the elimination of discrimination based on gender, race, nationality and ethnicity and to adopt policies in pursuance of these Conventions;

2. Recommends that:

(a) Sending and host countries enter into bilateral agreements and establish co-operation on matters regarding migrant workers while taking into account the special needs of migrant women;

(b) Host countries adopt policies and adequate measures to eliminate the expressions of all forms of discrimination against migrant women, including restrictions on family reunification;

(c) Host countries make special efforts aiming at assuring migrants, and in particular migrant women, of equal rights and equal opportunities with the population of the host country, the freedom of cultural expression and full participation in host societies;

(d) Governments and non-governmental organizations in host countries give continuing attention to the situation of migrant women, particularly as regards housing conditions, health status, access to social services and health care, and educational needs;

(e) Governments and non-governmental organizations, in particular trade unions, give particular attention to the employment conditions of migrant women and that they adopt measures (i) to counteract occupational segregation and exploitation and the underuse of professional and occupational skills of migrant women, (ii) to ensure their protection under existing labour legislation and (iii) to give migrant women full access to educational training and retraining facilities, adapted to their special needs when necessary;

(f) Governments and non-governmental organizations devote special attention to the integration of migrant women and girls into host societies through the dissemination of information, the provision of adequate language instruction, the provision of support for the organizational and political activities of migrant women and by ensuring their access to mass media;

(g) Governments and non-governmental organizations devote particular attention to single migrant women, migrant women who are single parents, physically and sexually abused migrant women and provide adequate support and protection for these women;

(h) Both sending and host countries concern themselves with the situation of migrants, particularly the children of undeclared and working migrant women, both in sending and in host countries;

(i) Host countries make special efforts to facilitate the access of migrant girls to education and employment on equal terms with girls of the host country, while maintaining their cultural heritage, with a view to counteracting occupational segregation and high unemployment among young migrants;

(j) Governments of host and sending countries, bilateral, regional and international forums of co-operation, with the participation of migrants' organizations, take action to ensure that questions concerning migrant women receive attention;

3. Also recommends that the Working Group within the United Nations charged with the drafting of a convention on the protection of the rights of migrant workers and their families should take into consideration the principles adopted regarding migrant women.

Australia, Botswana, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Fiji, Finland, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Holy Sec, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Italy, Kenya, Lesotho, Mali, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Samoa, Spain, Sweden and Uganda;

draft resolution

Indigenous women

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.11, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.

Recognizing that indigenous women and their families have unique fundamental rights and interests flowing from their original use of resources and their occupancy of land in many countries of the world,

Concerned that the report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, the Plan of Action adopted at Mexico City and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace adopted at Copenhagen do not contain adequate measures which focus on the special rights and interests of indigenous women and their families,

Preoccupied by the denials of these special rights and interests of indigenous women and their families, which have been manifested in various parts of the world by grievous problems, including:

(a) Involuntary or forceful relocation, dispossession, assimilation and dispersal of indigenous persons, which has in turn led to serious economic and social problems for these persons;

(b) A lack of affirmative measures to preserve and enhance the unique languages, cultures, values and social structures of indigenous persons;

(c) Violations of fundamental rights flowing from indigenous status, often resulting in insufficient land and resources, poverty and deprivation;

Firmly convinced that the denial of the rights of indigenous women and their families is contrary to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the objectives of the present Conference,

1. Reasserts that the rights of indigenous persons apply equally to women and men;

2. Affirms the rights of indigenous women and their families to a just and equitable share of land and resources;

3. Urges States to respect and ensure the rights of indigenous women and their families in all aspects of indigenous life;

4. Further urges the United Nations and its bodies, such as the Commission on Human Rights, the Human Rights Committee, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, in particular its Working Group on Indigenous populations, to recognize and support the rights of indigenous women and their families;

5. Requests the Secretary-General, when reporting in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/12 to the Commission on the Status of Women at each session on all significant developments pertaining to the advancement of women within the United Nations system that have occurred since the previous session to include in that report a section on the measures and initiatives taken within the United Nations system pertaining to indigenous women and their families.

Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Barbados, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Gabon, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Jamaica, Lesotho, Liberia, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Niger, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela and Zambia:
draft resolution

Technical assistance for women in rural and marginal urban areas

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.14, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recognizing that the economic and financial crisis affecting most of the developing Member States has severely affected the socio-economic status of women,

Considering the tremendous efforts undertaken by the United Nations Development Programme to carry out programmes to improve the economic and social infrastructure of the developing countries,

Considering the need for continued provision of financial and technical support to Member States in order to supplement development activities for women at the national, regional and international levels,

Bearing in mind that the Conference has as a principal objective support for the regional and international mechanisms that complement national efforts and at the same time seek the means to continue pursuing the objectives of the Decade,

1. Requests the United Nations Development Programme to assist Governments in the design and implementation of projects geared toward the overall participation of women and the improvement of their socio-economic status;

2. Requests the United Nations Development Programme to allocate at least 5 per cent of its regional budget in response to requests from member countries of the region to supplement the national and regional efforts carried out to improve the status of women in rural and marginal urban areas.

Greece, Italy and Spain: draft resolution

International illegal kidnapping of children

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.17)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.

Bearing in mind the United Nations Charter which establishes the respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms for everybody without sexual distinctions,

Aware of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which affirms the principle of non-discrimination,

Bearing in mind the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights which, in the context of family protection, the natural and fundamental heart of society, provides for special protection for mothers and anticipates special measures for protection and mutual help in favour of all children and adolescents, without discrimination for filiative motives or other reasons,

Considering that the Declaration of Mexico on the Equality of Women and their Contribution to Development and Peace recognized that men and women have the same rights and responsibilities in the family,

Bearing in mind that the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women gives men and women equal rights and responsibilities in the framework of marriage and at the time of its dissolution, as well as equal rights and equal responsibilities as parents, independent of their conjugal condition, for questions which refer to children whose interests must be of priority,

Aware of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 1386 (XIV), according to which a child must be able to enjoy particular protection, opportunities and facilities which allow him or her to grow in a healthy and normal manner on a physical, intellectual, moral and social level and which provides that he or she must live in the care of and under the responsibility of his or her parents in an atmosphere of affection and material and moral security and that, except for exceptional circumstances, he or she must not be separated from his or her mother during the first year of life,

Bearing in mind the attention given by the Economic and Social Council, through the Commission on the Status of Women, to the status of women in the family, especially with reference to the education and instruction of children,

Bearing in mind that the World Plan of Action and the plans of action adopted at the regional level provide for a global improvement of the conditions of women including an improvement of their status within the family, in particular as regards children,

Aware of the Programme for the Decade, approved by the General Assembly, which anticipates the implementation of appropriate measures to support the condition of women in society and therefore also in the family,

Considering the results obtained at the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, concerning the protection of women's rights in Member States,

Evaluating positively the persevering action taken by the Secretary-General for the promotion of women's rights at the international and national levels, in particular concerning the objective of equality, which includes equal rights and responsibilities in society and therefore in the family, and the position of minors,

Acknowledging that often in the case of marriages between persons of different nationalities which end in divorce the minors given in court custody to one parent are taken away from that parent and transferred abroad, either by means of abuse of visiting rights awarded by the court or by ignoble means,

Noting that it is possible to do this because of the differences in the laws existing on this subject, which enable the emanation and coexistence of two opposing judicial acts which allow custody of minors to one parent in one country and to the other parent in another country,

Bearing in mind that the illegal abduction of children affects above all mothers who generally have insufficient economic means as compared with men to enable them to defend their rights,

Bearing in mind that this situation harms the child's intellectual and affective development and violates his or her right to a normal and affective life in a secure atmosphere, that of his or her being an object of exchange between the parents constitutes an act of violence and that this can lead the new generations to violence, forgetting the spirit of peace,

1. Urges all Member States to put an end to all forms of illegal abduction and illegal transfer of minors;

2. Requests that in each State the visiting and custody rights already decided by the court of another State should be respected and that the State in which the children live provides their immediate repatriation;

3. Draws the attention of the United Nations, in particular the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on the Status of Women, as well as Member States, to the opportunity for concluding, under the auspices of the United Nations, a treaty which would establish, in this delicate and particular sector, uniform rules of private law and international private law aiming at affirming the principle of judicial priority where it would not be detrimental to the interests of the minors;

4. Foresees the immediate recognition of the efficacy of decisions and measures adopted by foreign States on voluntary jurisdiction concerning laws on custody as well as laws on visiting rights;

5. Prescribes that this recognition could be effected through the presentation of the authentic copy of the decision or the act of voluntary jurisdiction concerning the visiting rights or abduction rights of minors to the courts of the State in which the children have been transferred after having been abducted from the other parent;

6. Expresses the hope that, moreover, the courts of each State should carry out immediately verifications, in particular in the case of marriages between persons of different nationalities, even by diplomatic means, in order to check if those measures already mentioned exist or not, before pronouncing judgement on visiting rights or abduction of minors.

Bangladesh, Botswana, China, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Gabon, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Lesotho, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America and Venezuela: draft resolution

Implementation and evaluation of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.18, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Reaffirming the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women, namely equality, development and peace,

Emphasizing the importance of the undertakings at the World Conference to Review and Appraise the United Nations Decade for Women to review critically and realistically and appraise the progress made towards the achievement of the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women at the international, regional and national levels,

Taking note of the past activities of States, national and international organizations, including non-governmental organizations, which were designed to implement the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Conscious that further efforts are necessary to implement the objectives of the Decade at all levels and that hence there is an urgent need to establish mechanisms for the evaluation and achievement of the objectives of the Decade,

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Realizing the crucial role of women and the complementary role of men in the attainment of the above-mentioned goals,

1. Requests all States to establish and improve mechanisms, at the national and local levels, to evaluate past performance in order to set explicit targets which will facilitate the future achievement of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women, to encourage more research and promote better evaluation methodology so that interested States can co-operate more effectively, and to include in their censuses indicative data which refer to the specific problems of women;

2. Calls upon all States, national and international organizations to undertake a study and to establish data banks in order to facilitate the regular exchange of information on the achievement of the objectives of the Decade and to make such data more readily available to the general public with a view to encouraging grass-root participation and the achievement of these objectives.

Botswana, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo
and Zambia: draft resolution

World conference on women in the year 2000

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.19)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recognizing the value of the World Conference of the International Women's Year held at Mexico City in 1975 and the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, held at Copenhagen in 1980 in adopting the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the achievement of the goals of equality, development and peace,

Aware of the value of the present Conference in adopting the Forward-looking Strategies of Implementation for the Advancement of Women and Concrete Measures to Overcome Obstacles to the Achievement of the Goals and Objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women for the Period 1986 to the Year 2000: Equality, Development and Peace,

Conscious of the need to provide a forum for evaluating the effectiveness of these Strategies for the achievement of the goals of equality, development and peace,

Conscious also of the need to keep women's issues alive in the international forums at the highest levels,

1. Recommends that a world conference be held in the year 2000 to assess and evaluate the progress made in the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies and in achieving the goals of equality, development and peace since the end of the United Nations Decade for Women and to adopt appropriate strategies for achieving the greater involvement of women in national and international issues;

2. Invites the organizations of the United Nations system to take the necessary steps to ensure that such a conference on women takes place in the year 2000, and that regional groups meet every five years between 1985 and the year 2000 to evaluate the progress made.

Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, France, Gabon, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Italy, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Yemen: draft resolution

Domestic violence against women

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.20, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Expressing primary concern for abused women and children and the destructive consequences of such abuse on the family,

Recognizing that domestic violence is widespread, cutting across all racial, social and economic lines,

Recognizing further that the causes of and solutions to domestic violence are more complicated than in the case of crimes committed by unknown attackers,

Convinced that violence is often learned behaviour which can affect future generations and that steps need to be taken to prevent domestic violence through education and a change of attitude,

Recognizing the important role that women and women's organizations have played in assisting battered women and in making the community aware of the gravity and extent of domestic violence,

Convinced that violence is as much a crime when committed by a close family member as by a stranger and that the protection of the law should not stop at the family's front door,

Convinced further of the need for a more vigorous involvement of the justice system, increased public awareness and improved services for victims,

Bearing in mind that every battered woman needs support, safety and assistance and the knowledge that she is not alone,

Condemning the unfortunate attitude throughout the world that treats women as chattels and property to be abused and controlled, and that disregards laws that protect women,

1. Urges the appropriate governmental agencies to pay special attention to violence against women and to treat such behaviour as criminal, and to provide services to assist battered women and their children;

2. Calls upon States to develop laws and procedures, where they do not already exist, and to strengthen enforcement processes, including those of the police and courts, for the proper protection and support of women and to hold violent men legally accountable for their violence;

3. Calls upon the Commission on the Status of Women to consider appointing a special rapporteur to collect information, taking account of all relevant United Nations studies on the nature of domestic violence, with a view to making recommendations to the Commission concerning prevention and solutions, including community education suitable to varying cultural circumstances.

Algeria, Central African Republic, Congo, Cuba, Democratic Yemen, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Iraq, Kenya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nicaragua, Romania, Syrian Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela and Zambia:
draft resolution

Strengthening the role of the Commission on the Status of Women

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.21)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recalling the mandate given to the Commission on the Status of Women by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 11 (II) of 21 June 1946,

Reaffirming the crucial role of the Commission on the Status of Women within the United Nations in examining issues related to the development of women's rights in the political, economic and social spheres,

Recognizing the Commission's useful contribution to the promotion of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, and to the assessment of the progress made and of the obstacles encountered,

Considering that it is imperative to strengthen the future work of the Commission so that it can fulfil its important role in launching the strategies of implementation oriented towards the future for the advancement of women and the concrete measures to overcome obstacles to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace in the intervening period between 1986 and the year 2000,

Bearing in mind resolution 40 adopted by the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, General Assembly resolutions 2263 (XXII) and 35/56 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/38, as well as other relevant resolutions,

1. Requests the Commission on the Status of Women to pay special attention to the implementation of the strategies of implementation oriented towards the future during the period between 1986 and the year 2000, and other recommendations of the Conference, as well as to the preparation of proposals and recommendations to the Economic and Social Council based on all the relevant information, and requests the Commission to undertake, with this end in view, the co-ordination of the results obtained;

2. Also requests the Commission to contribute in its work to the establishment of the New International Economic Order and to the implementation of the goals and policy measures of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade;

3. Requests the Economic and Social Council, with a view to strengthening and enabling the Commission to fulfil the mandate conferred upon it by the present resolution, to increase the number of members of the Commission to 43, and to schedule annual sessions of the Commission.

Australia, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Senegal, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uruguay: draft resolution

United Nations Development Fund for Women

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.22)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 39/125 which provided for the continuation of the Voluntary Fund of the United Nations Decade for Women,

Recognizing the Fund's dual priorities, to serve as catalyst with the goal of ensuring the appropriate involvement of women in mainstream development activities as often as possible at pre-investment stages and to support activities directly benefiting women in line with national and regional priorities,

Considering the innovative and experimental activities of the Fund directed towards strengthening both governmental and non-governmental institutional capacities,

Expressing appreciation for the significant contributions to the Fund made by a majority of the member countries, non-governmental organizations, groups of women and individuals,

Taking into consideration the strong support for the Fund's continued co-operation with Governments and national non-governmental organizations and the need for its continuation and strengthening, as expressed at the regional preparatory meetings for the World Conference,

1. Welcomes the establishment of the United Nations Development Fund for Women as a separate and identifiable entity in autonomous association with the United Nations Development Programme in accordance with General Assembly resolution 39/125;

2. Urges women throughout the world to consider the Fund as a major development co-operation resource and accordingly to lend their skills to augmenting its capacities to provide financial and technical assistance, as appropriate, to rural women and women trapped in urban poverty, together with their families;

3. Appeals to individuals, groups, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to assign high priority to the Fund in their contributions and resource-mobilization efforts;

4. Requests Governments to continue and, where possible, to increase their contributions to the Fund in view of its expanded mandate to meet the pressing needs of rural and poor urban women as documented by the review and appraisal of the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women and in support of the continued involvement of women in all aspects of development activities to the year 2000.

United States of America: draft resolution

International human rights

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.23)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.

Recalling the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations that call upon Member States to promote human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction as to sex,

Recalling also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the various international instruments that affirm the human rights of women in all Member States,

Reaffirming that discrimination against women is incompatible with human dignity and that women and men should participate on the basis of equality, irrespective of race or creed, in the social, economic and political processes of their countries,

Aware of the important role played by the Commission on the Status of Women and by the United Nations specialized agencies in preparing various international instruments that oblige Member States to uphold the rights of women enumerated therein,

Mindful that violations, including gross violations, of internationally recognized standards of women's rights exist,

Considering that enforcement of women's rights is the necessary responsibility of Member States,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 76 (V) of 5 August 1947 and 3041 (XI) of 14 and 17 July 1950 which continue to form the basis for the mandate of the Commission on the Status of Women to receive at each of its regular sessions a list of confidential and non-confidential communications relating to the status of women,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/27 of 26 May 1983, setting forth procedures whereby the Commission considers and deals with communications of individual women and of groups of women whose human rights have been violated,

1. Welcomes the initiative of the Council to reaffirm these important functions of the Commission on the Status of Women;

2. Condemns violations of the human rights of women wherever they occur;

3. Urges Member States to observe their obligations towards women citizens by upholding the provisions of the various relevant international instruments, including the Charter of the United Nations;

4. Calls upon the United Nations, as well as international non-governmental organizations, to continue to publicize the various international instruments regarding the rights of women in order to disseminate widely the provisions and obligations of Governments contained therein;

5. Encourages the Commission on the Status of Women to consider the possibility of appointing special rapporteurs to investigate violations of women's rights where they may occur and to report to the Commission on their findings.

Australia, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Indonesia, Italy, Morocco, Nigeria, Panama, Spain, Sri Lanka, Venezuela and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

International Research and Training Institute for
the Advancement of Women

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.24, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.

Recalling resolution 26 adopted by the World Conference of the International Women's Year, recommending the creation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

Further recalling resolution 38 adopted by the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, which noted with satisfaction the establishment of the Institute in pursuance of the above-mentioned resolution,

Noting with satisfaction the endorsement by the General Assembly in resolution 39/122 of 12 April 1985 of the statute of the Institute to serve as a vehicle at the international level for the purpose of undertaking research and establishing training programmes to contribute to the integration and mobilization of women in development,

Taking note of the Institute's mode of operation, through the use of networking in carrying out its functions at the international, regional and national levels,

Aware of the significant achievements made in the programme of work of the Institute, particularly in the field of indicators and statistics relevant to women, the role and status of women in international economic relations and sectoral activities such as water and sanitation, industry and energy,

Recognizing the importance of research, training and information activities for the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies,

1. Recommends that:

(a) The Institute strengthen its activities in research and training for the formulation of policy analysis, planning and programming relevant to an increased participation of women in development; in this respect, the limited funds of the Institute should be principally devoted to the programme and activities, with the administrative and travel costs being kept to a minimum;

(b) Particular emphasis be given in its programme of activities to innovative methodological approaches related to women and development, training, information, documentation and communication programmes, including the establishment of data banks;

(c) The Institute intensify its activities in statistics, indicators and data relevant to women, particularly at the national and regional levels;

2. Invites institutions and organizations within and outside the United Nations system to continue their collaboration with the Institute through the strengthening of the network of co-operative arrangements related to programmes concerning women and development;

3. Urges States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women in view of the long-term projection for the work of the Institute.

Belgium, Egypt* and France: draft resolution

Food security

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.25)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Concerned at the famine prevailing in certain regions of the world, particularly in Africa,

Considering that the persistent drought and growing desertification, combined with the pernicious effects of the world economic crisis, have seriously unsettled development efforts and aggravated the state of famine and malnutrition in Africa,

Recalling the declaration on famine in Africa adopted by the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at Nairobi in 1991 and the FAO declaration on famine in Africa,

* On behalf of the States members of the Group of 77.

Considering the need to take emergency action to save African peoples threatened by famine,

Recalling the Lagos Plan of Action, which recommended setting up a food relief support agency,

Welcoming the decision of the Heads of State and Government at the twentieth Summit Meeting of OAU (resolution AHG/Res.133(XX)) to set up a special emergency assistance fund in situations of drought and famine in Africa,

Aware, moreover, of the need to implement agricultural policies that give priority to food crops, market gardening and the utilization of fishery resources in order to achieve self-sufficiency in food,

Considering the important role of women in the food system,

1. Calls for the elimination of hunger in the world, particularly in Africa;
2. Recommends, for that purpose, the implementation of a concerted and integrated policy of solidarity in the struggle against hunger, particularly between African countries;
3. Invites the international community, the agencies and operational programmes of the United Nations system and the NGOs to contribute to the special emergency assistance fund in situations of drought and famine in Africa;
4. Recommends the intensification of research on women's role in food production;
5. Affirms the need to inform, sensitize and train agricultural management staff and technicians with regard to the importance of women's role in food production;
6. Recommends that particular attention be devoted to the training of women in agricultural, forestry, livestock and conservation techniques and that they be provided with all the factors of production (inter alia, land, fertilizers, agricultural credit) that are indispensable for their effective participation in the implementation of food policy as well as with equipment to lighten the burden of housework;
7. Recommends that measures be taken to make use of the techniques, methods and forms of traditional organization that have stood the test of time;
8. Calls on national women's organizations to participate in the formulation and implementation of agricultural policies and programmes aimed at creating food self-sufficiency in the African countries, and in the distribution of food aid;
9. Recommends the reorientation of food aid towards the implementation of agricultural programmes aimed at food self-sufficiency.

China, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Indonesia, Mali,*
Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka and
the United States of America: draft resolution

Programme for women up to the year 2000

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.26)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recalling the Economic and Social Council resolution on the programme for women,

Considering the efforts made during the Decade for the improvement of the status of women and taking into account the hopes and expectations aroused by those efforts,

Emphasizing the need to ensure the participation of women in preparing and carrying out development plans and policies at all levels,

1. Recommends Governments and all governmental and non-governmental institutions to do everything in their power for the execution of the Forward-looking Strategies of implementation for the advancement of women for the period up to the year 2000, and concrete measures to overcome obstacles to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace;
2. Appeals to the United Nations and to the various institutions concerned to carry out periodical evaluation of the activities and programmes for women at national, regional and subregional levels;
3. Appeals to decision-makers and donors to ensure that the needs of women are taken into account in all development programmes and projects;
4. Appeals urgently to sources of finance to free more of the essential financial resources for the execution of programmes in the framework of carrying out the Forward-looking Strategies of implementation for the advancement of women for the period up to the year 2000, and concrete measures to overcome obstacles to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.

* On behalf of the States members of the African Group.

Belgium, Canada, China, Denmark, Egypt,* France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Holy See, Italy, Luxembourg and United States of America: draft resolution

Drought and desertification in Africa

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.27, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.

Having noted that the phenomenon of drought, which has led to desertification, has affected more than two thirds of the African countries and even other regions of the world,

Considering that it has had grave consequences such as the loss of human life and large-scale population movements, decimation of livestock, which continue to threaten the physical and economic existence of millions of persons,

Aware of the wide range of its effects on the economies of the countries affected by desertification,

Recalling the decision of the Organization of African Unity to organize an extraordinary conference on drought and desertification in Africa,

Recalling resolution 499/XIX of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) dated 26 May 1984 concerning the adoption of a regional plan of action for combating the effects of the drought in Africa,

Recalling the ministerial conference for a concerted policy for combating desertification in the countries of the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), the Economic Community of West African States the Maghreb, Egypt and the Sudan held at Dakar on 17 and 18 July 1984,

Bearing in mind the forward-looking strategies of the African regional conference held at Arusha in October 1984, which stressed the repercussions of drought and desertification on the status of women,

Recalling that FAO has declared 1985 as an international forests year,

1. Recognizes the joint efforts of the African States to implement a coherent policy on water resources, the improvement of production systems, restoration of the ecological balance and the adoption of appropriate institutional and regulatory measures;

2. Nevertheless invites these States to develop a combat strategy based on an unfavourable climatic hypothesis and on effective participation of the peoples;

3. Recommends national women's organizations to sensitize the people on the need to combat desertification vigorously by campaigns for reafforestation, combating bush fires, and by the use of improved stoves or any other new and renewable sources of energy in order to economize on firewood;

* On behalf of the States members of the Group of 77.

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4. Recommends States and international organizations to take action to increase the recruitment, training, education and advancement of women in all fields of reafforestation, from decision-making to the implementation of programmes;

5. Appeals to the international community, to the operational programmes and agencies of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Meteorological Organization and to the non-governmental organizations to increase their financial and technical support for projects and programmes undertaken by CILSS, the Intergovernmental Agency for Drought and Desertification or any other African agency in the context of this struggle.

Denmark, Germany, Federal Republic of, Indonesia, Mali,* Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Spain, Sri Lanka, United States of America and Vanuatu: draft resolution

Improved conditions and opportunities for women

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.29, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Having reviewed the situation of women in the sphere of work during the last decade,

Aware of the economic, social and cultural differences existing among the various regions and countries of the world,

Having noted the progress achieved and the obstacles still confronting women workers in employment and vocational training in many countries,

Noting the need to expand and improve upon women's participation in employment and training to enable them to contribute effectively towards the economic development of their countries and also to improve their status in society,

Considering that the establishment of a new international economic order in accordance with United Nations resolutions will contribute towards ensuring better conditions of work and life for women especially in developing countries,

1. Reaffirms the significance of the principles contained in international resolutions, declarations, conventions and recommendations adopted by the United Nations and by the specialized agencies, in particular by the International Labour Organisation, relating to the elimination of discrimination against women and to the promotion of the equality of opportunities and treatment of women and men in employment and training;

2. Calls upon Member States which have not as yet ratified these conventions to do so and to implement them by institutionalizing measures to ensure equal opportunity and treatment for men and women in employment and training;

* On behalf of the States members of the African Group.

3. Urges Governments to take all the necessary measures to encourage an equitable balance in the distribution of men and women in the various sectors of the economy;

4. Calls upon Governments, non-governmental organizations and women's organizations to take measures to guarantee employment opportunities for women on an equal basis with men;

5. Appeals to all concerned social groups to intensify policies with a view to ensuring that men and women receive the same form of vocational orientation and guidance and access to all forms and levels of vocational training for all occupations and professions in accordance with national conditions;

6. Recommends States to provide investment and improve upon the social infrastructure, work environment and conditions in the formal and informal sectors where women workers are prevalent;

7. Urges States and groups within States to provide more crèches, day-care centres and other support to assist women in reconciling their work and child-care responsibilities;

8. Calls upon Governments, the International Labour Organisation and other specialized and development agencies and organizations to make concrete efforts to collect more reliable data and to provide practical assistance, such as training, credit, extension services and improved technologies, to the more disadvantaged groups of women, including the rural, the urban poor, migrant and young women, refugee women and female heads of households in the sphere of work;

9. Proposes to Governments and specialized agencies, such as the International Labour Organisation, that they take action on an urgent basis in a number of forms, such as conducting extensive research on the legal, economic and social conditions of home-based workers who are among the most exploited of women workers and devising legal and administrative mechanisms to protect the condition of such workers;

10. Encourages women to broaden their occupational horizon, to have more confidence in, and a positive perception of, their abilities and to play a more active role at all levels, including management, and in the trade unions;

11. Calls for measures to promote the employment of women that should form an integral part of national policies and national development to achieve full, productive and freely-chosen employment, which should be regarded as the means of ensuring in practice the realization of the right to work for men and women on an equal footing.

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Belgium, Botswana, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, France, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Holy See, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Spain, Swaziland, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Integration of women in development projects

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.30, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recognizing that development is a global process which also needs an ethic dimension that responds to the needs and rights of the human person and, therefore, to be just and effective, must involve both men and women without whose active participation its objectives cannot be reached,

Considering that the achievement of all the potentialities of an equitable process of development involves the integrated and efficient use of all the available human resources at the individual and collective levels,

Considering that the realization of such development is shared by the features of the local productive infrastructure and by the qualitative characteristics of the work-force available at the local level,

Considering that every development effort must aim at satisfying the needs which are concretely identified according to the social, economic and cultural context which is in the process of change,

Considering that knowledge of the basic social structure in its multiple social, political, economic, cultural and religious dimensions is a prerequisite for the planning and development of every development initiative,

Aware that it is necessary to ensure that women participate in elaboration, implementation and management of development projects in all phases, with particular attention given to the identification of the specific and changing needs of the community,

1. Recommends that Governments promote the training of women in order to ensure that they become agents of development and change within their economic, social and cultural context so as to accomplish the following functions:

(a) Identification and definition of needs;

(b) Identification and definition of the required human, structural and financial resources;

(c) As the focal point for the implementation of such development projects by acting as the link between the needs identified and expressed on the one hand, and the public and private institutions concerned with the implementation of development projects on the other;

(d) Promotion of the monitoring and evaluation of the development projects by national women's organizations or by appropriate governmental or non-governmental bodies;

2. Recommends that Governments take the appropriate measures to provide women with access to credit in order to ensure that they effectively carry out their role as agents of development;

3. Invites Governments, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to undertake initiatives in the area of international co-operation that would favour the training and action of women as agents of development in order to recognize women as essential subjects of self-reliant development.

Algeria, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Chad, Congo, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Mali, Mauritania, Nepal, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

International Centre for Public Enterprises in Developing Countries

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.31, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Considering the important role of public sector enterprises in developing countries in promoting their social and economic development and in fostering economic and technical co-operation among developing countries,

Considering also the role and position of women as a factor of development and the responsibilities of public enterprises in this regard,

Bearing in mind the programme of work of the International Centre for Public Enterprises in Developing Countries as a joint institution of developing countries, in improving the management and performance of public enterprises in these countries and also in respect of the enhancement of the status of women in development and in view of the study on the role of women in developing countries, recently prepared by the Centre,

Emphasizing the importance of action-oriented research, training and consultancy with a view of integrating women as a factor of development,

1. Stresses the importance of strengthening co-operation among developing countries also through the Centre as an institutional form of technical and economic co-operation among developing countries, particularly in promoting the role of women as a factor of development in all fields and at all levels of co-operation, especially through the operation of public enterprises in all developing countries;

2. Requests the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to continue to co-operate in the activities of the Centre, in particular in the implementation of its programme on women as a factor of development and the responsibilities of public enterprises in this regard beyond the Decade;

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3. Appeals to developed countries further to support and strengthen co-operation with the Centre in this direction.

Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Botswana, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Congo, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dominica, Fiji, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Holy See, India, Italy, Kenya, Kuwait, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Nepal, New Zealand, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Togo, Tunisia, United States of America, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Improvement of the condition of women of all ages with disabilities and of women who have a person with a disability in their family

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.32, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.

Recalling resolution 13 adopted by the World Conference of the International Women's Year, concerning elderly women and disabled women,

Recalling the Declaration on Social Progress and Development adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 2542 (XXIV),

Recalling General Assembly resolution 34/154 of 17 December 1979, on the International Year of the Disabled, which has as its theme Full Participation and Equality,

Recalling resolution 2 adopted by the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, which is aimed at improving the condition of disabled women of all ages,

Recalling all relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly related to the World Programme of Action concerning disabled persons for the decade 1983-1992,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/19 of 26 March 1983, on the realization of the World Programme of Action,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 39/26 of 21 December 1984, on the realization of the World Programme,

Having understood the targets of the World Programme of Action concerning disabled persons, related, on the one hand, to concrete measures of prevention of disabilities and, on the other, to activities leading to rehabilitation which aims at the effective realization of the principle of participation and equality,

Recalling that, in the field of prevention, it is above all the State, the United Nations, the specialized agencies and the non-governmental organizations that must undertake continued and precise action for the dissemination of information on the prevention of disability, notably among women, and above all in

those States in which the education and instruction of children depend up to now almost exclusively on women,

Observing that prevention includes particular care regarding hygiene, nutrition, health, risk factors, care of the mother during pregnancy and childbirth,

Recognizing that if disabled women and men have the same right to enjoy a decent life, to be integrated in conditions of equality in each sector of social life, disabled women encounter more difficulties in integrating and improving their intellectual and physical capacity,

Considering that in those families in which there are disabled persons, the burden of their care and recovery lies up to now predominantly or entirely on women,

1. Invites all men and women of the world to make an effort by all possible means and in the framework of available resources, to ensure that the information campaigns on disability prevention promoted by States, the United Nations, the specialized agencies, in particular the International Labour Organisation, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Health Organization, and the non-governmental organizations are successful;

2. Requests all States to implement the World Programme of Action concerning disabled persons for the decade 1983-1992;

3. Invites all States to take adequate action, in the framework of this Programme, in favour of disabled women, notably as concerns health assistance, as well as access to work or instruction;

4. Requests all States to ensure disabled persons equal opportunities in each sector of social life, as a means of providing disabled women easier access to education, training, employment, culture, health, religion, sports and information;

5. Requests all States to remove all barriers to architecture, transport, communication and legislation in order to ensure to such persons full participation and equal opportunities;

6. Further invites all States to adopt particular measures in their national planning for the provision of services and structures for disabled persons, which aim to protect those women who have a disabled person in their family, since such a burden weighs notably more heavily on women; such measures would enable them to lead as normal a life as possible;

7. Requests, to this end, all States to establish a series of legislative measures which include those which would permit both parents to work in the family place of residence in order to enable them to care for their disabled relative in the most adequate and least burdensome manner;

8. Decides that, in implementing the Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women for the Period 1986 to the Year 2000, the needs of women of all ages with disabilities should be taken fully into consideration at the national, regional and international levels.

Argentina, Belize, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chile, China, Congo, Cyprus, France, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Indonesia, Italy, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Strengthening women's machineries at the national, regional and international levels to ensure the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies up to the year 2000

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.33, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Having in mind the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace and the subtheme: Education, Health and Employment,

Recalling the Plan of Action adopted at Mexico City in 1975 and the Programme of Action enunciated at the mid-Decade Conference at Copenhagen,

Taking into consideration the Forward-looking Strategies up to the year 2000 of this World Conference marking the end of the United Nations Decade for Women,

Realizing the need for effective implementation of such strategies,

1. Urges Governments to strengthen their national or internal machineries to enable them to effectively carry out the Forward-looking Strategies appropriate to their national needs;
2. Urges further all Governments to work for the establishment of institutional linkages and networks in their regions and subregions for the purpose of adopting regional and subregional approaches for the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies;
3. Calls on Member States and the United Nations system to render existing regional and subregional co-ordinating machineries more operative in order to ensure the more effective performance of the necessary task of co-ordination entrusted to them;
4. Calls on Member States and the United Nations to strengthen the Commission on the Status of Women by giving it more importance and greater access to resources and to consider the possibility of convening annual sessions of the Commission;
5. Urges the machineries on the national, regional and international levels to undertake periodic reviews, appraisals and evaluations of the progress made in the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies;
6. Calls on the Commission on the Status of Women to develop priorities for women's concerns and to recommend these priorities to all bodies and agencies of the United Nations and to monitor the progress of work thereon;

7. Urges the Secretary-General to take measures to integrate women in all United Nations projects and to promote such integration in the United Nations system.

Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Kenya, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Suriname, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Establishment and support of national and regional bodies for the development of women

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.34, as revised, amalgamating documents A/CONF.116/C.2/L.13 and L.15)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.

Taking into account resolution 39 adopted by the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, held in Copenhagen in 1980, entitled "Establishment and strengthening of machinery for the integration of women in development",

Considering the report of the Secretary-General on the review and evaluation of progress achieved in the Decade, and recognizing that most countries have expressed the desire to increase and intensify programmes for the development of strategies for the period up to the year 2000 that will ensure the integration of women in the development process, and that it is necessary for that purpose to support the efforts of national and regional organizations and bodies.

Recognizing the need to ensure full co-ordination of the activities carried out by these organizations and bodies with the support of the United Nations and other regional intergovernmental organizations.

Recommends that:

(a) All Member States be urged to establish national organizations and bodies responsible for women's programmes where they do not yet exist, or to support those which already exist, in order to accelerate the integration of women into development processes by giving them the necessary financial, technical and human resources for the attainment of their objectives;

(b) Activities for support and co-ordination among intergovernmental agencies be promoted in order to avoid the overlapping of programmes and the inappropriate utilization of financial resources;

(c) Member States be urged to continue to co-operate with the regional and international agencies that carry out women's programmes;

(d) The specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations be urged to continue to appropriate the necessary financial resources in order to increase and intensify programmes specifically designed for women;

(e) The Secretary-General be requested to inform the General Assembly on the measures taken to implement the present resolution.

Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Cyprus, Ecuador, Gabon, Ghana, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Italy, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Philippines, Rwanda, Spain, Swaziland, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America and Venezuela: draft resolution

Women in the United Nations

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.35, as revised, amalgamating documents A/CONF.116/C.2/L.4 and L.10)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Reaffirming resolution 24 adopted by the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Concerned that the 1982 targets for Professional posts held by women approved by the General Assembly in resolution 33/143 have not been met by 1985,

Convinced that the realization of the goals of the Decade: Equality, Development and Peace requires the full participation of women in both the formulation of policy and the implementation of programmes and projects at all levels of activity of the United Nations system, including decision-making levels,

Recognizing the exemplary role provided by the United Nations to other intergovernmental organizations, as well as to the specialized agencies and Member States,

Acknowledging that women are making a significant contribution to the economic, social and political development of individual States and that this contribution could be further enhanced by their complete integration into national and international decision-making,

Convinced that progress in these matters can only be achieved through political commitment at the highest levels, demonstrated through positive implementation measures and accountable management practices,

Welcoming the recent establishment of the Office of the Co-ordinator for the Status of Women,

1. Calls upon the Secretary-General and the heads of the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies to establish new five-year targets at each level for the percentage of women in the Professional and higher categories: by 1990, 30 per cent of all Professional and higher posts should be held by women; additional targets should be set every five years;

2. Requests the Secretary-General and the heads of the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies to put in place the necessary mechanisms to achieve these targets by taking the following steps:

(a) Enforcing the policy statement of the organization to more explicitly demonstrate commitment, by requiring accountability in line with management practices of the Organization;

(b) Designating a co-ordinator at the highest level and within existing resources in each United Nations organization, at headquarters and at the regional offices, mandated to plan and implement positive actions to improve the participation of women at all levels of the Organization;

(c) Allocating adequate resources to the Co-ordinator to enable her, inter alia, to develop a roster of qualified women, identify posts likely to fall vacant, review position descriptions and recommend appropriate modifications to ensure that their impact does not discriminate against women, undertake special recruitment missions, and monitor and report on organizational progress;

3. Calls upon Member States to assist the United Nations organizations in meeting targets by increasing their efforts to provide qualified female candidates for each vacant post;

4. Requests the Secretary-General, the heads of the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies to create the conditions necessary for equitable career development for women in all categories at headquarters and in the field by the adoption of specific positive measures which ensure that percentages of eligible women are not lower than those of eligible men at the same grade, in promotions, training and representational functions;

5. Further requests the Secretary-General, the heads of the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies to demonstrate commitment to the advancement of women by taking special measures to counteract possible gender biases of both women and men against roles, skills and capabilities of women including (a) the appointment of more women to decision-making posts; (b) the establishment of training programmes to facilitate changes in attitude and to support management development; and (c) the provision of new opportunities for the career development of all categories of female staff;

6. Recommends that the Secretary-General consider the possibility of convening a high-level seminar before the forty-first session of the General Assembly, in which all directors of personnel in the United Nations system as well as representatives of Governments would participate in order to elaborate an operational plan of action to be implemented to redress the current situation;

7. Requests the Secretary-General and the heads of specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies to report annually to the General Assembly or to the governing bodies of the specialized agencies on the situation and the progress made in the implementation of the above measures and to take special remedial action within the Secretariat, the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies.

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Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Liberia,
Malawi, Norway and Sweden: draft resolution

Strengthening of the co-ordination and implementation of
the activities for the advancement of women within the
United Nations system

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.36, amalgamating documents
A/CONF.116/C.2/L.1, L.12 and L.16)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United
Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Bearing in mind the important role of the United Nations in promoting global awareness and efforts to achieve the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Expressing its deep concern that the goals and objectives set out for the United Nations Decade for Women are far from being achieved,

Noting in this regard the conclusions contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the review of selected major issues in the medium-term plans of the organizations of the United Nations system: women and development (A/CONF.116/15),

Recognizing the need to fully integrate the needs and concerns of women in the regular programmes, policies and activities of the United Nations Secretariat and the organizations of the United Nations system,

Recognizing further the need for greater coherence and efficiency in the policies and programmes relating to women in the United Nations and its constituent bodies,

Stressing accordingly the importance of taking measures aiming at increased interaction, co-operation and co-ordination among the specialized agencies and other bodies and organizations of the United Nations system in order to develop a comprehensive and system-wide integrated approach to the issues that are crucial for the advancement of women,

1. Urges the specialized agencies and the other organs, bodies and organizations of the United Nations system to take fully into account issues and concerns of women in the planning, programming and evaluation of their activities;

2. Recommends the intensification of inter-agency co-operation and co-ordination among United Nations bodies and organizations in order to develop a comprehensive and integrated approach to issues related to women, thereby increasing the long-term effectiveness of the United Nations in promoting the advancement of women;

3. Reaffirms the central policy and advisory role of the Commission on the Status of Women in considering matters related to women and, in this context, reaffirms that the Branch for the Advancement of Women, as the substantive secretariat of the Commission on the Status of Women, should receive the support needed to fulfil satisfactorily its responsibilities;

4. Expresses the need to encourage the Economic and Social Council to play a more forceful and dynamic role in relation to the co-ordination of United Nations activities for the advancement of women;

5. Recommends the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to strengthen the Branch for the Advancement of Women within the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs and the co-ordination of activities for the integration of women's concerns and the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies within the United Nations, as well as in the United Nations system, and to ensure that the integration of women's concerns are given priority and are reinforced at the highest levels of the United Nations Secretariat;

6. Recommends further that the Secretary-General in his capacity as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and through the programming, planning and budgeting function takes the initiative in particular to formulate a system-wide medium-term plan for women and development which would include, inter alia, comprehensive policies, specific plans of action and specific programmes addressed both at integrating women's concerns into the mainstream of United Nations activities and at the specific needs of women;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to report annually to the General Assembly on the results of efforts made to advance the integration of women's concerns in the planning, programming and evaluation of the activities of the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies and to ensure that the report is submitted for consideration to the regular sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women.

Botswana, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mongolia, Morocco, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas

(document A/CONF.116/C.2/L.37, amalgamating documents A/CONF.116/C.2/L.2 and L.28)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.

Bearing in mind the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recalling the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, adopted in Copenhagen and approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 35/136 of 11 December 1980,

Recalling the Declaration of Principles and Programmes of Action adopted by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development and General Assembly resolutions 34/14 of 9 November 1979, 35/59 of 3 December 1982 and 39/126 of 14 December 1984 concerning the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas,

Noting with satisfaction the compilation by the Secretary-General of observations and comments made on the report of the Interregional Seminar on National Experience relating to the Improvement of the Situation of Women in Rural Areas, held at Vienna from 17 to 28 September 1984 and the recommendations of the regional intergovernmental preparatory meetings,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the activities and programmes concerning rural women,

Reaffirming the importance attached in the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, as well as in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, to the need to improve the status of women and ensure their full participation both as agents and beneficiaries in the development process,

Convinced that the strengthening of international peace and co-operation is one of the most important conditions for further improving the situation of women, including women in rural areas,

Noting with grave concern the continuing disastrous situation of women in rural areas of many countries, in particular developing countries,

1. Calls upon Governments to work out and implement special comprehensive programmes for improving the situation of women in rural areas, taking into account the role played by women in the life of society and to establish monitoring and evaluating mechanisms for these programmes involving women themselves;
2. Requests the United Nations and its specialized agencies to pay greater attention to the needs of rural women and to assist Member States, especially developing countries, in the formulation of technical assistance programmes and in the implementation of the investment projects involving the improvement of rural areas and the improvement of the status of women;
3. Recommends a strengthening of co-ordination among multilateral and bilateral activities aimed at promoting the interests of rural women;
4. Requests the Secretary-General, when presenting to the General Assembly at its fortieth session the report of the Interregional Seminar on National Experience relating to the Improvement of the Situation of Women in Rural Areas, to take into account and sum up the results of the Conference's discussions on the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas as well as the observations and comments on the above-mentioned report.

3. Draft declaration

Afghanistan, Algeria, Benin, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cape Verde, Congo, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mali, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Poland, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft declaration

Nairobi Declaration on the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace

(document A/CONF.116/L.4/Rev.1, as revised)

The World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recalling that the Charter of the United Nations expresses the resolve of the peoples to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, and to promote social progress and better standards of living in larger freedom,

Emphasizing that the World Conference has gathered in Nairobi during a period of serious deterioration of the social and economic situation affecting particularly the developing countries,

Expressing its deep concern at the profound economic and social crisis that particularly Africa is experiencing as a result of severe recurrent drought, famine, external debt and the effects of the international economic situation which have in the last few years assumed alarming proportions, seriously jeopardizing not only the development process but, more ominously, the very survival of millions of people, especially that of women and children,

Deeply alarmed by the severe foreign debt crisis of the developing countries, enormous servicing burden which is unbearable for their resources and its growing negative impact on the people, in particular women and children of these countries,

Aware of the important role played by women in the history of humanity and the enhancing social progress, in particular, in the struggle for self-determination, national independence, the strengthening of international peace and security, disarmament, and against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, apartheid, and all other forms of racism and racial discrimination,

Paying tribute to the women of the developing countries who together with their peoples have won national liberation and are now contributing appreciably to the struggle for their countries' independent political, economic and social development,

Recalling that the problems faced by women, who constitute half of the world's population, being essentially the problems of society as a whole requires the changing of the political, economic and social conditions of women and should therefore become an integral part of the activities to transform those social and economic structures and views which impede their effective participation and contribution in society,

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Highly appreciating the contribution made by the United Nations in enhancing the improvement of the status of women to ensure their genuine equality and provide conditions for greater integration of women in the political, economic and social development process,

Noting the importance of the International Women's Year and the United Nations Decade for Women with its goals: Equality, Development and Peace and sub-theme: Employment, Health and Education and of holding the World Conferences in Mexico City, Copenhagen and Nairobi, which adopted fundamental strategy decisions in the area of improving the status of women, as the World Plan of Action, the Programme of Action and the Forward-looking Strategies,

Noting with satisfaction the adoption during the United Nations Decade for Women of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Declaration on the participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation, which constituted an important contribution to the implementation of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, and are of great importance for the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies,

Being convinced that the establishment of the new international economic order and confidence building in relations among States, creation of favourable conditions for the economic and social progress of the developing countries will help provide favourable conditions for the solution of pressing economic and social problems they are facing, including that of ensuring equal rights for women at all levels and in all spheres of life,

Emphasizing grave concern over the fact that in several regions of the world and in a number of countries there are persisting obstacles in the way of implementing the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, which impede progress in improving the status of women,

Expressing alarm over the growing danger of nuclear war, which threatens the very existence of mankind, placing an increasingly heavier burden on the peoples of the world, slowing down economic and social progress and diverting enormous material and financial resources to non-productive purposes,

Expressing its grave concern that in spite of various resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly and those of the Security Council calling upon the régime in South Africa to abandon its heinous policy of apartheid, to end oppression and repression of the black majority and to seek a peaceful, just and lasting solution in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the South Africa racist régime still deprives the oppressed majority of these basic human rights, continues the illegal occupation of Namibia and pursues an aggressive policy against the front-line States,

Condemning the further escalation of ruthless repression by the Pretoria régime, including the use of the armed forces against the oppressed people resulting in killing and wounding of hundreds of people and the arrest of thousands of opponents of apartheid,

Reaffirming that apartheid is a crime against humanity and a threat to international peace and security,

Gravely concerned over the threat to international peace and security, and repeated acts of aggression caused by the policies of apartheid,

Being greatly alarmed by the deplorable living conditions of women and children in occupied Palestine and other Arab territories who are suffering from foreign occupation, from the effects of forced dislocation, loss of ancestral lands and property and from the continuing violation of their fundamental rights and freedoms,

Noting the role of the Commission on the Status of Women in preparing the Conference and addressing the issues relevant to the status of women,

1. Reaffirms once again that attaining the objectives declared by the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, remain the most important goal of the international community in improving the status of women of all countries and nations;

2. Reaffirms in this context the decisions and recommendations adopted by the World Conferences held in Mexico City and Copenhagen and the 1975 Declaration of Mexico on the Equality of Women and their Contribution to Development and Peace, the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women;

3. Declares that the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace remain valid in the activities of States, of the bodies and organizations of the United Nations system for the period up to the year 2000;

4. Calls upon all States to make every effort and to continue to take necessary measures in order to implement those objectives fully and consistently with a view to eradicating all forms of discrimination against women;

5. Urges all States and international organizations to continue their efforts and adopt special measures aimed at overcoming the economic and social problems faced by developing countries;

6. Further urges all organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to give greater attention to developing countries, especially the least developed countries, and to continue to mobilize resources for assisting these countries in dealing with the current crisis and its longer-term ramifications;

7. Appeals to all States to render all the necessary assistance to African countries seriously affected by drought by channelling both relief and rehabilitation assistance;

8. Calls upon all States to actively continue efforts aimed at integrating women most effectively in the development processes to ensure their full participation in the political, economic, social, cultural and other spheres of life;

9. Calls upon all States to unite and intensify their efforts aimed at ensuring peace and security, averting the threat of nuclear war, preventing the arms race, especially in outer space, with a view to attaining general and complete disarmament under effective international control and ultimately eliminating nuclear weapons in order to preserve life on Earth;

10. Reaffirms that the strengthening of international peace and security and co-operation among all States irrespective of their social and economic systems, on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence are the most important prerequisites for ensuring socio-economic progress and equal rights for women;

11. Strongly condemns the apartheid régime of South Africa for its continued brutal oppression, repression and violence, its illegal occupation of Namibia and its repeated acts of aggression, subversion and terrorism against independent African States;

12. Declares that only the total eradication of apartheid and the establishment of a non-racial democratic society based on majority rule, through the full and free exercise of adult suffrage by all the people in a united and non-fragmented South Africa, can lead to a just and lasting solution of the explosive situation in South Africa;

13. Strongly condemns Israel for its continued policy of oppression and repression against people in the Palestinian and other Arab territories under its illegal occupation and for its acts of aggression against neighbouring Arab States;

14. Calls on the international community to make all the necessary efforts in order to ensure the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people for self-determination; and the establishment of their own national State on their own national soil;

15. Urges Governments to take appropriate measures in order to implement the Forward-looking Strategies for the period up to the year 2000, and the relevant resolutions and decisions of the Nairobi Conference at the national, regional and international levels;

16. Calls upon organizations and agencies of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, to draw up appropriate programmes for the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies for the period up to the year 2000;

17. Requests the Secretary-General to submit on a regular basis to the Economic and Social Council, through the Commission on the Status of Women, proposals on the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies for the period up to the year 2000 for the purpose of improving the status of women in connection with progress made in pursuing the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade;

18. Recommends that the United Nations General Assembly consider at its fortieth session appropriate measures that will allow the Commission on the Status of Women to effectively carry out its responsibilities with regard to the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies for the period up to the year 2000;

19. Recommends also that the fortieth session of the United Nations General Assembly declare that the period up to the year 2000 be dedicated to women for the advancement of the goals: Equality, Development and Peace.

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 International Confederation of Midwives
 International Co-operative Alliance
 International Council for Adult Education
 International Council of Jewish Women
 International Council of Nurses
 International Council of Voluntary Agencies
 International Council of Women
 International Council on Alcohol and Addictions
 International Council on Social Welfare
 International Federation for Home Economics
 International Federation of Agricultural Producers
 International Federation of Associations of the Elderly
 International Federation of Business and Professional Women
 International Federation of Gynaecology and Obstetrics
 International Federation of Human Rights
 International Federation of Operational Research Societies
 International Federation of Settlement Houses and Neighbourhood Centres
 International Federation of University Women
 International Federation of Women in Legal Careers
 International Federation of Women Lawyers
 International Federation on Aging
 International Human Rights Internship Program
 International Juridical Organization
 International Movement A.T.D. Fourth World
 International Movement for Fraternal Union among Races and Peoples
 International Organization of Consumers' Unions
 International Organization of Employers
 International Peace Research Association
 International Planned Parenthood Federation
 International Prisoners Aid Association
 International Public Relations Association
 International Social Science Council
 International Social Service
 International Society for Community Development
 International Studies Association
 International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences
 International Union of Family Organizations
 International Union of Students
 International Women's Anthropology Conference, Inc.
 International Women's Tribune Centre
 International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations
 Jaycees International
 Latin American Council of Catholic Women
 Latin American Federation of Association of Relatives of Disappeared Detainees
 Liberal International
 Lutheran World Federation
 Medical Women's International Association
 Movement for a Better World
 Minority Rights Group
 Movement Against Racism and for Friendship among People
 National Organization for Women
 Overseas Education Fund International

Pan-African Institute for Development
 Pan-African Women's Organization
 Pan Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association
 Parliamentary Association for Euro-Arab Cooperation
 Pax Romana
 Population Crisis Committee
 Population Institute
 Prison Fellowship International
 St. Joan's International Alliance
 Radda Barnen International
 Salvation Army (The)
 Save the Children Fund
 Socialist International
 Socialist International Women
 Society for International Development
 Soroptimist International
 The Hunger Project
 Third World Movement against the Exploitation of Women
 United Towns Organization
 Universal Esperanto Association
 Vienna Institute for Development
 War Resisters International
 Women's International Democratic Federation
 Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
 Women International Zionist Organization
 World Alliance of Reformed Churches
 World Assembly of Small and Medium Enterprises
 World Assembly of Youth
 World Association for Christian Communication
 World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts
 World Association of World Federalists
 World Blind Union
 World Confederation of Labour
 World Confederation of Organizations of the Teaching Profession
 World Council of Indigenous Peoples
 World Federation for Mental Health
 World Federation of Associations for the Promotion of Voluntary Surgical World
 Contraception
 World Federation of Democratic Youth
 World Federation of Methodist Women
 World Federation of Public Health Organizations
 World Federation of Scientific Workers
 World Federation of Teachers Unions
 World Federation of Trade Unions
 World Federation of United Nations Associations
 World Jewish Congress
 World Movement of Mothers
 World Muslim Congress
 World Organization for Early Childhood Education
 World Organization of the Scout Movement
 World ORT Union
 World Peace Council
 World Student Christian Federation
 World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations

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World University Service
World Veterans Federation
Worldview International Foundation
World Vision International
World Women's Christian Temperance Union
World Young Women's Christian Association
Zonta International

ANNEX III

List of documents

A. Basic Conference documentation

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
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A/CONF.116/2	Provisional rules of procedure
A/CONF.116/3	Organizational and procedural matters
A/CONF.116/4	World survey on the role of women in development: report of the Secretary-General
A/CONF.116/5 and Add.1 and Corr.1; Add.2 and Corr.1; Add.3 and Corr.1; Add.4 and Corr.1 and 2; Add.5 and Corr.1 and 2; Add.6 and Corr.1; Add.7 and Corr.1; Add.8 and Corr.1; Add.9 and Corr.1; Add.10 and Corr.1; Add.11 and Corr.1 and 2; Add.12 and Corr.1 and 2; Add.13 and Corr.1; Add.14 and Corr.1	Review and appraisal of progress achieved and obstacles encountered at the national level in the realization of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace: report of the Secretary-General
A/CONF.116/6	The situation of women and children living in the occupied Arab territories and other occupied territories: report of the Secretary-General
A/CONF.116/7 and Corr.1, 2 and 3	Review and appraisal of the situation of women and children living under racist minority régimes: report of the Secretary-General
A/CONF.116/8 and Corr.1	Review and appraisal of the progress achieved and the obstacles encountered by the United Nations system at the regional and international levels in attaining the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace: report of the Secretary-General

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
A/CONF.116/9 and Corr.1	Recommendations of regional intergovernmental preparatory meetings: report of the Secretary-General
A/CONF.116/10	Selected statistics and indicators on the status of women: report of the Secretary-General
A/CONF.116/11	The activities and programmes of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on behalf of refugee women: report of the Secretary-General
A/CONF.116/12	Forward-looking Strategies of implementation for the advancement of women and concrete measures to overcome obstacles to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women for the period 1986 to the year 2000: Equality, Development and Peace: note by the Secretariat
A/CONF.116/13	Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on the achievements of and obstacles encountered by States parties in the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
A/CONF.116/14	The participation of non-governmental organizations in the United Nations Decade for Women: report of the Secretary-General
A/CONF.116/15	Review of selected major issues in the medium-term plans of the organizations of the United Nations System: Women and Development: note by the Secretariat
A/CONF.116/16	Review and appraisal of progress achieved and obstacles encountered at the national level in the realization of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace: note by the Secretary-General
A/CONF.116/17	Adoption of the rules of procedure: note by the Secretariat

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A/CONF.116/18	Letter dated 15 July 1985 addressed by the head of the delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the President of the Conference	A/I
A/CONF.116/19	Letter dated 15 July 1985 addressed by the head of the delegation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and to the President of the Conference	A/I
A/CONF.116/20	Letter dated 15 July 1985 addressed by the head of the delegation of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen to the President of the Conference	A/I
A/CONF.116/21	Report of the Credentials Committee	A/C
A/CONF.116/22	Letter dated 23 July 1985, from the head of the delegation of Democratic Kampuchea, addressed to the President of the Conference	A/C
A/CONF.116/23	Letter dated July from the United States of America in reply to document A/CONF.116/18 containing the joint statement of the Soviet Union and its satellite States	A/C
A/CONF.116/24	Letter dated 20 July 1985 addressed by the head of the delegation of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and to the President of the Conference	A/C
A/CONF.116/25	Letter dated 25 July 1985 addressed by the heads of the delegations of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Hungarian People's Republic, German Democratic Republic, Korean People's Democratic Republic, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolian People's Republic, Polish People's Republic, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the President of the Conference	A/O

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A/CONF.116/26

Letter dated 25 July 1985 addressed to the President of the Conference by the head of the delegation of India

A/CONF.116/27

Letter dated 26 July 1985 addressed to the President of the Conference by the head of the delegation of Israel

A/CONF.116/CC/WP.1

Memorandum of the Secretary-General of the Conference on the status of credentials of representatives of participants attending the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace

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Report of the pre-Conference consultations held at the Kenyatta International Conference Centre

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Decisions by the Conference concerning the allocation of items and concerning the organization of the work of the committees

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Draft report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace

A/CONF.116/L.4 and Corr.1

Nairobi Declaration on the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace: draft declaration proposed by Ethiopia

A/CONF.116/L.4/Rev.1

Nairobi Declaration on the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace: draft declaration proposed by Afghanistan, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Cuba, Democratic Yemen, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mali, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Uganda, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe

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A/CONF.116/C.1/L.4

Young women's right to education: draft resolution submitted by Algeria, Bangladesh, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Ecuador, Finland, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Italy, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Venezuela, Zaire and Zambia

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Assistance from non-governmental organizations to women and children, particularly in drought-stricken countries: draft resolution submitted by Niger

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Assistance to refugees from Afghanistan: draft resolution submitted by Pakistan

A/CONF.116/C.1/L.7

Elimination of discrimination against women as one of the most important conditions for social and economic progress: draft resolution submitted by Angola, Congo, Democratic Yemen, Guinea-Bissau, Italy, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Philippines, Poland, Seychelles, Syrian Arab Republic and Zambia

A/CONF.116/C.1/L.8

Women's health and well-being: draft resolution submitted by Switzerland and Thailand

A/CONF.116/C.1/L.9

Protection of women in periods of armed conflict: draft resolution submitted by Switzerland and Austria

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A/CONF.116/C.1/L.12	Obstacles preventing women from practising their role in realizing the aims of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, due to the continuation of the Iraq-Iranian armed conflict: draft resolution by Bahrain, Djibouti, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Somalia, Sudan, Yemen and Zambia	A/CO
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A/CONF.116/C.1/L.14	Women and development priorities: draft resolution submitted by Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Spain and Sweden	A/COI
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Increased participation of women in United Nations activities in the field of peace, disarmament and arms limitation: draft resolution submitted by Australia, Egypt, India, Indonesia, New Zealand, Spain and Sri Lanka

A/CONF.116/C.1/L.18

Education and training: draft resolution submitted by Algeria, Cuba, Dominican Republic, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Panama, Spain, Venezuela and Zambia

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Contribution of women to the realization of the right of peoples to peace: draft resolution submitted by Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Democratic Yemen, German Democratic Republic, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritius, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Poland, Syrian Arab Republic and Viet Nam

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Women and health: draft resolution submitted by Algeria, Australia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Finland, Guinea-Bissau, India, Jamaica, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Spain, United Republic of Tanzania and Venezuela

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Health and well-being of the Women of the South Pacific: draft resolution submitted by Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu

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Women and peace: draft resolution submitted by Argentina, Greece, India, Kenya, Mexico, Sweden and United Republic of Tanzania

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Workers with family responsibilities: draft resolution submitted by Australia and Austria

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A/CONF.116/C.1/L.32	Women and children under <u>apartheid</u> : draft resolution submitted by Botswana, Bulgaria, Haiti, Mali, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Senegal, Trinidad and Tobago, United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire and Zambia
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A/CONF.116/C.1/L.34	Support for women in island developing countries: draft resolution submitted by Barbados, Jamaica, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago
A/CONF.116/C.1/L.35	Health immunization: draft resolution submitted by Kenya
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A/CONF.116/C.1/L.39	Women and food security: draft resolution submitted by Botswana, Burkina Faso, Italy, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Zambia and Zimbabwe
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A/CONF.116/C.1/L.50	Commercial publicity harmful to the dignity of women: draft resolution submitted by Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Paraguay and Venezuela	A/O
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A/CONF.116/C.1/L.58	Unemployment: draft resolution submitted by Austria and Spain
A/CONF.116/C.1/L.59	New technologies: draft resolution submitted by Austria
A/CONF.116/C.1/L.60	Participation of women in the process of restructuring international economic relations on a just and democratic basis: draft resolution submitted by Hungary and Indonesia
A/CONF.116/C.1/L.61	Palestinian women and children: draft resolution submitted by Democratic Yemen
A/CONF.116/C.1/L.62	Genetic technology: draft resolution submitted by Austria
A/CONF.116/C.1/L.63	Sexual violence against women and children: draft resolution submitted by Austria and Spain
A/CONF.116/C.1/L.64	Global concerns for peace and the plight of women: draft resolution submitted by Islamic Republic of Iran
A/CONF.116/C.1/L.65	<u>Apartheid</u> : draft resolution submitted by Mali*

* On behalf of the African Group.

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A/CONF.116/C.1/L.66	Namibia: draft resolution submitted by Mali*	A/I
A/CONF.116/C.1/L.67	Women and children living in zones affected by armed conflict: draft resolution submitted by Mali*	
A/CONF.116/C.1/L.68	Refugee and displaced women: draft resolution submitted by Mali*	A/I
A/CONF.116/C.1/L.69	Front-line States: draft resolution submitted by Mali*	
A/CONF.116/C.1/L.70	Latin American and Caribbean women and the critical economic situation: draft resolution submitted by Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and Venezuela	A/I
A/CONF.116/C.1/L.71	Women and the environment: draft resolution submitted by Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Japan, Nepal, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	A/C
A/CONF.116/C.1/L.72	Reporting system on the advancement of women: draft resolution submitted by Sierra Leone	A/C
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A/CONF.116/C.1/L.75	Women and education: perspectives for the year 2000: draft resolution submitted by Indonesia, Japan, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Thailand, and Trinidad and Tobago	A/O

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A/CONF.116/C.1/L.77	Refugee and displaced women: draft resolution submitted by Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea and Thailand
A/CONF.116/C.1/L.78	Women and education: perspectives for the year 2000: draft resolution submitted by Ecuador, Indonesia, Japan, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Romania, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Thailand, and Trinidad and Tobago
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A/CONF.116/C.2/L.2	Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas: draft resolution submitted by Bulgaria, Cameroon, Colombia, Ethiopia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Morocco, Nicaragua, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam and Zambia	A/C A/C
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Programme for women up to the year 2000: draft resolution submitted by Mali (on behalf of the African Group)

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Drought and desertification in Africa: draft resolution submitted by Mali (on behalf of the African Group)

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Rural women: draft resolution submitted by Mali (on behalf of the African Group)

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Report of the Interregional Seminar
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Women and apartheid in South Africa
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