

mentations for action by Governments, the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations and which would explain the relevance of the implementation of the Plan to the daily lives of men and women throughout the world;

20. *Decides* to convene in 1980, at the mid-term of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, a world conference of all States to review and evaluate the progress made in implementing the objectives of the International Women's Year as recommended by the World Conference of the International Women's Year and, where necessary, to readjust existing programmes in the light of new data and research available.

2441st plenary meeting  
15 December 1975

**3521 (XXX). Equality between men and women and elimination of discrimination against women**

*The General Assembly,*

*Welcoming* the results of the World Conference of the International Women's Year,<sup>64</sup> held at Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975,

*Recalling* the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations which, *inter alia*, emphasize the importance of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion and for the equality of men and women,

*Firmly convinced* that discrimination against women is incompatible with human dignity and prevents social progress and the achievement of the goals of development,

*Mindful* that the continuation of armed conflicts, the arms race, colonialism, foreign occupation, racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid* hinders the effective realization of equal rights for women and prevents the improvement of the situation of women and their wider participation in all spheres of life,

*Noting* conventions and recommendations concerning the rights of women adopted under the aegis and within the framework of the United Nations and its specialized agencies and the progress achieved in their implementation,

*Noting* that all States are not yet parties to relevant conventions and other instruments elaborated by the United Nations, the International Labour Organisation, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other United Nations bodies,

*Expressing concern* in connexion with continuing discrimination in many countries against women in many fields, in particular in labour relations and general and professional education and training,

*Aware* that women, enjoying fully the rights provided for in the relevant international instruments, should play an equal role with men in all spheres of life, including the ensuring of peace and the strengthening of international security, and should fully participate in political life,

*Confident* that the relaxation of international tension contributes to the development and implementation of standards in all fields of concern to women,

<sup>64</sup> See Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1).

1. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so to ratify the international conventions and other instruments concerning the protection of women's rights and the elimination of discrimination against women and to implement effectively the provisions of these conventions and other instruments, including declarations of the United Nations and recommendations of the International Labour Organisation and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

2. *Requests* the Commission on the Status of Women to complete, in 1976, the elaboration of the draft Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women;

3. *Calls upon* all States to promote vigorously wider participation of women in the strengthening of international peace and in extending the relaxation of international tension, on the basis of full respect for the Charter of the United Nations as well as for United Nations resolutions, in settling the problems of disarmament, in the elimination of colonialism, foreign occupation, racism, racial discrimination and *apartheid* and in all other forms of political life, contributing in this way to the creation of the most favourable conditions for the complete elimination of discrimination against women.

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**3522 (XXX). Improvement of the economic status of women for their effective and speedy participation in the development of their countries**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recognizing* that many women in low-income countries are engaged in various economic activities on a self-reliant basis not normally taken into account when considering the gross national product,

*Convinced* that the contribution of such economic activities by women to the over-all national economic development is substantial,

*Further convinced* that credit facilities are a necessary prerequisite for the improvement of economic activities of women engaged in self-reliance projects,

*Recognizing* the continued benefits that can accrue from access to even moderate financial resources, when such become available,

*Concerned* that many lending and financial institutions continue to practise discrimination against women, considering them poor credit risks, and that local and national practices and customs in many parts of the world bar women from engaging in responsible financial transactions,

*Reaffirming* resolution 10, entitled "Access of women to financial assistance",<sup>65</sup> adopted by the World Conference of the International Women's Year, held at Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975,

1. *Urges* Governments and governmental and non-governmental organizations to support more vigorously official and private efforts to extend to women the facilities now being offered only to men by financial and lending institutions;

2. *Requests* Governments to encourage all efforts by women's organizations, co-operatives and lending

<sup>65</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. III.

institutions which will enable women at the lowest level in rural and urban areas to obtain credit and loans to improve their economic activities and integration in national development;

3. *Urges* Governments and the organizations of the United Nations development system, including specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations, to incorporate, in their training programmes, workshops and seminars, courses designed to improve the efficiency of women in business and financial management.

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### 3523 (XXX). Women in rural areas

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 3276 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974, in which it decided to consider at its thirtieth session an item entitled "International Women's Year, including the proposals and recommendations of the Conference of the International Women's Year",

*Taking into account* resolution 21<sup>66</sup> adopted by the World Conference of the International Women's Year, held at Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975, the principles contained in the Declaration of Mexico on the Equality of Women and Their Contribution to Development and Peace, 1975,<sup>67</sup> the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year<sup>68</sup> and the relevant resolutions bearing on the contribution of women to equality, peace and development,

*Realizing* the importance of adherence to the recommendations of the World Plan of Action, especially those related to women in rural and low-income areas,

*Considering* the vital role rural women play, not only within the family unit but also in the process of national development, through agriculture and particularly through food production and distribution,

*Bearing in mind* that in many parts of the world illiteracy, lack of education and training, inadequate distribution of human and economic resources, and severe unemployment and underemployment problems for women have hindered them from contributing fully to national development efforts,

*Convinced* that the struggle for development is a primary responsibility of all peoples and Governments, taking into account the principles of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States<sup>69</sup> and the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,<sup>70</sup>

*Noting* the need for both quantitative and qualitative data on the position of women and their role in all rural activities,

*Noting also* the activities relating to rural women undertaken to date by the United Nations bodies and specialized agencies concerned,

*Noting further* the need for co-ordinated and systematic examination of the situation of rural women and their role in all rural activities,

1. *Urges* all Governments to accord, within their respective plans, higher priority for:

(a) Gathering relevant data on the status and role of women in rural and low-income areas;

(b) Achieving socio-economic conditions based on the realization of the full and equal partnership of men and women in the development of society, both in law and in fact;

(c) Promoting agricultural productivity, agro-based industries and integrated rural development programmes;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare and submit, through the Economic and Social Council, on the basis of the views of relevant United Nations bodies and specialized agencies as well as those of Governments, guidelines for non-formal educational programmes designed to enable rural women to use fully their capabilities and to contribute to the development of society;

3. *Urges* United Nations organizations, specialized agencies, regional commissions and international financial institutions to accord special attention to government programmes and projects aimed at the full integration of rural women in development;

4. *Urges* all Governments to develop extensive training programmes relevant to women and to make full use of all existing and proposed research institutes and centres, particularly the regional and international institutes and centres for the advancement of women in rural areas;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States and the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, to report to the General Assembly biennially on the progress achieved in connexion with the work referred to in the previous paragraphs.

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### 3524 (XXX). Measures for the integration of women in development

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 3010 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972 in which it proclaimed the year 1975 International Women's Year,

*Recalling also* its resolution 3505 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, adopted on the recommendation of the Second Committee,

*Having considered* the report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year,<sup>71</sup> held at Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975, which contains the resolutions adopted by the Conference<sup>72</sup> and the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year,<sup>73</sup>

*Noting* that the World Plan of Action set forth guidance on action programmes for the integration of women in development,

*Recalling* its resolution 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970 containing the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, in which the General Assembly included among the objectives of the Strategy the full integration of women in the total development effort, and recalling also that

<sup>66</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>67</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. I.

<sup>68</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. II, sect. A.

<sup>69</sup> Resolution 3281 (XXIX).

<sup>70</sup> Resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI).

<sup>71</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1.

<sup>72</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. III.

<sup>73</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. II, sect. A.