

the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, the question of the co-ordination of United Nations activities in the field of youth, in the light of the cross-organizational programme analysis of the youth activities of the United Nations system and the comments and recommendations of the Committee.

14th plenary meeting
6 May 1981

1981/26. Women and development

The Economic and Social Council,

Having taken cognizance of the report of the Commission for Social Development on its twenty-seventh session,⁴⁰

Recalling the contents of the report of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on the Social Aspects of the Development Activities of the United Nations,⁴¹

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

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

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

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

14th plenary meeting
6 May 1981

1981/27. Draft Code of Medical Ethics

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 35/179 of 15 December 1980, in which the Assembly requested the Economic and Social Council to consider the draft Code of Medical Ethics, taking into account the comments and recommendations submitted, with a view to presenting the draft Code to the Assembly,

Recalling also resolution 11 of the Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,⁴² in which the hope was expressed that the General Assembly would adopt the draft Code, subject to any amendments which might appear to be necessary,

Taking note of the revised report of the Secretary-General⁴³ requested in General Assembly resolution 35/179,

Convinced that the adoption of a code of medical ethics constitutes an important step in the progressive setting of international standards within the field of human rights,

Recommends that the General Assembly should take

⁴⁰ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1981, Supplement No. 6 (E/1981/26).

⁴¹ E/1981/3.

⁴² See A/CONF.87/14, chap. I, sect. B.

⁴³ A/36/140 and Add. 1 and 2.

measures to finalize the draft Code of Medical Ethics at its thirty-sixth session.

14th plenary meeting
6 May 1981

1981/28. Strengthening of actions concerned with the fulfilment of the World Population Plan of Action

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1979/32 of 9 May 1979, in which it called upon the governmental representatives of States Members responsible for drafting and adopting the international development strategy for the third United Nations development decade, the action programme to be produced by the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, and other international instruments for economic, social and technological progress to include in such documents full recognition of the interrelationships of population factors and social, economic, cultural and political development, and the need for full and urgent action to deal with population problems; these interrelationships should also be borne in mind in all instruments developed for the implementation of a new international economic order,

Noting with satisfaction the role given to population factors in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,⁴⁴ which declares that population policies will be considered as an integral part of over-all development policies and that all countries will continue to integrate their population measures and programmes into their social and economic goals and strategies,

Also noting with satisfaction resolution 1 of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,⁴⁵ in which the Conference called upon Governments to take all appropriate measures to provide information, education and means to enable women and men to exercise freely the right to determine their family size and to set aside an appropriate proportion of their resources for population programmes,

Recalling that its resolution 1979/32 included fourteen priority areas for action identified in the first review and appraisal of the progress made towards the implementation of the World Population Plan of Action,⁴⁶

Emphasizing the important role of technical co-operation in implementing the World Population Plan of Action,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on monitoring of population trends,⁴⁷ which shows that, although there has been some decline in the rate of growth of the world's population, there are indications that some developing countries are not succeeding in reducing infant and general mortality to the levels set out in the World Population Plan of Action and that,

⁴⁴ General Assembly resolution 35/56, annex.

⁴⁵ See Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14-30 July 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3 and corrigendum), chap. I.

⁴⁶ For the text of the World Population Plan of Action, see Report of the United Nations World Population Conference, Bucharest, 19-30 August 1974 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.XIII.3), chap. I.

⁴⁷ E/CN.9/347 and Corr. 1.

although there have been significant declines in fertility in some countries, there have been relatively slight or no such declines in some less developed countries and that others have increased their rate of population growth,

Conscious of the magnitude and urgency of the tasks remaining,

1. *Urges* all Member States and regional and international bodies, both governmental and non-governmental, to develop and strengthen further activities designed to implement the World Population Plan of Action, in particular to recognize that, together with social and economic factors, population is a central element in any strategy designed to improve the quality of life;

2. *Urges* governmental representatives of States Members responsible for formulating new development strategies, for the organization and conduct of relevant international conferences or for the drafting of international instruments for economic, social and technological progress to give full consideration to the interrelationships of population factors and social, economic, cultural and political development in dealing with population problems;

3. *Calls upon* the World Health Organization, the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Labour Organisation, the World Bank, the United Nations Children's Fund, the regional commissions and other organizations of the United Nations system which have not yet given due attention to population to take steps to include population matters in the deliberations of their periodic and special conferences and to integrate population questions more fully into their regular work programmes;

4. *Urges* international organizations, including the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and the World Health Organization, and Governments to give high priority to research on human reproduction and the development of more acceptable, safer, and more effective means of fertility regulation, to promote the establishment of projects in which research workers in developed and less developed countries would cooperate fully in such research and to emphasize to public and private donors the great importance of such research;

5. *Requests* the Population Commission to continue with the process of monitoring, review and appraisal of progress made towards the implementation of the World Population Plan of Action and requests the regional commissions and specialized agencies to continue to contribute to that process;

6. *Urges* the Secretary-General, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and other international bodies concerned to continue supporting the World Fertility Survey to ensure that fertility and family planning data are collected and analysed as required, *inter alia*, for the monitoring of the implementation of the World Population Plan of Action;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking account of experience gained through technical co-operation projects in the field of population in implementing the World Population Plan of Action, to strengthen efforts to meet requests for assistance in the implementation of the Plan of Action from the developing countries.

*14th plenary meeting
6 May 1981*

1981/20. Work programme in the field of population

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 3344 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, in which the Assembly affirmed that the World Population Plan of Action⁴⁸ was an instrument of the international community for the promotion of economic development, quality of life, human rights and fundamental freedoms within the broader context of the internationally adopted strategies for national and international progress,

Taking due cognizance of the population policies and programmes adopted by international agencies, non-governmental organizations and many countries pursuant to the provisions of the World Population Plan of Action,

Taking note of the discussions of the Population Commission at its twenty-first session on the progress of work and the work programme in the field of population,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the progress of work, the work programme for the biennium 1982-1983 and the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To continue vigorously the work on monitoring of population trends and policies and the work necessary for the review and appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action,

(b) To continue the work on population trends and structure, paying particular attention to studies of fertility, mortality and internal and international migration;

(c) To strengthen the work on demographic estimates and projections;

(d) To continue work on interrelations of population and development, paying due attention both to the implications of population trends for development and to the impact of social and economic change on demographic trends, with a view to promoting the integration of demographic factors in national and international development strategies and plans, and to expedite the preparation of manuals for the use of national planners on methods of incorporating demographic factors in development planning;

(e) To arrange for the timely publication and wide dissemination, in all working languages, of the manual for estimating basic demographic indicators from incomplete data;

(f) To effect the more timely publication of all population studies and projections;

(g) To continue work on the assessment of levels and trends of fertility, and studies designed to explain causes of fertility change, including those dealing with the impact of family planning programmes, and the condition of women, making full use of data from the World Fertility Survey, other relevant sample surveys, population censuses and data from vital registration systems;

(h) To continue to promote co-operation within the United Nations system in the international comparative analysis of World Fertility Survey data through the United Nations Working Group on Comparative Analysis of World Fertility Survey Data;

(i) To continue the analyses of population policies and their implications for national and international development planning;

⁴⁸ *Report of the United Nations World Population Conference, Bucharest, 19-30 August 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.XIII.3), chap. I.