

for the advancement of women, which provides direction on issues related to women and development,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women on its tenth session and the decisions contained therein;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* of the successful implementation of the programmes of the Institute, particularly its activities on statistics and indicators on women, including the role of women in the informal sector and the first phase of the long-term research programme on monitoring and evaluation methodologies for development programmes related to women, and its work on sectoral issues, especially water supply and sanitation, new and renewable sources of energy and communication for women and development;

3. *Takes note* of the programme of activities of the Institute for the biennium 1990-1991, approved by the Board of Trustees at its tenth session, and the commencement of work on methodological approaches in fields relating to women, the environment and sustainable development;

4. *Commends* the Institute for further strengthening its networking mode of operation, including increased co-operation between the Institute and the regional commissions, and for giving priority to the programming of parallel activities;

5. *Expresses its profound satisfaction* that on the tenth anniversary of its establishment, the Institute has proved itself to be an invaluable body of the United Nations in fulfilling the requirements of the Charter by promoting social progress through a reaffirmation of the equal rights of women and men and by furthering economic and social advancement;

6. *Reaffirms* that the Institute will continue its dual approach as an agent for sensitization on the role of women in the mainstream of development, and as a centre for specialized research, training and information, and for co-operation with other organizations with parallel interests within and outside the United Nations system;

7. *Recommends* that, given the growing role of research, training and information on women and development within and outside the United Nations system, the Institute continue to work on new methodological approaches in these fields;

8. *Expresses its appreciation*, on the tenth anniversary of the Institute, to those countries, both developed and developing, that have contributed to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, thereby ensuring the implementation, continuity and expansion of the programmes of the Institute, to the host country and the Secretary-General for their support, and to the co-operating bodies within and outside the United Nations system for their collaboration with the activities of the Institute;

9. *Renews its appeal* to Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other potential donors to continue making contributions and,

to the extent possible, to increase their contributions to the Trust Fund.

*13th plenary meeting
24 May 1990*

1990/17. Elimination of discrimination against women in accordance with the aims of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as stated in Articles 1 and 55 of the Charter, is to promote universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of any kind, including distinction as to sex,

Affirming that women and men should participate equally in social, economic and political development, should contribute equally to such development and should share equally in improved conditions of life,

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, contained in the annex thereto,

Welcoming the events to mark and commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 44/73 of 8 December 1989 and Council resolution 1989/44 of 24 May 1989,

Taking note of resolution 34/6 of 8 March 1990 of the Commission on the Status of Women,²³

Taking note also of the decisions adopted at the Fifth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, on 6 February 1990,²⁴

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its ninth session,²⁵

Noting that the Committee agreed, in examining reports, to take due account of the different cultural and socio-economic systems of States parties to the Convention,

Noting with satisfaction the establishment of the practice of holding a pre-session working group three to five days prior to the Committee session,

Recalling that the World Health Organization has announced that the theme of World AIDS Day, 1 December 1990, will be "Women and AIDS",

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its ninth session;

2. *Welcomes* the ratification of or accession to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women by an increasing number of Member States;

²³ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1990, Supplement No. 5 (E/1990/25)*, chap. I, sect. C.

²⁴ CEDAW/SP/17, sect. III.

²⁵ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/45/38 and Corr.1)*.

3. *Urges* all States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so as soon as possible;

4. *Invites* States parties to the Convention to make every possible effort to submit their initial reports on its implementation, as well as their second and subsequent periodic reports, in accordance with article 18 of the Convention and the guidelines provided by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, and to co-operate fully with the Committee in the presentation of their reports;

5. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Committee to rationalize its procedures and expedite the consideration of periodic reports and to develop procedures and guidelines for the consideration of second and subsequent periodic reports, and strongly encourages the Committee to continue those efforts;

6. *Welcomes also*, in accordance with the Committee's general recommendation No. 11,²⁶ the initiatives taken to provide regional training courses for government officials on the preparation and drafting of reports of States parties, and urges the relevant organs and organizations of the United Nations to support such initiatives;

7. *Recognizes* the special relevance of the periodic reports of States parties to the Convention to the efforts of the Commission on the Status of Women to review and appraise the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women² in those countries;

8. *Acknowledges* the efforts of the Secretary-General to provide secretariat staff and technical resources for the effective performance of the functions of the Committee;

9. *Shares the view* of the General Assembly that the Secretary-General should accord higher priority within existing resources to strengthening technical and substantive support for the Committee;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide for, facilitate and encourage, within existing resources, the dissemination of information relating to the Committee, its recommendations, the Convention and the concept of legal literacy, taking into account the Committee's own recommendations to this end;

11. *Recommends* that, whenever possible, sessions of the Committee be scheduled to allow for the timely transmission of the results of its work to the Commission on the Status of Women, for information, the same year.

*13th plenary meeting
24 May 1990*

1990/18. United Nations surveys of criminal justice *The Economic and Social Council,*

Convinced of the important role of criminal justice statistics in the informed management of all criminal justice operations and of the need for comprehensive, accurate and up-to-date criminal justice data bases at the national and international levels,

²⁶ *Ibid.*, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/44/38), para. 392.

Recognizing the need to continue the work on United Nations criminal justice statistics by means of periodic surveys of crime trends, the operations of criminal justice systems and crime prevention strategies and to make those surveys as uncomplicated as possible, and recognizing the major contribution that the analysis of such surveys can make to the formulation and development of criminal justice programmes,

Recognizing also that the ongoing work on computerization of matters concerning crime and justice by Member States and the United Nations will enhance the potential of Member States to respond to such surveys,

Bearing in mind its resolution 1984/48 of 25 May 1984, and resolution 9 adopted by the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,²⁷ in which the Secretary-General was requested to allocate existing resources to allow for the enhancement of efforts to establish and develop national statistical data bases on crime and the operations of criminal justice systems and to strengthen the work of the United Nations regional institutes in that field,

Believing that future surveys have to be simplified and undertaken more frequently and that the replies to them can be made more accurate,

1. *Recommends* that the Fourth United Nations Survey of Crime Trends, Operations of Criminal Justice Systems and Crime Prevention Strategies should be simplified, that it should cover the period 1987-1990 and that subsequent surveys should be carried out at two-year and ultimately one-year intervals;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to endeavour to provide more complete responses to the Fourth United Nations Survey;

3. *Invites* the United Nations regional and inter-regional institutes, in co-operation with the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs and the Statistical Office of the Secretariat, to review the preparation of the survey questionnaire and the analysis and publication of the results;

4. *Invites* Member States, through the United Nations Trust Fund for Social Defence or in other ways, to provide financial assistance to countries for the creation and maintenance of criminal justice data bases, at the national and international levels, and to provide the necessary expertise or appropriate international analysis and policy recommendations;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in his progress report on United Nations activities in crime prevention and criminal justice, to be submitted to the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control at its twelfth session, to make proposals for improving the number and quality of responses to the Fourth United Nations Survey and for publishing the results of such surveys in the regular reports on the state of crime and justice in the world;

²⁷ See *Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Milan, 26 August-6 September 1985: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IV.1), chap. I, sect. E.