

## II

*Noting* that the methods for collecting, analysing, interpreting and evaluating information and data used in studying the social situation in the world should be further improved,

*Bearing in mind* the need for a methodology which would be based mainly on quantitative and qualitative indicators of the world social situation,

*Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake, in close co-operation with the executive heads of the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, appropriate measures for the improvement of the methodology for the preparation of the report on the world social situation and the report on the implementation of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development and to report thereon, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session.

*105th plenary meeting  
17 December 1979*

### 34/153. Question of the elderly and the aged

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* its resolution 32/131 of 16 December 1977 on the question of the elderly and the aged,

*Recalling* its resolution 33/52 of 14 December 1978, in which it decided to convene a World Assembly on the Elderly in 1982,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the progress report of the Secretary-General on the question of the elderly and the aged,<sup>68</sup>

*Recognizing* the increase in the number and proportion of the older section of the population in a growing number of countries and the serious economic and social implications of this phenomenon for societies in general and for the aging in particular,

1. *Recommends* to the Governments concerned that, in the formulation of their national policies and programmes, they should consider developing, as required and in accordance with their national priorities, policies and programmes for the aging, as well as measures aimed at ensuring their full participation in the World Assembly on the Elderly in 1982;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue and strengthen, within the limits of existing resources, activities in this field in co-operation with the agencies concerned, and in particular:

(a) To consider measures for strengthening the activities of the regional bodies concerned designed to increase awareness of and collect basic data on the situation of the aging which could serve as a basis of information for regional preparatory meetings leading to the World Assembly on the Elderly in 1982;

(b) To assist Governments, at their request and in accordance with their national priorities, in the planning and implementation of policies and programmes for the elderly and in the preparatory work leading to their active participation in the World Assembly on the Elderly;

(c) To collect basic data at the national and regional levels on the number and proportion of the aging and the consequent implications of this phenomenon for national planning;

<sup>68</sup> E/CN.5/562.

3. *Requests* the competent and concerned specialized agencies to continue to give attention to the major issues related to the aging and to co-ordinate their work with the United Nations, particularly in view of the need for well co-ordinated activities prior to, during and after the World Assembly on the Elderly;

4. *Requests* the concerned intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to join with the United Nations, in a well co-ordinated set of activities, to assist Governments, if they so wish, especially those of the developing countries, in formulating and implementing policies and programmes for the aging and in their preparatory activities for the World Assembly on the Elderly;

5. *Requests* United Nations funding agencies to continue and strengthen their support of activities in the field of the aging;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council in 1981, through the Commission for Social Development, a progress report on the action taken on the present resolution and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-sixth session the item entitled "Question of the elderly and the aged".

*105th plenary meeting  
17 December 1979*

### 34/154. International Year of Disabled Persons

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 31/123 of 16 December 1976, by which it proclaimed the year 1981 International Year of Disabled Persons,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 32/133 of 16 December 1977, by which it established the Advisory Committee for the International Year of Disabled Persons, and 33/170 of 20 December 1978,

*Recognizing* that the International Year of Disabled Persons should promote the realization of the right of disabled persons to participate fully in the social life and development of the societies in which they live and their enjoyment of living conditions equal to those of other citizens, as well as an equal share in the improvements in living conditions resulting from social and economic development,

*Recognizing also* that the International Year of Disabled Persons should enhance the contributions disabled persons can make as full members of society,

*Acknowledging* that disability should be viewed as a relationship between an individual and his or her environment,

*Convinced* that the International Year of Disabled Persons should result in societies responding more fully to the special difficulties which disabled persons may encounter in developing their human potential,

*Convinced also* that, since a large number of disabled persons are victims of war and other forms of violence, the International Year of Disabled Persons could be appropriately used as an occasion to emphasize the need for continued and reinforced co-operation among nations for world peace,

*Stressing* the importance of following up the activities of the International Year of Disabled Persons with a long-term programme of action,

Noting that the Secretary-General will appoint an Executive Secretary for the International Year of Disabled Persons,<sup>69</sup>

Noting also the relevant parts of the 1978 Report on the World Social Situation,<sup>70</sup>

Taking note of the report of the Advisory Committee for the International Year of Disabled Persons on its first session, held from 19 to 23 March 1979,<sup>71</sup>

1. *Decides* to expand the theme of the International Year of Disabled Persons to "Full participation and equality";

2. *Approves* the recommendations made by the Advisory Committee for the International Year of Disabled Persons at its first session, contained in the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>72</sup> and adopts them as the Plan of Action for the International Year of Disabled Persons;<sup>73</sup>

3. *Stresses* the pragmatic orientation of the activities of the International Year of Disabled Persons;

4. *Affirms* that the major focus of the International Year of Disabled Persons is at the national level, with supporting activities at the regional and international levels;

5. *Invites* Member States to consider activities at the national level along the lines of the Plan of Action and in ways that are in conformity with the culture, customs and traditions of each country;

6. *Also invites* the relevant specialized agencies and the concerned United Nations bodies to devote special attention to the implementation of the Plan of Action;

7. *Affirms further* that, in the implementation of the Plan of Action, special attention should be given to the disabled in developing countries through the provision of technical assistance, both multilateral and bilateral, for the prevention of disabilities and for rehabilitation;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in this regard, to accord priority to the organization of an action-oriented international symposium of experts on technical assistance in the field of disability and technical co-operation among developing countries, as recommended by the Advisory Committee;<sup>74</sup>

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to explore the possibilities of continuing the activities of the International Institute for the Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons in Developing Countries and to submit a report in this respect to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session;

10. *Invites* the Chairman of the Advisory Committee to participate in promoting the observance of the International Year of Disabled Persons, and requests the Secretary-General to provide every means to assist him in this regard, including liaison functions at Headquarters;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the secretariat of the International Year of Disabled Persons with all the resources necessary to follow up the implementation of the Plan of Action, including the public information activities;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to convene a meeting of the Advisory Committee in 1980 to examine the implementation of the Plan of Action and to begin the consideration of a long-term programme of action;

13. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to take urgent steps to publicize fully the International Year of Disabled Persons and, in this connexion, to choose an emblem for the Year at the end of 1979;

14. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies concerned to prepare concrete and co-ordinated plans for the International Year of Disabled Persons, to be submitted to the Advisory Committee at its session in 1980;

15. *Invites* the regional commissions of the United Nations and other regional intergovernmental organizations to formulate, as early as possible, their contributions to the activities of the International Year of Disabled Persons;

16. *Stresses* the importance of the active participation of non-governmental organizations, especially organizations of disabled persons themselves, at both the national and international levels, in support of the International Year of Disabled Persons;

17. *Welcomes* the voluntary contributions already made by some Governments to the International Year of Disabled Persons and appeals for further voluntary contributions for the Year;

18. *Invites* Member States to submit national reports to the Secretary-General on their implementation of the Plan of Action and, in particular, to consider elaborating, on the basis of their experiences, national long-term programmes of action in the field of disability;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-fifth session an item entitled "International Year of Disabled Persons" and requests the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution.

*105th plenary meeting  
17 December 1979*

### 34/155. United Nations Decade for Women

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the Convention on the Political Rights of Women,<sup>75</sup> particularly article III thereof, as well as article 3 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>76</sup> article 3 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>76</sup> and article 5 (c) of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development,<sup>77</sup>

*Recalling also* its resolution 3520 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, in which it decided to convene a world conference in 1980, at the mid-term of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, as well as its resolution 33/189 of 29 January 1979 establishing the agenda for the Conference and relating to the organization of its work,

*Considering* that there can be no genuine and full participation of women in economic and social development unless they are fully involved in the political decision-making process,

<sup>69</sup> See A/34/158/Add.1, para. 27.

<sup>70</sup> E/CN.5/557/Add.2 and 3.

<sup>71</sup> A/34/158 and Corr.1, annex.

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

<sup>73</sup> The Plan of Action for the International Year of Disabled Persons adopted by the General Assembly consists of the text appearing in paragraphs 57 to 76 of the annex to document A/34/158 and Corr.1, with the deletion of the phrase following the words "(see subpara. (i) below)" in paragraph 74 (c), of paragraph 74 (u) and of the words following the word "nationally" in paragraph 75 (b).

<sup>74</sup> See A/34/158 and Corr.1, annex, para. 74 (b).

<sup>75</sup> Resolution 640 (VII), annex.

<sup>76</sup> Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>77</sup> Resolution 2542 (XXIV).