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INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR: PARTICIPATION, DEVELOPMENT, PEACE

Report of the Third Committee

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 20 September 1985, the General Assembly on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fortieth session the item entitled "International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace: report of the Secretary-General" and to allocate it to the Third Committee. The General Assembly, also on the recommendation of the General Committee, assigned to the Third Committee the reports of the Secretary-General (A/40/64-E/1985/5 and A/40/631) and the report of the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year (A/40/256), bearing in mind paragraph 2 of resolution 39/22 of 23 November 1984, in which it had decided that the Assembly would hold an appropriate number of plenary meetings at its fortieth session, in 1985, devoted to policies and programmes relating to youth and would designate those meetings as the United Nations World Conference for the International Youth Year, and that it should hold the plenary meetings upon receipt of the report of the Third Committee on this item.

2. The Third Committee considered this item jointly with items 90, 91, 95, 96, 97 and 98 at its 16th to 23rd and 30th meetings on 18, 21, 22, 24 and 28 October and 4 November. An account of the discussion of the Committee is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/40/SR.16-23 and 30).

3. The Committee had before it the following documentation:

(a) Situation of youth in the 1980s: report of the Secretary-General (A/40/64-E/1985/5);

(b) International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace: report of the Secretary-General (A/40/256);

(c) Preparations and observance of the International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace: report of the Secretary-General (A/40/701);

(d) Letter dated 9 May 1985 from the Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/40/298-E/1985/74);

(e) Letter dated 23 May 1985 from the Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/40/336);

(f) Letter dated 30 May 1985 from the Permanent Representative of Democratic Yemen to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/40/359);

(g) Letter dated 18 June 1985 from the Acting Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/40/390);

(h) Letter dated 12 August 1985 from the Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/40/546);

(i) Note verbale dated 22 August 1985 from the Permanent Mission of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/40/570);

(j) Letter dated 11 September 1985 from the Permanent Representative of Romania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/40/626);

(k) Letter dated 1 October 1985 from the Permanent Representative of Uruguay to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/40/706);

(l) Letter dated 18 October 1985 from the Acting Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/40/768);

(m) Letter dated 23 October 1985 from the Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/40/790);

(n) Letter dated 22 October 1985 from the Permanent Representative of the Ivory Coast to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/40/791);

(o) Letter dated 8 October 1985 from the Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.3/40/4).

4. At the 16th meeting, on 18 October, the Under-Secretary-General of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Assistant Secretary-General of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs made introductory statements.

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution A/C.3/40/L.3

5. At the 30th meeting, on 4 November, the representative of Romania introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/40/L.3) entitled "International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace", sponsored by Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, the Congo, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Djibouti, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, the Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, the Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire and Zambia as well as Angola, Argentina, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, the Central African Republic, Cuba, Finland, the Gambia, Ghana, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Niger, Norway, Oman, Peru, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Singapore, Swaziland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago and Viet Nam.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/40/L.3 without a vote (see para. 12, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.3/40/L.11

7. At the 30th meeting, on 4 November, the representative of Czechoslovakia introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/40/L.11) entitled "Efforts and measures for securing the implementation and the enjoyment by youth of human rights, particularly the right to education and to work", sponsored by Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, the German Democratic Republic, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, the Syrian Arab Republic, Viet Nam and Zambia as well as Guinea-Bissau and Mozambique.

8. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/40/L.11 without a vote (see para. 12, draft resolution II).

C. Draft resolution A/C.3/40/L.15

9. At the 30th meeting, on 4 November, the representative of Austria introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/40/L.15) entitled "Opportunities for youth", sponsored by Argentina, Austria, Canada, Egypt, Finland, Germany, Federal Republic of, Guatemala, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mali, Rwanda, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia and Zambia as well as Bangladesh, France, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, the Philippines, Spain, Swaziland and Zaire.

10. At the same meeting, the representative of Austria revised the text as follows:

(a) Deleted the words "so-called" before the words "alternative employment opportunities" in operative paragraph 5;

(b) Revised operative paragraph 7 to read:

"7. Requests the Secretary-General to include in his report on the implementation of the long-term plan of action on youth, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-second session, a detailed analysis of the results of the above-mentioned symposium." ...

11. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/40/L.15, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 12, draft resolution III).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

12. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace

The General Assembly, acting as United Nations World Conference for the International Youth Year,

Recognizing the profound importance of the direct participation of youth in shaping the future of mankind and the valuable contribution that youth can make in all sectors of society, as well as its willingness to express its ideas concerning the building of a better and more just world in which it can attain the objectives of the International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace,

Considering it necessary to disseminate among youth the ideals of peace, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, human solidarity and dedication to the objectives of progress and development,

Convinced that youth should be encouraged to contribute its energies, enthusiasm and creative abilities to the tasks of nation-building, the observance of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the realization of the right to self-determination and national independence, the respect for sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of each State, the economic, social and cultural advancement of peoples, the implementation of a new international economic order and the promotion of international co-operation and understanding to achieve the goals of the International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace,

Recognizing the important role of United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and regional commissions in promoting international co-operation in the field of youth and recognizing that they should continue to give more attention to the role of young people in the world of today, to their ideas and initiatives and to their demands for the world of tomorrow,

Convinced that the preparation and observance in 1985 of the International Youth Year under the motto "Participation, Development, Peace" have offered a useful and significant opportunity for drawing attention to the situation and the specific needs and aspirations of youth, for increasing co-operation at all levels in dealing with youth issues, for undertaking concerted action programmes in favour of youth and for improving the participation of young people in the study, decision-making processes and resolution of major national, regional and international problems,

Bearing in mind that the International Youth Year has served to mobilize efforts at the local, national, regional and international levels in order to promote the best educational, professional and living conditions for young people, to ensure their active participation in the overall development of society and to encourage their participation in the preparation of new national and local policies and programmes in accordance with experience, conditions and the priorities of each country,

Conscious that the International Youth Year has contributed to strengthening the rights, the ability and the willingness of young people to achieve participation in all areas relevant to them and to promote their own interests,

Commending the organizers of international youth conferences and festivals and other specific activities devoted to the International Youth Year for the results of those events inspired by the motto of the International Youth Year, "Participation, Development, Peace",

Noting with satisfaction the outcome of the World Congress on Youth organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at Barcelona, Spain, from 8 to 15 July 1985,

Mindful that national committees or other mechanisms to facilitate the planning, implementation and co-ordination of the activities related to the preparation for and observance of the International Youth Year have been established in a majority of States,

Convinced that the timely and significant impetus generated by the activities of the International Youth Year should be maintained and reinforced with appropriate follow-up action at all levels,

Expressing its appreciation to the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year and to the United Nations Secretariat for their important contribution to the whole process of preparation and observance of the International Youth Year,

Having considered the report of the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year on its fourth session, held at Vienna from 25 March to 3 April 1985, 1/

Having considered also the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the guidelines and additional guidelines for the improvement of channels of communication, 2/

1. Endorses the guidelines for further planning and suitable follow-up in the field of youth as contained in the report of the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year on its fourth session; 3/

2. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the guidelines for further planning and suitable follow-up in the field of youth to all States, United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and regional commissions as well as to the international organizations concerned;

3. Calls upon all States, all United Nations bodies, specialized agencies, regional commissions and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, in particular youth organizations, to exert all possible efforts for the implementation of the guidelines for further planning and suitable follow-up in the field of youth, in accordance with their experience, conditions and priorities;

4. Urges all States to make every effort to consolidate and build further on the results of the International Youth Year;

5. Considers that, as the case may be, the continuing of national committees and other appropriate co-ordination measures at the national level devoted to the International Youth Year could be usefully considered, and notes with satisfaction the intention of national committees in many countries to ensure a proper follow-up, including adequate funding and the integration of the results of the International Youth Year into future activities and policies in order to continue to pursue the International Youth Year's objectives of "Participation, Development and Peace";

6. Requests the appropriate United Nations bodies and specialized agencies to consider taking up in their programmes every year one or more specific youth-related projects to be elaborated in close co-operation with non-governmental youth organizations on such themes as communication, housing, culture, youth employment and education;

1/ A/40/256, annex.

2/ A/40/631.

3/ See A/40/256, annex.

7. Recommends that the Secretary-General keep under review the youth element in the programmes of appropriate United Nations bodies and specialized agencies;
8. Requests the Commission for Social Development to examine, on a regular basis, specific youth issues, in keeping with the goals of the International Youth Year;
9. Stresses again the importance of the active and direct participation of youth and youth organizations in the activities organized at the local, national, regional and international levels in the field of youth;
10. Emphasizes the importance of improving the active use of the channels of communication between the United Nations system and youth organizations, both at the national and international levels;
11. Invites Governments again to consider the regular inclusion of youth representatives in their national delegations to the General Assembly and other relevant United Nations meetings;
12. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-first session the item entitled "Policies and programmes involving young people: Participation, Development, Peace" and to evaluate, in this framework, the results of the International Youth Year on the basis of a report of the Secretary-General.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Efforts and measures for securing the implementation and the enjoyment by youth of human rights, particularly the right to education and to work

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 36/29 of 13 November 1981, 37/49 of 3 December 1982, 38/23 of 22 November 1983 and 39/23 of 23 November 1984, in which it, inter alia, recognized the need to adopt appropriate measures for securing the implementation and the enjoyment by youth of human rights, particularly the right to education and to work,

Recalling also its resolution 34/151 of 17 December 1979, by which it decided to designate 1985 as International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace,

Convinced that it is necessary to ensure full enjoyment by youth of the rights stipulated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 4/ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 5/ and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 5/ with special regard to the right to education and to work,

Aware of the fact that insufficient education and the unemployment of young people limit their ability to participate in the development process, and, in this regard, emphasizing the importance of secondary and higher education for young people, as well as access for them to appropriate technical and vocational guidance and training programmes,

Expressing its serious interest in consolidating and building further on the results of the International Youth Year in order to contribute, inter alia, to the increasing participation of young people in the socio-economic life of their country,

1. Calls upon all States, all governmental and non-governmental organizations and the interested bodies of the United Nations and specialized agencies to pay continuous attention, in further planning and suitable follow-up in the field of youth, to the implementation of resolutions 36/29, 37/49, 38/23 and 39/23 relating to efforts and measures aimed at the promotion of human rights and their enjoyment by youth, particularly the right to education and vocational training and to work, with a view to resolving the problem of unemployment among youth;

2. Requests the Commission for Social Development, in examining specific youth issues, to pay adequate attention to the enjoyment by youth of human rights, particularly the right to education and to work;

3. Invites national organs of co-ordination or organs implementing policies and programmes in the field of youth to give appropriate priority in the activities to be undertaken after the International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace to the implementation and the enjoyment by youth of human rights, particularly the right to education and to work.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Opportunities for youth

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the need to secure the employment of youth, which is a concern of global character,

4/ Resolution 217 A (III).

5/ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Seriously concerned about the widespread lack of satisfactory integration of young people into the world's workplace in many countries,

Aware that the solid educational and vocational background of young people is of paramount importance in their aspirations to enter professional life,

Noting that many young people, having finished compulsory or primary education, do not enter any institution of higher education or vocational training or, after beginning such education or training, are unable to complete it, and find it increasingly difficult to be suitably employed,

Seriously concerned that in a number of developing countries, particularly in the least developed ones, a substantial part of the school-age population has a limited possibility of receiving any kind of education, especially among the poor in both rural and urban areas,

Bearing in mind that in many developing countries the widespread lack of opportunity to receive appropriate education and training thus remains a serious impediment to the participation of youth in the development of their societies and to the attainment of the goals set out in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, 6/

Recognizing that greater awareness should be brought about by Governments and the economic sectors in order to accord the highest priority to the elimination of youth unemployment where it exists,

Further recognizing that industrialization should duly take into account the requirements of the promotion of employment, especially for youth,

Taking note of the intention of the Government of Austria to organize and host an international symposium of experts on the questions referred to below, and to hold this meeting at Vienna in the spring of 1987,

Recalling the results and achievements of the International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace, in particular the guidelines for further planning and suitable follow-up in the field of youth, 7/

1. Calls upon Member States to lend increased attention to programmes to combat illiteracy and to young people who, after having finished compulsory or primary education, do not enter institutions of higher education or vocational training, or who, after beginning such education or training, are unable to complete it;

6/ Resolution 35/56.

7/ See A/40/256, annex.

2. Invites Member States to consider steps to enable more young people to begin and complete higher education or vocational training;

3. Urges Member States to dedicate, whenever possible, more resources, through increased technical co-operation activities, to narrowing the gap between demand for and supply of educational and training opportunities at all levels in developing countries, particularly in the least developed ones, and thus to contribute to the achievement of greater equality of employment opportunities for young people in those countries;

4. Calls upon Member States to promote a better awareness of the need to preserve, whenever possible, and to increase work opportunities for young people of both sexes, with particular emphasis on equal opportunities for girls and young women;

5. Recommends to Member States that they should promote initiatives whereby new demands, fields or types of occupation are explored, including the fields of protection of the environment, agro-industries and other natural resource-based industries, new technologies as well as "alternative employment opportunities",

6. Invites Member States to examine more closely the consequences that the introduction of new technologies in developed and developing countries alike may have with regard to the number of work opportunities, especially for young people, and to find ways to offset any possible adverse consequences, ensuring that such technologies are only introduced in a socially compatible manner;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to include in his report on the implementation of the long-term plan of action on youth, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-second session, a detailed analysis of the results of the above-mentioned symposium.
