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UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN:  
EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

International Research and Training Institute  
for the Advancement of Women

Report of the Secretary-General

1. The present report, submitted in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 34/157 of 17 December 1979, outlines the developments concerning the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women since the Secretary-General last reported on that subject to the Assembly at its thirty-fourth session. The report of the first session of the Board of Trustees of the Institute will be submitted to the Economic and Social Council (E/1980/23).

A. Location of the Institute

2. The General Assembly, in its resolution 34/157, endorsed Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/11, of 9 May 1979, and accepted with appreciation the offer of the Government of the Dominican Republic to act as host for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women. The Board of Trustees, at its first meeting, held from 22 to 26 October 1979, recommended that, pending the Institute's installation in the host country, it should function at United Nations Headquarters at New York, (see E/1980/23, para. 34). Accordingly, the Institute will continue to function there pending consultations and signature of the agreement with the Government of the Dominican Republic and until suitable arrangements can be made concerning the premises and other required facilities in Santo Domingo.

\* A/35/50.

B. Agreement with the Government of the host country

3. Consultations with the Government of the Dominican Republic, which had been initiated in 1979, are being pursued with a view to the signature of an agreement with the United Nations for the establishment of the Institute in Santo Domingo.

C. Appointment of the Director of the Institute

4. At its first meeting, the Board of Trustees agreed that, prior to the appointment of the Director of the Institute, the availability of the post should be made known on as wide a basis as possible and the members of the Board should be associated closely in the selection of the candidate. A job description for the post has been prepared and is being circulated to all Member States with a view to identifying the most suitable candidate to head the Institute.

D. Programme of work for the biennium 1980-1981

5. At its first meeting, the Board of Trustees of the Institute adopted the programme budget for the biennium 1980-1981 (E/1980/23, annex II) and strongly stressed the necessity of initiating its implementation as early as possible so as to be able to make a sizable contribution to the World Conference for the United Nations Decade for Women, to be held in July 1980 (see E/1980/23, para. 39). The work programme for 1980 includes the following:

(a) Comprehensive survey of existing data and research activities carried out within the United Nations system and in international, regional and national institutions on women to identify gaps in knowledge for further research. Publication of the preliminary results of the survey and a report to the Institute's Board of Trustees recommending activities to be pursued by the Research Section;

(b) Inventory of ongoing training activities for women within and outside the United Nations system, in order to identify areas where further effort is needed. Publication of the preliminary results of this inventory and a report to the Institute's Board of Trustees recommending activities to be pursued by the Training Section;

(c) Publication of two booklets on (i) selected successful national machineries for the advancement of women, and (ii) selected activities achieved by women;

(d) Publication of an information bulletin on the Institute.

6. The Institute began work on the above programme in January. In order to carry out its programme, the Institute recruited a small staff and in accordance with the recommendation of the Board of Trustees, is recruiting a Co-ordinator pending the appointment of the Director and of the regular staff of the Institute.

7. Implementation of the programme budget (1980-1981) adopted by the Board of Trustees will proceed, within the constraints of available resources and under the supervision of the Office of Financial Services, exercising its responsibilities in accordance with established practices and the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations.

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