

and registration documents, on a non-discriminatory basis, to all refugee women and, wherever possible, children, irrespective of whether the women and children are accompanied by male family members;

6. *Urges* Member States and the organizations concerned to ensure the full participation of refugee and displaced women in the process of assessing their own needs and in the planning and implementing of programmes;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the system-wide review to assess the experience and capacity of various organizations in the coordination of assistance to all refugees, displaced persons and returnees assesses, in particular, the ability of those organizations to address the situation of refugee women and children;

8. *Encourages* international organizations to increase their capacity to respond to the needs of refugee and displaced women and children through greater coordination of their efforts;

9. *Commends* those Member States that, despite severe economic and development problems of their own, continue to admit large numbers of refugees into their territory, and emphasizes the importance of the international community sharing those burdens;

10. *Requests* all United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations, Governments, non-governmental organizations and funding agencies that play a role in the assistance and protection of refugees and displaced persons to adopt, if they have not already done so, a policy on refugee and displaced women and children that will provide for the full integration of women and children into their programmes, within their respective mandates, and will include a time-frame and procedures for implementation;

11. *Urges* the recruitment of staff, in particular, female field staff, who will be able to provide assistance and protection appropriate to the specific needs of refugee women and children;

12. *Calls upon* organizations working with refugees to ensure that key staff members undergo training to raise their awareness of the issues specific to refugee and displaced women and to provide them with skills for planning appropriate protection and assistance activities;

13. *Urges* that, in the collection of refugee statistics, data disaggregated by age and gender be included in order to represent the refugee population accurately.

*12th plenary meeting
30 May 1991*

1991/24. International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1990/16 of 24 May 1990, in which it took note of the report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women on its tenth session,⁵⁶

⁵⁶ E/1990/34.

Having considered the report of the Board of Trustees of the Institute on its eleventh session,⁵⁷

Convinced of the important impact of the work of the Institute in the areas of research, training and information on questions related to women and development, work that is a prerequisite for bringing about changes in development that benefit women and society,

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 eleventh session and the decisions contained therein;

2. *Commends* the Institute for its efforts to integrate its research and training activities into the mainstream of development at the regional and national levels;

3. *Reaffirms* the catalytic role of the Institute in elaborating methodologies for carrying out research, training and information activities in new areas of interest affecting women and development;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the fact that the Institute is continuing to consider ways to strengthen its cooperation with the regional commissions and their national coordination centres and thereby expand its work at the regional and national levels;

5. *Renews its appeal* to Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other potential donors to continue contributing and, to the extent possible, to increase their contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, thus ensuring the continuity and expansion of the Institute's work;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have contributed to the Trust Fund, which has enabled the Institute to carry out its mandate to meet new challenges and take account of new trends in the areas of research, training and information on questions related to women and development;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to appoint the Director of the Institute as soon as possible, so that she may take up her duties within the framework of the mandate established in the statute of the Institute.

*12th plenary meeting
30 May 1991*

1991/25. 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,

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.

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 45/124 of 14 December 1990 and Council resolution 1990/17 of 24 May 1990,

Taking note of resolutions 35/1 of 4 March 1991 and

⁵⁷ E/1991/21.

35/3 of 8 March 1991 of the Commission on the Status of Women,⁵⁸

Noting that in resolution 45/124, the General Assembly strongly supported the view of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women that the Secretary-General should accord higher priority within existing resources to strengthening technical and substantive support for the Committee,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its tenth session,⁴⁰

Recalling 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,

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

Convinced that the close relationship between the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted by the General Assembly by its resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989, implies that the secretariats of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Committee on the Rights of the Child should work closely together,

Welcoming the general recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its tenth session,⁴⁹

Noting with appreciation the holding of the South Pacific regional seminar on the Convention in Rarotonga, Cook Islands, in March 1991, which recommended that all Pacific Island States should accede to the Convention,

Aware that the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women will take place on 3 September 1991,

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

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

4. *Urges* the Secretary-General to strengthen training in the implementation of the Convention at the national, regional and interregional levels, especially in order to assist States parties in meeting their reporting obligations;

5. *Urges* States, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to provide training opportunities on a regular basis for persons preparing periodic reports of States parties to the Convention;

6. *Welcomes* the initiatives taken to provide regional training courses for government officials on the

⁵⁸ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 8 (E/1991/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

preparation and drafting of reports of States parties and training and information seminars for States considering acceding to the Convention, and urges the relevant organs and organizations of the United Nations system to support such initiatives;

7. *Recommends* that the strengthening of substantive and technical support for the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women be a priority in the proposed programme of work for the biennium 1992-1993 of the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat;

8. *Invites* the international community to mark the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention in an appropriate manner;

9. *Invites* States parties to the Convention to make every possible effort to submit their initial reports on the implementation of the Convention, as well as their second and subsequent periodic reports, in accordance with article 18 of the Convention and the guidelines provided by the Committee, and to cooperate fully with the Committee in the presentation of their reports;

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

11. *Recommends* that a close relationship be maintained between the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and other United Nations human rights bodies, as well as between the secretariats of those Committees.

*12th plenary meeting
30 May 1991*

1991/26. Adverse consequences for the enjoyment of human rights of political, military, economic and other forms of assistance given to the racist and colonialist regime of South Africa

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 39/15 of 23 November 1984, 41/95 of 4 December 1986, 43/92 of 8 December 1988 and 45/84 of 14 December 1990,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Special Rapporteur of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, Mr. Ahmed Khalifa, for his updated report;⁵⁹

2. *Expresses its thanks* to all Governments and organizations that provided information to the Special Rapporteur;

3. *Recalls* its resolution 1990/34 of 25 May 1990 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1990/22 of 27 February 1990,⁶⁰ and invites the Special Rapporteur:

⁵⁹ E/CN.4/Sub.2/1990/13 and Add.1.

⁶⁰ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1990, Supplement No. 2 and corrigendum (E/1990/22 and Corr.1)*, chap. II, sect. A.