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FORWARD-LOOKING STRATEGIES FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN TO THE YEAR 2000

Implementation of the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. Since the proclamation of the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/63 on 3 December 1982, the question of the implementation of the Declaration has been discussed in the Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on the Status of Women.
2. The present report was prepared in response to Economic and Social Council resolution 1986/20 of 23 May 1986, in which the Council called upon Member States to take practical institutional, educational and organizational measures to facilitate women's participation on an equal footing with men in the decision-making process, including that related to peace, disarmament negotiations and the solution of conflicts, and to inform the Secretary-General of their activities undertaken at all levels to implement the Declaration as a contribution to the International Year of Peace.
3. The General Assembly, in its resolution 41/109 of 4 December 1986, decided to consider the further implementation of the Declaration at its forty-second session, as a sub-item of the item entitled "Forward-looking strategies for the advancement of women to the year 2000".
4. In accordance with those resolutions, the Secretary-General invited the Governments of Member States to inform him of activities undertaken at all levels to implement the Declaration as a contribution to the International Year of Peace, in order to report to the General Assembly at its forty-second session.
5. At the time of preparation of the present report, replies had been received from the Governments of the following Member States: Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cyprus, Denmark, Ethiopia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Iraq, Madagascar, Mexico, Panama, Poland, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zambia.
6. The replies from Member States describe numerous activities undertaken and various results achieved in their efforts towards the advancement of women. Those activities and efforts focused on the issue of de facto and de jure equality of women and on their political participation, including participation in decision-making processes and peace-related non-governmental activities.
7. In keeping with the practice established during the discussion on the content of the Declaration preceding its adoption, the present report quotes relevant parts of the replies received from Governments.
8. As it attempts to identify measures necessary for the implementation of the Declaration and that respond directly to the mandate, the present report reflects only those parts of the replies from Member States that contain concrete statements of intent and policy principles related to the Declaration, and specific

information on the activities undertaken at all levels to implement the Declaration and on the contribution of women to the International Year of Peace.

9. The complete texts of the 21 replies received have been placed in the country files of the Data Bank of the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs/Branch for the Advancement of Women, United Nations Office at Vienna.

II. REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

[13 March 1987]

1. The women of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic actively support the maintenance and strengthening of international peace and are using all the possible means available to them to work to that end. They fully endorse the broad-based peace initiatives of the Soviet State aimed at creating a nuclear-free and non-violent world based on a comprehensive system of international security.

2. The year 1986, declared by the United Nations as the International Year of Peace, witnessed the organization in the Byelorussian SSR of a number of large-scale public events whose central theme was the mobilization of greater efforts for the struggle to preserve peace, the averting of nuclear war, nuclear disarmament, the prevention of an escalation of the arms race into outer space, the radical reduction of conventional weapons and armed forces, and the creation of a comprehensive system of international security.

3. The Commission on the Observance of the International Year of Peace in the Byelorussian SSR, whose membership included a substantial number of women, along with the public non-governmental organizations of the Republic formulated and implemented a broad plan of action designed to take into account the programme of the Year.

4. An important role in arousing a sense of public awareness of the need for consistent efforts to maintain peace was performed by the mass media of the Republic. Byelorussian television and radio carried a special series of programmes devoted to the International Year of Peace. In the newspapers and magazines of the Republic, including the women's magazine Rabotnitsa i sialjanka ("The Working and the Rural Woman"), special articles were published on the subject of the International Year. The newspapers Chyrvonaja zmena, Znamja junosti and Golas radzimy ran quizzes on the subject of the International Year of Peace.

5. The events held in the Byelorussian SSR as part of the International Year of Peace were conducted on a mass scale and involved the participation of hundreds of thousands of citizens of the Republic.

6. For example, in January 1986 numerous meetings and assemblies were held in the Republic at which men and women, young persons and pensioners expressed their unanimous support for General Secretary M. S. Gorbachev's statement outlining a programme of concrete steps aimed at the total elimination of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction by the year 2000 and the prevention of the militarization of outer space.

7. On 1 September, a "Peace lesson" was held in all the general education schools of the Byelorussian SSR. A message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the occasion of the "Peace lesson" was published in the press of the Republic.

8. On 24 October 1986, a meeting of public representatives on the subject of United Nations Day and the International Year of Peace was held in the hero city of Minsk. Public representatives of the Byelorussian capital reiterated their determination to do everything within their power to promote the noble work of the United Nations and the achievement of its purposes as set forth in the Organization's Charter, and called on all men and women of good will, acting in the spirit of the high ideals of the International Year of Peace, to join efforts with a view to the taking of concrete and practical steps towards the general deliverance of the present and future generations from the threat of nuclear catastrophe.

9. In all in 1986, nearly 18,000 various anti-war events were held in the Republic, involving the participation of about 7 million persons, of whom more than half were women. Women also played an active role in a number of international peace-campaigner encounters, a number of which took place in the Byelorussian SSR.

10. The Byelorussian Committee for the Defence of Peace maintains contacts with 36 women's anti-war organizations based in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, the Federal Republic of Germany, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and other tourist groups. Women of the Byelorussian SSR are represented on the Republic's delegations to the sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations and other international organizations, and they travel abroad at the invitation of international and national organizations of peace campaigners.

CYPRUS

[Original: English]

[18 February 1987]

1. The new National Plan of Action on the Status of Women, which will be incorporated in the new five-year Development Plan (1987-1991), includes programmes and projects aiming at promoting and securing the full participation of women in the political, economic, cultural and social life.

2. In order to implement and co-ordinate the Governments's policy in this field a national mechanism has been set up consisting of the Secretariat for Women's Rights within the Ministry of Justice and a committee of representatives of all ministries under the Chairmanship of the Ministry of Justice.

3. The full participation of women on an equal footing with men in political life and the decision-making process is definitely one of the main goals of the Government of Cyprus and in that respect the Government has intensified its efforts for the elimination of obstacles preventing women from becoming involved in public life and for the creation of conditions encouraging women to participate in this field.

DENMARK

[Original: English]

[8 April 1987]

1. Act No. 157 of 24 April 1985 contains, at the recommendation of the Danish Equal Status Council, a provision to the effect that cabinet ministers in nominating members of public committees, commissions etc. shall endeavour to achieve a balanced composition of women and men.

2. As a result of that provision the share of women representation on such bodies rose, in 1984-1985 alone, from 12.7 per cent to 15.7 per cent. The share of women representation on governmental committees, commissions etc. set up after the entry into force of the Act - on July 1985 - is around 30 per cent. However, it is anticipated that the figures for the period 1985-1986, from which the full impact of the provision can be read, will be substantially higher than those recorded for 1984 and 1985.

3. The principle of balanced representation has also been taken into account in connection with reappointments to the Danish Commission on Security and Disarmament Affairs.

4. In January 1987 the Folketing (parliament) had a debate on the Governments's first national plan of action for equal status of women and men in Denmark. The objective of the plan of action is to promote equal status of women and men at all levels in society. The Folketing decided that the work on the plan of action should be continued and that a progress report thereon should be submitted to the Folketing in 1990.

ETHIOPIA

[Original: English]

[15 June 1987]

1. The Revolutionary Ethiopian Women's Association (REWA) has been participating in various international conferences and meetings that are held to promote international peace and co-operation. The Association disseminates information through the mass media concerning the activities of these international conferences and meetings.
2. At the annual celebration of Women's Day on 8 March, one of the important themes that REWA highlights to mark the occasion focuses on the need to promote peace and international co-operation.
3. REWA has established close working relationships with organizations from other countries that have similar concerns and also plays an active role in regional and international women's organizations. Thus, REWA is not only a member of the Pan African Women's Organization (PAWO), but also contributes all it can to promote the purposes on the basis of which this regional women's organization was created.
4. REWA is also a member of the Women's International Democratic Federation (WIDF) in which, as a member of the Bureau of the Federation, the Revolutionary Ethiopian Women's Association plays an important role in the various activities designed to promote the goals of the Federation, one of which is promoting international peace and security.
5. As an active member of both WIDF and PAWO, REWA participates in the promotion of the following goals to which the two organizations are dedicated:
 - (a) International peace and co-operation;
 - (b) Equality for women;
 - (c) The welfare of children;
 - (d) Establishment of the new international economic order.
6. The close contact that exists between REWA and those who fight to gain their freedom from colonialism and apartheid is among the various activities that REWA undertakes in the sphere promoting international peace and co-operation. REWA also uses all available opportunities in international forums to express its support for the causes of freedom and for the struggle against colonialism, neo-colonialism and apartheid.

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

[Original: English]

[13 February 1987]

1. The Democratic Women's League (DFD), the women's socialist organization of the German Democratic Republic, plays an important role in mobilizing women. Forming part of the country's peace movement, the organization showed a great deal of initiative in observing the United Nations-proclaimed International Year of Peace 1986. In thousands of letters and other comments women gave expression to their strong support for the policy of the German Democratic Republic, which is aimed at the preservation of peace and the establishment of a coalition of realism and common sense to eliminate the danger of a nuclear inferno.

2. On the occasion of International Women's Day on 8 March 1986, peace rallies were held in many cities, towns and villages of the German Democratic Republic. On these occasions some 1.5 million women manifested their firm resolve not to slacken in their championship of peace.

3. The commitment of women to the fundamental human right to a life in peace proves to be an increasingly weighty contribution to the solution of this vital issue facing mankind. The DFD has actively promoted international dialogue among women, irrespective of what social system they live in. On invitation, women's delegations of various political directions from more than 30 countries visited the German Democratic Republic in 1986. Apart from acquainting themselves with life in the host country in general, they used these occasions to exchange experience on ways of securing the involvement of women in public affairs, in particular for safeguarding peace, restoring a normal international situation and ensuring a happy future for the children.

4. The Government and people of the German Democratic Republic consider it their duty to make a contribution to solidarity with the peoples fighting for national liberation and independence. They stand firmly at the side of the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America in the struggle against imperialist aggression and interference, neo-colonialism, racism, apartheid and fascism. On the occasion of World Peace Day the DFD made available 2 million marks for solidarity measures. In honour of the national congress of the DFD to be held in March 1987, women of the German Democratic Republic pledged 1.5 million marks for solidarity purposes.

5. The high level of political commitment of women in the German Democratic Republic was manifest once again in connection with the 1986 elections. At neighbourhood meetings more than 605,000 women put forth concrete proposals on ways of further improving working and living conditions, which were taken into account in drawing up the five-year plan for the development of the national economy.

6. The policy of translating economic advances into social benefits ensures that constant attention is paid to the interests of women and to ways of further improving their working and living conditions. In 1986, the Government enacted new legislation and allocated large public funds to further strengthen the foundations

of women's equal rights. The measures taken are designed to make it easier for women to reconcile their responsibilities as citizens and working women with those within the family and as mothers.

7. The strategy for the further shaping of the advanced socialist society adopted by the Government of the German Democratic Republic with the year 2000 in view builds on the dedication of the working people and on the justified hope that peace can be preserved.

8. Acting from the awareness that everyone who wants a climate of social security must work for the preservation of peace, the DFD, last September, called upon all its members to join in an emulation drive mottoed "Everything for the people's welfare and for peace". What is accomplished in the framework of this drive is designed to help achieve a continuous and dynamic increase in economic efficiency to make sure that the targets set in the area of social policy and in terms of further improving material and cultural living standards are met.

9. The enjoyment of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, which are indivisible in nature, and a high level of satisfaction of interrelated needs in the fields of labour, education, food-supply, housing, health, recreation and social care enable women to develop their personalities more fully, to help shape the development process and to work actively for a peaceful future.

GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF

[Original: English]

[24 June 1987]

1. Equal participation of women in economic and political development and hence in the promotion of international peace and co-operation is an objective pursued by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany. The aim is that women should, by occupying responsible positions, take part on an equal footing with men in key socio-political decisions of our country. The Federal Government believes that women should not be assigned to specific areas. The appointment of six women as ministers or parliamentary state secretaries in the Federal Government is an expression of this policy. The termination of the division into departments traditionally run by men and others by women is illustrated by the areas of responsibility of these women politicians: Federal Chancellery, Federal Foreign Office, Federal Ministry of Defence and Federal Ministry for Intra-German Relations.

2. In these ministries, decisions are taken that are aimed at securing lasting peace and promoting international co-operation. The appointment of women as key office-holders in these areas demonstrates that in the Federal Republic of Germany women participate in decision-making processes serving the purpose of fostering international peace and co-operation. The Federal Government thus acts in consonance with the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation.

3. Women's associations, such as the German Women's Council, which sought consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in 1986, and the women's organizations of political parties also play a part in the growing co-operation between countries.

4. At the Federal Foreign Office, the primary objective of which is to foster fruitful co-operation between countries, an increasing number of women have been appointed or promoted to key positions. The appointment of a woman as ambassador in Brussels is an example of the growing participation of women in decisions concerning the promotion of international co-operation. Women now account for over 20 per cent of new recruits to the higher level of the Federal Foreign Service. In February 1987, the Federal Foreign Office set up a division on family affairs and women's issues, which will, among other things, deal with specific vocational matters concerning women in the Federal Foreign Service. At the Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation, a division was established to examine above all the concerns of women in developing countries.

GREECE

[Original: English]

[13 May 1987]

1. In Greece today, women do not have to face any formality discriminations with regard to obtaining or practicing their rights in the political and public life of the country. Their participation in those sectors, from the point of view of legislation, is free; however, social prejudice as well as the social and economic system have prevented the dynamic presence of the female element in those sectors. The question of equality of the sexes, during the past few years, has been promoted as being of a high priority with the objective of a new social reality and new quality of life. The increase of women's participation in the country's productive activities and particularly in politics, the economic and social life, as well as their promotion to decision-taking centres constitute basic objectives of today's socialistic policy of the Government aiming at a society of equal opportunities.

2. However, in spite of all the legislative and constitutional provisions of those rights, the presence of women in Parliament and local government is not satisfactory, as is seen by the data below:

(a) Women members of the Greek Parliament, 1985: 9;

(b) Women members of the European Parliament, 1984: 2;

(c) Participation of women in the Council of Ministers following the 1985 elections: 2;

(d) Participation of women in the General Secretariats following the 1985 elections: 3;

(e) Participation of women in regional administration (1985) women prefects: 10;

(f) Participation of women in local government following the 1986 elections: women mayors: 5.

3. In the judicial corps, in spite of an obvious increase since 1981, no comparative data exists as yet.

4. In the diplomatic corps for the period 1981-1985, out of 120 new diplomatic employees, only 24 are women.

5. In 1985, out of a total of 415 diplomatic employees we have 39 women, while for the first time a woman was given the post of ambassador in 1986.

6. However, the State indirectly encourages women to participate actively in the social and political life. This contribution by the State is seen and effected through the informative programmes for the people's education and other competent agencies, such as the Hellenic Productivity Center (ELKEPA), the General Secretariat for Equality, as well as through new institutions, district councils, people's assemblies and prefectural councils, at the local level that impel both men and women to work for the common good of the country.

7. At this level the contributions of women's organizations, whose membership increases notably every year, are considerable. It should be noted that women's organization are not financially supported by the State.

8. It is encouraging that presently in our country the women's movement has the characteristics of a mass movement, through decentralization and the establishment of the branches of different organizations in most of the Greek cities. Thus, all Greek women are given the opportunity to become active and acquainted, through the work of these organizations, with their rights and obligations.

IRAQ

[Original: Arabic]

[5 March 1987]

1. The General Union of Iraqi Women has been able to consolidate points of view on many national and global issues and to take specific positions, with the help of the efforts and potential of these women's organizations, stressing the importance of peace for the world and considering it a cornerstone of the efforts of all national and international women's organizations to maintain the achievements and the rights of women, which the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year (Mexico), the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace (Copenhagen, 1980) and the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women (Nairobi, 1985) seek to attain.

2. Thus, through their General Union, Iraqi women have consistently expressed their views on the international disputes constituting hot spots that might explode into peace-threatening conflict at the regional and global levels.

3. In its constant endeavour to achieve peace, the General Union of Iraqi Women has adopted many approaches, including:

(a) Issuing statements and dispatching telegrams and messages to Arab and international women's organizations, personalities and leadership groups;

(b) Receiving delegations from and sending them to other States to discuss the means and prospects for achieving co-operation and co-ordinating and consolidating efforts towards resolving shared issues;

(c) Participating in Arab and international conferences, symposia and seminars;

(d) Holding joint meetings with women belonging to the Arab and non-Arab diplomatic corps in Iraq;

(e) Programming the activities of liaison committees of the General Union of Iraqi Women, acting in the Arab and non-Arab countries, with a view to strengthening their relations with the women's organizations in those countries.

MADAGASCAR

[Original: French]

[18 February 1987]

1. From the start of the school year 1986/87, the struggle against apartheid and racism features in the curriculum of secondary and basic (primary) education.

2. At international level, nationals of Madagascar have participated in the various meetings organized throughout the world within the framework of the celebration of the International Year of Peace:

(a) A meeting of the human rights consultative group within the World Council of Churches (Switzerland, January 1986);

(b) A symposium for the fortieth anniversary of the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs: Militarism and the arms race in the context of the struggle for justice (Geneva, October 1986);

(c) The Conference on Peace convened by the World Council of Peace (Copenhagen, October 1986).

MEXICO

[Original: Spanish]

[9 April 1987]

1. The International Women's Coalition for a Meaningful Summit was held in Greece in November 1986 with the participation, as representatives of Mexico, of Ambassador Olga Pellicer, Ambassador Aída González Martínez and Senator Silvia Hernández.
2. The meeting urged the leaders of the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to pursue negotiations, together with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, to bring about a global nuclear test-ban treaty, as well as negotiations on reducing stockpiles of nuclear weapons, and to increase their support for the peace and disarmament initiative of the Group of Six and the initiatives of the international movement of parliamentarians in this field.
3. The representatives declared that Mexico is a peace-loving State and they stressed the urgency of the following questions:
 - (a) A halt to the testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons;
 - (b) Prevention of the development and deployment of weapons in outer space;
 - (c) Full support for women's aspirations to ensure for their children a future in which peace is taught and learned.

PANAMA

[Original: Spanish]

[5 March 1987]

1. During 1986, the International Year of Peace, support was given to a number of governmental and private activities. Women's organizations such as the Union of University Women, FENAMUDE and the Women's Popular Front have supported a variety of actions, including the events in support of the peace effort in Central America, and specifically the Contadora initiative.
2. In the National Directorate for Children and the Family of the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare there was a one minute pause for peace. Similar activities were carried out by other institutions, such as the National Charitable Lottery, headed by an outstanding woman leader, Ana Villa de Flores.
3. Extensive coverage and support was given to the march for peace in Central America. This event gave rise to interest in establishing a network for peace in Central America. Panama is part of this network and the national and international co-ordinator is Mrs. Dalys Vargas of the Women's Popular Front.

4. The network is made up of women's groups such as the National Union of Catholic Women and the Experimental Workshop for Women. The activities carried out by this organization include participation in the World Congress for Peace, held in October 1986 at Copenhagen, and the organization of the Second Meeting for Peace in December 1986, where the activities for 1987 were scheduled, including:

(a) Campaigns for peace in Central America and a declaration with regard to the situation in Central America;

(b) International denunciation of human rights violations;

(c) March for peace in Honduras;

(d) Posters and marches for peace;

(e) Projects for the protection of victims of war, the rehabilitation of victims of torture and the protection of women and children;

(f) With reference to the Torrijos-Carter treaties, activities in defence of Panama's neutral position and to ensure compliance with these treaties.

5. There is considerable participation by women in all these activities. From the legal standpoint, women participate in them on an equal footing with men.

POLAND

[Original: English]

[18 March 1987]

1. The Government of Poland, in appreciation of the growing role of women as a factor in social and economic change and as an active participant in efforts aimed at promoting international peace and security, ensures to women broad participation in the country's political, social, economic and cultural life.

2. Only in conditions of peace is it possible to give effect to the equality of women's rights and to ensure full participation in all the spheres of life.

3. Polish women were active in the observance of the International Year of Peace, which saw in Poland about 150 different events.

4. The question of strengthening peace was an important element at the Congress of the League of Polish Women in October 1986, held under the motto "Peace to the World, Development to the Motherland, Happiness to the Family".

5. Polish women were active at international congresses, seminars and meetings in various countries, held to tighten co-operation between women from all over the world for the joint struggle for peace and disarmament.

6. The new schoolyear, which begins on 1 September - the day of the outbreak of the Second World War, was in 1986 inaugurated by "peace lessons". The preparation for life in peace was the motto of numerous mass events across the country, addressed to young people and children.

7. The mass media played a considerable role in promoting wider understanding of the problems of other nations as well as international friendship and co-operation. They also made it possible to disseminate among the Polish people the results of world conferences held within the framework of the United Nations Decade for Women.

8. All efforts undertaken by the Polish women's movement to promote peace and international co-operation enjoy the full support of the Polish Government.

SRI LANKA

[Original: English]

[15 April 1987]

1. The effective participation of women in development and the promotion of equality strengthens peace and co-operation within the society and among groups of individuals. Peace is an essential for life itself and, therefore, any form of threat to human life support systems inevitably poses a threat to security and peace.

2. The Government of Sri Lanka and non-governmental organizations target their activities toward peace and harmony within our society and also between other countries. Peace marches, peace rallies, peace meetings, poster and essay competitions were held to promote peace. "Give the world a chance" and "Children need peace" were the themes of the mass peace movement which was held in the year 1986 and was organized by Sarvodaya with the Girl Guide Association, the Young Men's Buddhist Association, the Red Cross Society, the Boy Scouts and several other non-governmental organizations. The ministries of Sri Lanka aim at peace and harmony between ethnic groups of our country and also for international peace and co-operation in their policies.

3. The Government of Sri Lanka and non-governmental organizations promote education for peace in the family, the neighbourhood and the community. The religious education provided to boys and girls from their tender age in temple, church, mosque and kovil and in schools on Sundays provide them with education which helps them to develop into a community devoted to a better life for all.

4. The Ministry of Rehabilitation protects and assists refugees and displaced persons in the troubled North and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka. The Women's Bureau of Sri Lanka will be paying special attention to women refugees and displaced women in order to ensure their proper rehabilitation and if possible to provide them with a better life than they enjoyed before.

THAILAND

[Original: English]

[9 March 1987]

1. The Government of Thailand has provided support to the International Year of Peace 1986. As an active member of the United Nations, Thailand has organized activities to celebrate this important declaration as evident in its determination to help foster world peace. The Thai Government assigned the Ministry of University Affairs to co-ordinate the various peace promotion activities organized in 1986.
2. Every activity focuses on freedom, peace, equality and an aspect of human rights.
3. Morality Towards Peace: A seminar was organized for leading women in densely populated urban communities stressing peace in the family as a means of achieving world peace. Peace means implementation of good deeds in daily affairs. The seminar took place at the Government House on 17 May 1986 and was attended by more than 200 people.
4. Youth Development for Peace: A seminar was organized by the National Council of Women of Thailand, the National Committee on Co-ordination and Operation for Women's Affairs, the National Committee on Assessment, Promotion and Co-ordination of Women's Activities and Roles, the National Committee on the Evaluation of Laws and Regulations on Women's Affairs, and the National Committee on Women and Labour of the National Commission on Women's Affairs. The event took place on 20 and 21 June 1986.
5. The activities organized in Thailand in conjunction with the International Year of Peace were aimed at people from all walks of life to draw their attention to the importance of world peace. Activities were organized through joint efforts and Thai women played an important role in providing ideas and direction in organizing the various activities.
6. Women were also directly responsible for initiating various other events such as the "mobile lectures" conceived by a university professor and the seminars on "Morality Towards Peace" and "Youth Development for Peace" organized by the National Commission on Women's Affairs in co-operation with women's societies in the private sector.
7. Women have participated in the various seminars and wrote articles to support the International Year of Peace. Women have played an important role in contributing to the success of events organized in 1986 to promote world peace.

TUNISIA

[Original: French]

[12 March 1987]

1. Acknowledging the need for women to participate in family responsibilities, Tunisian law has also recognized their participation in decision-making and supervisory bodies.
2. For the first time in history, women have been appointed as déléguées. (Tunisia is divided for administrative purposes into 23 Governorates, which are themselves subdivided into délégations headed by a délégué.)
3. With respect to education and training, the "history of the liberation movement in Tunisia" forms part of the teaching programmes in schools. This topic has also given rise to the publication of many works and textbooks, prepared with great care, on the events of the struggle against colonialism.
4. There is still only a very small number of women in senior diplomatic posts and in international organizations such as the United Nations.
5. As regards their participation in international, regional and subregional meetings, Tunisian women are increasingly in evidence. They are co-operating fully, proud of the opportunity to recount their country's experience, which is based primarily on a policy of peace, equality and development for the welfare of all.

TURKEY

[Original: English]

[26 March 1987]

1. The contribution of women to the improvement of international peace and co-operation cannot be denied. There is no impediment for Turkish women to contribute to the improvement of international peace and collaboration as there is none in domestic activities. Moreover, many Turkish women take part in various international organizations. The Permanent Representative of Turkey in the Council of Europe is a woman ambassador.
2. Full participation of women in international peace and co-operation and in activities to counter the factors hindering international peace, such as all kinds of race discrimination, genocide, aggression, oppression and colonialism, is also supported. For this purpose, the development of special precaution and policies at the international level, as stated in the resolution of the Economic and Social Council is seen as useful.

3. In addition to increasing the active participation of women in international peace and co-operation, strengthening women's freedom of thought, conscience, expression, establishing associations and travel and their part in administration without any discrimination (of race, political thought, religious belief, language and ethnic root) are inevitable. Implementation with respect to participation of women in this way should be continued.

4. The number of women having various responsibilities in Government and participating in working activities out of Government is increasing in Turkey. There are 54 female state officials in the ministries and in the dependent institutions of them as under-secretary-general, director and head of department.

5. The Turkish Government is in agreement with the articles stated in the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation. It believes that all member countries should join in common activities, and that the necessary implementation measures should be taken at the national and international levels for the realization of the subjects in the Declaration.

UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

[15 May 1987]

1. The social and political activity of Ukrainian women may be seen in their participation in efforts to strengthen international peace and co-operation, to avert the threat of nuclear war and to put an end to nuclear testing, as well as in their involvement in the various campaigns that have been mounted to show solidarity and support for those women who are the victims of such massive and flagrant violations of human rights such as apartheid and all forms of racism, racial discrimination, colonialism, neo-colonialism, aggression, and foreign occupation and domination.

2. Millions of Ukrainian women also played an active role in the 175,000 anti-war events that took place in 1986 as part of the observance of the International Year of Peace. These events were co-ordinated by the Peace Year Commission or the Ukrainian SSR, whose membership included women. In the course of these events, the women of the Ukrainian SSR added their voices to those raised in support of the broad-based foreign policy initiatives of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, aimed at the creation of conditions to ensure the survival of mankind and reliable security for all countries and peoples.

3. Ukrainian women are regularly included in the Governments' delegations to the sessions of the General Assembly, its organs and the specialized agencies and to international conferences and meetings. Women headed the Ukrainian delegations to the conferences in Mexico City, Copenhagen and Nairobi, where they took an active part in the drafting and adoption of the final documents, which have come to serve as guidelines for the implementation of international co-operation in the cause of enhancing the status of women.

4. At present, the women of the Republic are participating in the preparations for the World Congress of Women, which is to be held from 23 to 27 June of this year in Moscow under the motto "Towards the year 2000 - without nuclear weapons! For peace, equality, development!".

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

[Original: Russian]

[25 May 1987]

1. For Soviet women, the struggle for peace is a continuing and daily commitment, and as such it is inseparable from the struggle for the consolidation of socialism. Soviet women understand that their personal happiness, the happiness of their families and the future of their children are indissolubly linked to the fate of their country and to its achievements.

2. Not only do Soviet women participate in manifestations of solidarity, forums and meetings devoted to the cause of peace, but they may also be found protesting the outrageous and arbitrary acts of the imperialist aggressors and co-operating with women's anti-war movements in other countries.

3. They are actively involved in the work of the Soviet Peace Foundation, which was created under the initiative of many public organizations, including the Committee of Soviet Women. The objective of the Soviet Peace Foundation is to promote the development of relations and contacts between the Soviet public and the peace-loving community abroad, to which end it makes available financial resources to Soviet public organizations. The Foundation assists in conducting scholarly research into the problems of peace, in disseminating publications and posters, and in producing documentary films dealing with the subject of peace and friendship among peoples. At the district, municipal and working-collective levels, 350,000 co-operating committees for the support of the Peace Foundation have been established, bringing together some 5 million persons. The majority of the Foundations' republic and regional committees are headed by women. Nearly two thirds of the Foundations' local active members are also women.

4. Soviet women regard the task of inculcating in the next generation the spirit of peace and friendship among peoples as one of the key approaches to their efforts on behalf of peace. All institutions involved in the education of the younger generation - the family, the pre-school centres, the schools, the vocational, secondary technical and higher educational establishments, the information media, the publishing community, the theatre and the cinema - are involved in this work. The school year begins with a "peace lesson", the purpose of which is to instil in the young the spirit of peace and friendship among nations.

5. The aspirations of Soviet women to safeguard peace are reflected in the pages of the press, including the central and republic journals, among them those intended especially for women. The magazine "Soviet Women", which is published in

14 languages by the Committee of Soviet Women, devotes half of its articles to the contribution of Soviet women to the struggle for peace.

6. The magazine carries a permanent feature entitled "Tribunal of the world's scientists: for averting the threatened destruction of life on Earth", along with articles by doctors, jurists, ecologists, biologists, physicists, chemists and others. The purpose of these contributions is to drive home the catastrophic consequences that would result from the use of nuclear weapons and to make it clear that any talk about the feasibility of limited nuclear war is a hideous deception, that neutron warfare threatens an unavoidable calamity, and that the unleashing of a nuclear war must simply not be permitted.

7. Soviet women greeted with profound satisfaction the decision adopted by the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session to declare 1986 an International Year of Peace. As part of the observance of the Year, a peace school was conducted in the USSR with the participation of women representatives from international organizations and from anti-war organizations based in a number of European countries, the United States and Canada. Another event was a seminar arranged for women's organizations of Asian countries and a group of international organizations on the subject "Women and the development of society: women's contribution to the maintenance of peace". On 23 July 1986, many thousands of persons attended a women's anti-war meeting in Moscow.

VENEZUELA

[Original: Spanish]

[2 February 1987]

1. So far as the steps taken in Venezuela to implement the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation are concerned, the President of the Republic by Decree No. 966 of 8 January 1986 established the National Co-ordinating Committee for the "International Year of Peace", consisting of the Minister for Foreign Affairs (Chairman), the Minister for Education, the Minister for Youth, the Minister of State for Culture, the President of the National Academy of Political and Social Sciences, the President of the National Autonomous Library and Library Services Institute, the Head of the Central Office of Information and the President of the Latin American Foundation for Human Rights.

2. The National Committee was responsible for formulating, co-ordinating and implementing activities for marking the International Year of Peace in Venezuela. It launched a campaign to encourage educational, cultural and academic institutions and the mass media to work for the promotion of peace, international security and co-operation on the basis of the Charter of the United Nations and the peaceful settlement of disputes. Steps were taken, by providing information, to increase public awareness of and support for the activities of the United Nations.

3. In view of the considerations contained in Decree No. 966 of the Office of the President of the Republic and in compliance with the provisions of articles 5 and 7 thereof, the Ministry for Youth was made responsible for formulating and co-ordinating national policy with reference to matters concerning children, young people, the family and women in Venezuela.

4. The activities suggested for the International Year of Peace were accordingly based on the values of social justice, co-operation and security, which should be promoted by heightening society's awareness of the need to protect children, young people, the family and women and which can only be achieved in a world of lasting peace.

5. Against this background, in order to give effect to the ideals of peace supported by the United Nations and to celebrate the International Year of Peace, the National Office of Women's Affairs in this Ministry made plans for carrying out the following activities designed to promote the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women:

(a) Submission to the National Congress of proposals for the amendment of the Labour Law, designed to eliminate articles in the law that marginalize women, thus preventing their full participation in development;

(b) The Office is similarly promoting the discussion by Congress of amendments to the Penal Code, which still contains articles discriminating against women.

6. The aim of all this is to achieve justice for women, since peace is not possible without justice.

7. Another programme undertaken by the National Office of Women's Affairs to foster peace in our families is that for the "protection of the family against maltreatment". This is intended to help in dealing with the problems of domestic violence, which is considered to be a social problem calling for action, guidance and punishment by society as a whole. The main objective of this programme is to publicize existing laws and rights in this area in order to promote more humane and mutually dependent relations within the family.

YUGOSLAVIA

[Original: English]

[12 February 1987]

1. International peace and co-operation are given high importance and priority in Yugoslavia - from an appropriate place in the Constitution to the everyday activities of governmental bodies, various social organizations and even individuals. Very special care is taken in strengthening the peace-oriented public consciousness, particularly with the youth, through topical inclusion of peace and co-operation in educational programmes, school-books, seminars, rallies and concerts etc.

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2. A good example of such activities was the celebration of the International Year of Peace. An appropriate programme has been carried out by the National Committee for the International Year of Peace and the Yugoslav League for Peace, based primarily on the United Nations programme for the Year. Special manifestations were organized, such as the publication of a poster, a statement by the President of the Presidium of Yugoslavia, a federal competition for the best written essay or drawing dedicated to the Year by young authors, a rally "Youth and Peace 1986", a special postal stamp, a special publication "Yugoslavia and the promotion of international peace", a special session of the Assembly of Yugoslavia dedicated to the Year, a peace rally in Belgrade, a rally for disarmament in Zagreb etc. An additional emphasis on international peace and co-operation was given to the traditional activities such as Yugoslav child festival, children's week, world day of the child, joy of Europe, meetings of international friendship, youth on the path of freedom etc.

3. A broad effort was made to get the young generation acquainted with the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the principles of the Non-Aligned Movement (the Eighth Summit of the Non-Aligned was held at Harare during the Year).

4. In all those activities women participated fully and on an equal footing, both as initiators or organizers and as participants; in some fields - such as education - where women represent a major force, their share was decisive. Moreover, whenever appropriate, the corresponding resolutions of the General Assembly, the Nairobi World Conference and the Economic and Social Council were quoted or mentioned in the context of women's participation in promoting international peace and co-operation.

ZAMBIA

[Original: English]

[9 February 1987]

Within the policy-making machinery, special departments have been created specifically to promote the advancement of women. As a result, in Zambia, men and women have equal opportunities in the employment field and enjoy similar conditions of employment, such as equal pay for equal work of the same value, unrestricted advancement in occupational categories, hours of work, earned leave and housing for those working women heading family units.
