

Welcoming the International Conference of Ministers Responsible for the Status of Persons with Disabilities hosted by the Government of Canada at Montreal, Canada, on 8 and 9 October 1992,

Noting with appreciation the high-level participation in its plenary meetings on 12 and 13 October 1992,⁵ marking the conclusion of the Decade,

1. *Invites* all Member States and organizations concerned to intensify their efforts aimed at sustained effective action with a view to improving the situation of persons with disabilities;

2. *Proclaims* 3 December as the International Day of Disabled Persons;

3. *Urges* Governments, as well as national, regional and international organizations, to extend their full cooperation in observing the International Day of Disabled Persons.

*37th plenary meeting
14 October 1992*

47/4. Observer status for the International Organization for Migration in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Noting the desire of the International Organization for Migration to intensify its cooperation with the United Nations,

1. *Decides* to invite the International Organization for Migration to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

*41st plenary meeting
16 October 1992*

47/5. Proclamation on Ageing

The General Assembly,

Having convened an international conference on ageing on 15 and 16 October 1992⁶ on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the International Plan of Action on Ageing,⁷

Adopts the Proclamation on Ageing, annexed to the present resolution.

*42nd plenary meeting
16 October 1992*

ANNEX

Proclamation on Ageing

The General Assembly,

Noting the unprecedented ageing of populations taking place throughout the world,

Conscious that the ageing of the world's population represents an unparalleled, but urgent, policy and programme challenge to Governments, non-governmental organizations and private groups to ensure that the needs of the aged and their human resource potential are adequately addressed,

Conscious also that population ageing in developing regions is proceeding much more rapidly than it occurred in the developed world,

Aware that a revolutionary change in the demographic structure of societies requires a fundamental change in the way in which societies organize their affairs,

Optimistic that the coming decade will see an increase in partnerships, practical initiatives and resources devoted to ageing,

Welcoming the increasing contributions of older persons to economic, social and cultural development,

Welcoming also broad participation in the United Nations programme on ageing,

Recognizing that ageing is a life-long process and that preparation for old age must begin in childhood and continue throughout the life cycle,

Recognizing also that older persons are entitled to aspire to and attain the highest possible level of health,

Recognizing further that with increasing age some individuals will need comprehensive community and family care,

Reaffirming the International Plan of Action on Ageing,⁷ which it endorsed in its resolution 37/51 of 3 December 1982, and the United Nations Principles for Older Persons, annexed to its resolution 46/91 of 16 December 1991,

Noting the many United Nations activities that address ageing in the context of development, human rights, population, employment, education, health, housing, family, disability and the advancement of women,

Having considered the challenges inherent in implementing the Plan of Action,

Recognizing the need for a practical strategy on ageing for the decade 1992-2001,

1. *Urges* the international community:

(a) To promote the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing;

(b) To disseminate widely the United Nations Principles for Older Persons;

(c) To support the practical strategies for reaching the global targets on ageing for the year 2001;⁸

(d) To support the continuing efforts of the Secretariat to clarify policy options by improving data collection, research, training, technical cooperation and information exchange on ageing;

(e) To ensure that the ageing of populations is adequately addressed in the regular programmes of competent United Nations organizations and bodies, and that adequate resources are assigned through redeployment;

(f) To support broad and practical partnerships within the United Nations programme on ageing, including partnerships between Governments, specialized agencies and United Nations bodies, non-governmental organizations and the private sector;

(g) To strengthen the Trust Fund for Ageing as a means of supporting developing countries in adjusting to the ageing of their populations;

(h) To encourage donor and recipient countries to include older persons in their development programmes;

(i) To highlight ageing at major forthcoming events, including, in the near future, events in the areas of human rights, the family, population, the advancement of women, crime prevention, youth and the proposed world summit for social development;

(j) To encourage the press and the media to play a central role in the creation of awareness of population ageing and related issues, including the celebration of the International Day for the Elderly on 1 October and the dissemination of the United Nations Principles for Older Persons;

(k) To promote intraregional and interregional cooperation and exchange of resources for programmes and projects on ageing, including those for life-long healthy ageing, income generation and new forms of productive ageing;

(l) To provide the immense human and material resources now urgently needed for adjustments to humanity's coming of age, which can be understood as a demographic phenomenon, but also as a social, economic and cultural one of great promise;

2. *Also urges* the support of national initiatives on ageing in the context of national cultures and conditions, so that:

(a) Appropriate national policies and programmes for the elderly are considered as part of overall development strategies;

(b) Policies which enhance the role of Government, the voluntary sector and private groups are expanded and supported;

(c) Governmental and non-governmental organizations collaborate in the development of primary health care, health promotion and self-help programmes for the elderly;

(d) Older persons are viewed as contributors to their societies and not as a burden;

(e) The entire population is engaged in preparing for the later stages of life;

(f) Old and young generations cooperate in creating a balance between tradition and innovation in economic, social and cultural development;

(g) Policies and programmes are developed which respond to the special characteristics, needs and abilities of older women;

(h) Older women are given adequate support for their largely unrecognized contributions to the economy and the well-being of society;

(i) Older men are encouraged to develop social, cultural and emotional capabilities which they may have been prevented from developing during breadwinning years;

(j) Community awareness and participation is encouraged in the formulation and implementation of programmes and projects with the involvement of older persons;

(k) Families are supported in providing care and all family members are encouraged to cooperate in caregiving;

(l) Local authorities cooperate with older persons, businesses, civic associations and others in exploring new ways of maintaining age integration in family and community;

(m) Decision makers and researchers cooperate in undertaking action-oriented studies;

(n) Policy makers focus attention and resources on tangible opportunities rather than on desirable but unobtainable goals;

(o) International cooperation is expanded to the extent feasible in the context of the strategies for reaching the global targets on ageing for the year 2001;

3. *Decides* to observe the year 1999 as the International Year of Older Persons, supported by the regular programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999 and by voluntary contributions, in recognition of humanity's demographic coming of age and the promise it holds for maturing attitudes and capabilities in social, economic, cultural and spiritual undertakings, not least for global peace and development in the next century.

47/6. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 36/38 of 18 November 1981, 37/8 of 29 October 1982, 38/37 of 5 December 1983, 39/47 of 10 December 1984, 40/60 of 9 December 1985, 41/5 of 17 October 1986, 43/1 of 17 October 1988 and 45/4 of 16 October 1990,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee,⁹

Having heard the statement made on 21 October 1992 by the Secretary-General of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee on the steps taken by the Consultative Committee to ensure continuing, close and effective cooperation between the two organizations,¹⁰

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the continuing efforts of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee towards

strengthening the role of the United Nations and its various organs, including the International Court of Justice, through programmes and initiatives undertaken by the Consultative Committee;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the commendable progress achieved towards enhancing cooperation between the United Nations and the Consultative Committee in wider areas;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the decision of the Consultative Committee to participate actively in the programmes of the United Nations Decade of International Law;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session a report on cooperation between the United Nations and the Consultative Committee;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee".

43rd plenary meeting
21 October 1992

47/7. Emergency assistance to the Philippines

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/177 of 19 December 1991 on emergency assistance to the Philippines,

Deeply concerned about the extensive damage and devastation in the Philippines caused by the massive mudflows from the volcanic ash deposits of the recent eruptions of Mount Pinatubo volcano,

Noting with concern the destruction of thousands of dwellings and the damage to major sectors of the national infrastructure, as well as the mounting needs of hundreds of thousands of displaced persons,

Acknowledging the efforts of the Government of the Philippines to provide relief and emergency assistance to the people affected by the mudflows and recent volcanic eruptions,

Noting that the earnest efforts of the Government of the Philippines to promote economic growth and development will be hampered by this continuing calamity,

1. *Commends* the efforts of the international community, including the organs and organizations of the United Nations system, to supplement the efforts of the Government of the Philippines in relief operations and emergency assistance;

2. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the relevant organs and organizations of the United Nations system and in close collaboration with the Government authorities, to assist in the rehabilitation efforts of the Government of the Philippines;

3. *Requests* all States and international organizations to extend, on an urgent basis, further support to the Philippines in ways that would alleviate, for the duration of the emergency and the ensuing rehabilitation process, the economic and financial burden borne by the Philippine people.

44th plenary meeting
21 October 1992