

and increase their participation in the reconstruction and rehabilitation programmes;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-second session a report on the programmes carried out and the assistance provided in implementation of the present resolution.

*14th plenary meeting
26 May 1987*

1987/18. Monitoring and review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming the importance attached by the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace to monitoring and review and appraisal, as outlined in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,¹⁹

Recalling General Assembly resolution 40/108 of 13 December 1985, in which the Assembly recommended, *inter alia*, the further development of the integrated reporting system for monitoring and review and appraisal of progress in the advancement of women, and nothing Assembly resolution 41/111 of 4 December 1986,

Stressing the importance of the submission of regular and relevant reports to the Commission on the Status of Women by all Member States and organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional commission and the specialized agencies, to provide statistical information and analysis on the situation of women at the national, regional and international levels,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the reporting system for periodic review and appraisal of progress in the advancement of women,²⁰ which identifies past and present problems and suggests remedial measures,

Recognizing that effective monitoring and review and appraisal should be conducted at the sectoral, national, regional and international levels to achieve optimal results,

Mindful of the need to avoid duplication of reporting obligations, especially given the burden that coexisting reporting systems place on Member States, especially those with limited resources, and the financial stringencies facing the United Nations system,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in further developing and implementing the reporting system for monitoring and review and appraisal of progress in the advancement of women, to take into account the following guidelines:

(a) Questionnaires and data-gathering instruments should be as simple, clearly focused and practical as possible, and, to the extent possible, existing reporting systems should be relied on;

(b) A clear and relevant set of statistical and other measurable indicators, such as the level of participation of women in decision-making, in the paid labour force and in the informal sector, comparative earnings of

women and men, literacy, training and education and life expectancy, should be identified to facilitate the collection, comparison and analysis of data and the identification of shortfalls in information requirements;

(c) United Nations focal points should be strengthened and regular inter-agency meetings should be held to promote co-ordination among organizations of the United Nations system in review and appraisal;

(d) Reporting at the global level should address the priority themes identified by the Commission on the Status of Women in its future programme of work, and the reports should be made available to the Commission for its consideration of those themes;

(e) The reports submitted by States to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women are of direct relevance to the Commission's task of monitoring and appraising the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women;

2. *Affirms* the appropriateness of a two-year cycle of system-wide monitoring of progress made in implementing the Forward-looking Strategies and a five-year cycle of longer-term review and appraisal to continue the cycle established by the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace;

3. *Invites* Member States to co-operate fully with the Commission on the Status of Women in its monitoring and review and appraisal activities and, in particular, to take into account the needs of the United Nations in this regard when developing national machinery and reporting systems;

4. *Invites* the Secretary-General, the executive secretaries of the regional commissions, and the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to develop and implement, as an integral part of their programmes, a simple, concise and direct system of reporting to the Commission on the impact of their programmes and activities on women and the effectiveness of those programmes and activities in bringing the interests and needs of women into the mainstream of their organizations, and to ensure that such reports are submitted in a timely manner to permit them to be taken into account in the United Nations programming and budgeting process;

5. *Authorizes* the Commission on the Status of Women, in consultation with the Statistical Commission, the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and other appropriate bodies, to establish formal arrangements for the collection and distribution of the information required for the Commission on the Status of Women to carry out its monitoring and review and appraisal functions;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report, through the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-second session, to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1988 on the implementation of the present resolution, with particular regard to paragraph 1.

*14th plenary meeting
26 May 1987*

1987/19. Improvement of the status of women within the United Nations system

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind paragraph 356 of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of

¹⁹ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A, paras. 317-321

²⁰ E/CN.6/1986/2 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1

Women,³ in which it was recommended, *inter alia*, that the United Nations system take all necessary measures to achieve an equitable balance between women and men staff members at the managerial and professional levels in substantive areas, as well as in field posts,

Recalling its resolution 1986/19 of 23 May 1986,

Recognizing that the participation of women within the United Nations system, in particular in the follow-up and co-ordination of the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies and at policy-making levels, is an essential means of bringing the experience of women to bear on all aspects of the policies and programmes of the organizations that shape global development,

Aware that, as at 30 June 1986, the percentage of women in the United Nations Secretariat in posts subject to geographical distribution at the executive levels of P-5, D-1 and D-2 was 9.7 per cent, 8.7 per cent and 2.3 per cent, respectively,²¹

Concerned that, owing to the ongoing financial crisis of the United Nations, the percentage of women in posts subject to geographical distribution may be notably reduced during 1987 and 1988,

Aware that, in resolution 41/206 D of 11 December 1986, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to increase the number of women in posts subject to geographical distribution with a view to achieving, to the extent possible, an overall participation rate of 30 per cent of the total by 1990, without prejudice to the principle of equitable geographical distribution of posts,

1. Requests all organs of the United Nations system to improve the mechanisms through which vacant posts are announced, with a view to improving the access of women to them;

2. Reiterates its request to all Member States to continue to support the efforts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to increase the proportion of women in the Professional category and above by, *inter alia*, nominating more women candidates;

3. Urges the Commission on the Status of Women to review the evolution of the employment of women in the secretariats of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and to monitor the progress achieved.

14th plenary meeting
26 May 1987

1987/20. Future world conferences on women

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 40/108 of 13 December 1985, in which the Assembly endorsed the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,³

Recognizing the importance of periodically assessing at the global level the activities undertaken to implement the Forward-looking Strategies,

1. Recommends that a session of the Commission on the Status of Women of extended duration be held in 1990, with high-level representation of member States, to review and appraise the progress achieved in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women;

2. Calls upon non-governmental organizations to cooperate in and support activities undertaken to implement

²¹ A/41/627, table G.

the Forward-looking Strategies and the preparations for the session of the Commission in 1990;

3. Recommends that world conferences to review and appraise the progress achieved in the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies be held during the decade of the 1990s, at a date to be determined by the General Assembly not later than 1990, and in 2000;

4. Decides that the Commission on the Status of Women shall be designated as the preparatory body for those world conferences.

14th plenary meeting
26 May 1987

1987/21. Improving the ability of the Commission on the Status of Women to carry out its mandate

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the mandate of the Commission on the Status of Women, which is to promote the rights, the status and the advancement of women, matters of the highest priority for the United Nations,

Recalling also the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 40/108 of 13 December 1985, in which it was stated that the functions of the Commission should include the monitoring of the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies to the year 2000,⁷

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, by which the Assembly approved the recommendations of the Group of High-level Inter-governmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations,²³

Reaffirming the need to minimize financial implications and maximize substantive results, as well as the importance of giving higher priority to the concerns of women in United Nations programmes,

Bearing in mind the need for the Commission to monitor and review and appraise the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies in order to ensure that it is carried out expeditiously,

Aware that, as currently scheduled, the Commission will meet only seven times between 1988 and 2000,

Convinced that the current schedule of meetings is inadequate if the Commission is to carry out its mandate and to monitor and review and appraise the implementation by the United Nations of the recommendations contained in the Forward-looking Strategies,

1. Decides that, commencing with its thirty-second session, the Commission on the Status of Women shall meet annually until the year 2000, with a long-term programme of work that will allow sufficient preparation for each session;

2. Recommends that, in order to enhance the effectiveness of the work of the Commission, the officers elected to the bureau of the Commission serve for a term of office of two years

14th plenary meeting
26 May 1987

²² Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap I, sect. A, para. 319.

²³ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 49 (A 41/49).