

World Health Organization, and also the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Programme, to continue to recommend to member States increased participation of women in activities within the competence of their agencies and to ensure that women are present in all sectors of their secretariats;

3. *Requests* the executive heads of the above-mentioned agencies to keep the Commission on the Status of Women informed of the extent, in numbers and as a proportion, of the participation of women referred to in paragraph 1 above.

*1818th plenary meeting  
2 June 1972*

**1686 (LII). Activities of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of special interest to women**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Noting* that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has intensified its efforts to carry out projects intended to encourage thought and action in this sphere with a view to increasing the contribution of girls and women to the common task of development and to scientific and technological progress,

*Regretting* that, for practical reasons, some areas have been left untouched, although they require the constant attention of national authorities and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

*Considering* that co-operation within the United Nations system in action for the advancement of women's education must include a study of the specific problems of young women, such as the moulding of their civic awareness, with a view to more active and effective participation in political life, preparation for family life to the same extent as boys, and the question of recreation for girls,

1. *Urges* Governments of States Members of the United Nations and of members of the specialized agencies which have not already ratified or acceded to the Convention against Discrimination in Education, adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 14 December 1960<sup>42</sup> and the Protocol thereto of 10 December 1962,<sup>43</sup> to initiate the necessary procedures for ratifying or acceding to these international instruments;

2. *Recommends* that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization should continue its studies on questions of priority interest to the younger generation, in the belief that the development of a sense of civic responsibility among girls is of primary importance in order to accelerate their full integration into all spheres of society;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to give particular attention to measures for the advancement of education programmes for boys and girls, as a means of ensuring

<sup>42</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 429 (1962), No. 6193.

<sup>43</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 651 (1968), No. 6193.

the fulfilment of the human personality and the effective and practical enjoyment of the rights belonging to every human being.

*1818th plenary meeting  
2 June 1972*

**1687 (LII). Protection of women and children in emergency and armed conflict in the struggle for peace, self-determination, national liberation and independence**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* resolution 4 (XXII) of the Commission on the Status of Women of 3 February 1969, on the protection of women and children in emergency or wartime, fighting for peace, national liberation and independence,<sup>44</sup> resolutions I and XXIII of the International Conference on Human Rights of 7 and 12 May 1968,<sup>45</sup> and General Assembly resolution 2675 (XXV) of 9 December 1970,

*Noting* that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949<sup>46</sup> is not fully implemented in armed conflicts and occupied territories,

*Expressing deep concern* for the fate of women and children from the civil population in emergency and armed conflict in the struggle for peace, self-determination, national liberation and independence, who often become victims of destruction and who suffer from conditions detrimental to their lives and to human dignity,

*Bearing in mind* Economic and Social Council resolution 1515 (XLVIII) of 28 May 1970, which provides for the possibility of drafting an international declaration on this subject,

*Noting* the report of the Secretary-General on the protection of women and children in emergency and armed conflict in the struggle for peace, self-determination, national liberation and independence,<sup>47</sup>

*Considering* the reports of the Secretary-General on respect for human rights in armed conflicts<sup>48</sup> and on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations, submitted to the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth session,<sup>49</sup> the report of the Special Working Group of Experts established under resolution 6 (XXV) of the Commission on Human Rights<sup>50</sup> and the report of the Special Committee To Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories<sup>51</sup> established under General Assembly resolution 2443 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968,

*Realizing* that children are suffering from the lack of basic needs of life in many areas of the world including those areas referred to in the Secretary-General's report on the protection of women and children

<sup>44</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-sixth Session*, document E/4619, chap. XVI.

<sup>45</sup> See *Final Act of the International Conference on Human Rights* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.68.XIV.2), pp. 5 and 18.

<sup>46</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75 (1950), No. 973.

<sup>47</sup> E/CN.6/561 and Add.2.

<sup>48</sup> A/8313 and Add.1-3 and A/8370 and Add.1.

<sup>49</sup> A/8314 and Add.1-6.

<sup>50</sup> E/CN.4/1016 and Add.1-5.

<sup>51</sup> A/8389 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1 and 2.

in emergency and armed conflict in the struggle for peace, self-determination, national liberation and independence, namely in the Middle East, Africa and Asia,

*Realizing also* that women in war-torn areas are often victims of many forms of assault on personal dignity,

1. *Expresses appreciation* to the Secretary-General for giving special consideration, in his reports to the General Assembly on respect for human rights in armed conflicts, to the suggestion made by the Commission on the Status of Women in its resolution 4 (XXII) regarding the necessity of taking specific measures for the protection of women and children in periods of armed conflict and in occupied territories;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Commission on the Status of Women to continue their efforts aiming at the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1515 (XLVIII) and to consider, in the light of the results of the work done in this respect within the framework of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the desirability of drafting a declaration on the subject;

3. *Welcomes* the fact that the Conference of Government Experts, convened by the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva from 3 May to 3 June 1972, is giving consideration, *inter alia*, to the problem of special measures for the protection of women and children in periods of armed conflict and occupation, with the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law applicable in armed conflict;

4. *Notes* that the Secretary-General, in accordance with the wishes expressed by the Commission on the Status of Women, has transmitted the views of the Commission on the question of the protection of women and children in periods of armed conflict to the aforementioned Conference of Government Experts;

5. *Requests* Governments of Member States, the United Nations organs, the specialized agencies and the non-governmental organizations to mobilize world public opinion in support of women and children referred to in the Secretary-General's report on the protection of women and children in emergency and armed conflict in the struggle for peace, self-determination, national liberation and independence and in the discussions of the Commission on the Status of Women, and requests these bodies and the International Committee of the Red Cross to develop ways and means of rendering all possible humanitarian support to them and to inform the Secretary-General of the steps taken in this respect;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report for the Commission on the Status of Women based on replies received under paragraph 5 above;

7. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to prepare and submit to the Commission on the Status of Women every two sessions reports on the condition of women and children in emergency and armed conflict in the struggle for peace, self-determination, national liberation and independence based on information available from appropriate United Nations bodies, in official United Nations documents, and any other information furnished by Governments and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council;

8. *Decides* to include the question of the protection of women and children in emergency and armed con-

flict in the struggle for peace, self-determination, national liberation and independence in the programme of work of the Commission on the Status of Women.

*1818th plenary meeting  
2 June 1972*

#### **1688 (LII). Report of the Commission on the Status of Women**

*The Economic and Social Council*

*Takes note* of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its twenty-fourth session,<sup>52</sup>

*1818th plenary meeting  
2 June 1972*

#### **1689 (LII). Question of the realization of the economic, social and cultural rights contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the study of special problems relating to human rights in developing countries**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 1421 (XLVI) of 6 June 1969, 1502 (XLVIII) of 27 May 1970 and 1595 (L) of 21 May 1971,

*Reiterating* the importance of implementing the provisions of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, especially the goals and policy measures enumerated therein, for the achievement of economic, social and cultural rights in developing countries,

*Believing* that the elaboration of a methodology will be indispensable for the rational consideration of this question in the future,

*Impressing* upon the Special Rapporteur appointed under Commission on Human Rights resolution 14 (XXV) the urgent need to complete his report—together with his conclusions and recommendations, including the question of the role of the Commission in this respect—on the realization, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinions, national or social origin, property, birth or other status, of the economic, social and cultural rights set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, taking particular account of the special problems of the developing countries in this regard,

*Believing* it desirable to consult its regional economic commissions on the question of the realization of the economic, social and cultural rights contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, taking into account special problems relating to human rights in developing countries, especially in connexion with the twenty-fifth anniversary in 1973 of the proclamation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

1. *Urges* the Special Rapporteur to complete his study, taking into account opinions expressed during

<sup>52</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 6 (E/5109 and Add.1).*