

1978/26. National machinery for monitoring the implementation of the Programme for the United Nations Decade for Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling that in paragraph 68 of the text of the mid-term review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, contained in General Assembly resolution 3517 (XXX), of 15 December 1975, it is stated that all States and competent organizations should give priority to the implementation of the recommendations of the World Conference of the International Women's Year⁷⁰ in the formulation of their economic and social policies,

Recalling also that the General Assembly in its resolution 3524 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, recommended that all organs of the United Nations development system and other international technical and financial assistance programmes and agencies should give sustained attention to the integration of women in the formulation, design and implementation of development projects and programmes,

Recalling further that in paragraph 34 of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year⁷¹ it is stated, *inter alia*, that the establishment of machinery at the national governmental level, with adequate staff and budget, can be an effective transitional measure for accelerating the achievement of equal opportunity for women and their full integration in national life,

Noting that the General Assembly in its resolution 31/136 of 16 December, recommended that Governments should establish, where appropriate, such machinery as bureaux and commissions, in order to ensure the effective implementation and evaluation of the World Plan of Action and of the Programme for the United Nations Decade for Women⁷² within the framework of national development plans and regional policies,

Considering the sustained attention which the Commission on the Status of Women has given to the need for national machinery; the support given to the Commission by the specialized agencies, in co-operation with national Governments, in the promotion of equality of opportunity and treatment for working women; the implementation of recommendations, conventions and other measures relating to participation, utilization and integration of women in the economic and social life of Member States,

Bearing in mind that many countries have established national machinery and the important role which it will play in providing assistance to the regional commissions, the international and regional centres for women, the agencies of the United Nations system, national Governments and others, responsible for framing policies and decisions essential to development,

1. Welcomes the measures taken by Member States to establish machinery at the national governmental level to monitor the integration of women in development and to participate in measures for policy making and decision making in favour of women;

2. Encourages Member States to take all necessary steps to strengthen such national machinery as bureaux

⁷⁰ See *Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1).

⁷¹ *Ibid.*, chap. II, sect. A.

⁷² *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 3 (E/5909), annex V.*

for women, commissions and other organs established at the national governmental level, and to ensure that the opinions and recommendations of such bodies shall be an integral part of development planning and the implementation of development programmes and projects;

3. Urges Member States which have not yet taken the aforementioned steps to do so, bearing in mind the advantages of such machinery for the development of all the human resources of the country and more substantial progress in development;

4. Recommends that the national machinery should have adequate authority and resources to ensure that women shall be included in development planning and other activities and to propose, if necessary, special programmes for women;

5. Envisages the need for national machinery to guarantee that women shall benefit from technical assistance programmes and projects and that such assistance shall relate to the specific requirements of women;

6. Recommends that the national machinery should be informed and consulted in all spheres concerning women, especially with regard to the responses which Member States are called upon to furnish to requests from the Secretary-General for information about the implementation of programmes for the United Nations Decade for Women and the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year;

7. Emphasizes the need for such national machinery for co-operation and the co-ordination of the programmes of regional training and research institutes and regional centres for women, to ensure favourable relations with Governments, non-governmental organizations actively promoting the status of women, and women in the rural and urban sectors, and to strengthen co-operation between men and women in the attainment of development objectives and goals;

8. Requests that that national machinery should give particular attention to a review and evaluation of progress at the national level in the programmes for the Decade and should identify the obstacles which have prevented the attainment of the national objectives and goals pursued by the national machinery on behalf of women.

*15th plenary meeting
5 May 1978*

1978/27. Institutions responsible for implementing the World Plan of Action within the framework of the United Nations Decade for Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969, containing the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, in which the Assembly encouraged the full integration of women in development,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 3010 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972, by which the Assembly proclaimed the year 1975 International Women's Year,

Recalling further the resolution⁷³ adopted by the World Conference of the International Women's Year, held at Mexico City in 1975, concerning research and training for the advancement of women, and taking ac-

⁷³ See *Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1), chap. III.