

Mindful of General Assembly resolution 1776 (XVII) of 7 December 1962 by which the Assembly asked the Council to instruct the Commission on Human Rights to study and encourage the adoption of measures designed to accelerate the promotion of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Believing that the existing programme of advisory services would be strengthened and the effectiveness of the United Nations activity in this field enhanced and its practical results increased, if regional courses in human rights could be developed, which would combine the advantages of the group experience of seminars with those of the educational objectives of fellowships,

Requests the Secretary-General to consider, in accordance with the usual criteria for assigning priority to projects requested under the United Nations technical assistance programme, the organization, from savings available under part V of the United Nations budget and on an experimental basis, of one or more regional courses on human rights, as soon as necessary arrangements can be made.

*1280th plenary meeting,
12 July 1963.*

960 (XXXVI). Slavery

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 525 A (XVII) of 29 April 1954 and 563 (XIX) of 31 March 1955 and Article 4 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which states that no-one shall be held in slavery or servitude and that slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms,

Believing that slavery, the slave trade and all institutions and practices similar to slavery should be abolished,

Considering that there exists a need for accurate, comprehensive and up-to-date information of the extent to which slavery, the slave trade and institutions and practices similar to slavery still persist today,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To appoint a special rapporteur on slavery, who shall bring up to date the Engen report⁷⁸ by collating information on slavery from Governments of Member States of the United Nations, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations in consultative status, and shall present his report to the Council at its summer session in 1965;

(b) To formulate in consultation with the special rapporteur a questionnaire on slavery for circulation to States Members of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and interested non-governmental organizations in consultative status, with the object of putting full information on slavery at the disposal of the special rapporteur;

2. *Decides* to retain the subject of slavery on the agenda of its session in 1964.

*1280th plenary meeting,
12 July 1963.*

⁷⁸ E/2673.

961 (XXXVI). Report of the Commission on the Status of Women

A

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women (seventeenth session).⁷⁹

*1280th plenary meeting,
12 July 1963.*

B

POLITICAL RIGHTS OF WOMEN

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report of the seventeenth session of the Commission on the Status of Women⁸⁰ and noting that the great majority of States have formally granted women the same political rights as men,

Considering that the exercise of those rights is essential if the principle of equality between men and women proclaimed in the Charter of the United Nations is to be respected,

Stressing the importance of the activities of women in the field of political and social affairs, on an equal footing with men,

Noting that more comprehensive information on the progress made by women in that field might be of the greatest interest for the Commission on the Status of Women and other United Nations bodies concerned with social progress and the exercise of human rights,

Believing that more comprehensive information on this question might be of great interest for Governments themselves,

Noting that while States Parties to the Convention on the Political Rights of Women have been requested by Council resolution 504 E (XVI) of 23 July 1953 to submit reports on measures taken by them to implement its provisions, no information on similar lines is at present requested from States Members of the United Nations not parties to this Convention,

1. *Invites* the Government of each State Member of the United Nations to supply the Secretary-General every two years with information it considers appropriate with regard to implementation of the principles stated in the Convention, including particularly whether any women have been elected to the national Parliament and have been appointed to high governmental, judicial or diplomatic posts, such as minister or head of depart-

⁷⁹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/3749).*

⁸⁰ *Ibid.*, paragraphs 24-25.