

QUESTIONS RELATING TO HUMAN RIGHTS

1068 (XXXIX). 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 on its eighteenth session⁸².

*1385th plenary meeting,
16 July 1965.*

B

POLITICAL RIGHTS OF WOMEN⁸³

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting the progress achieved during recent years in the field of political rights of women,

Noting however that the Convention on the Political Rights of Women⁸⁴ is still far from being an instrument of universal scope,

Noting further that a large number of States have not supplied the Secretary-General with information concerning the implementation of the principles stated in that Convention,

1. Invites all Member States to intensify action with a view to acceding to the Convention on the Political Rights of Women and to apply fully the principles contained in that Convention;

2. Appeals to all Member States to supply the Secretary-General in due time, in accordance with Council resolution 961 B (XXXVI) of 12 July 1963, with full information on the implementation of the Convention on the Political Rights of Women.

*1385th plenary meeting,
16 July 1965.*

C

ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTRES FOR TRAINING COMPETENT CORPS OR CADRES OF WOMEN LEADERS⁸⁵

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting the importance of training competent corps or cadres of leaders, especially in the developing countries, particularly of women leaders, in order to enable women to participate fully in the economic, social and political life of their respective countries and also in science and technology,

⁸² *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/4025).*

⁸³ *Ibid.*, paras. 27-33.

⁸⁴ Approved by General Assembly resolution 640 (VII) of 20 December 1952.

⁸⁵ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/4025)*, paras. 134-137.

Taking into account the complexity of the functions that these women leaders or cadres would assume and the various kinds of assistance which would have to be supplied for their training,

1. Draws the attention of Member States to the advantage of establishing centres or taking any other appropriate measures for the training of such cadres;

2. Recommends to the appropriate authorities that, in preparing the various United Nations assistance programmes, consideration be given to providing assistance to countries which apply for it towards the training of appropriate cadres of women for assisting the advancement of their countries;

3. Recommends to the specialized agencies that they consider the possibility of also supplying assistance of this kind.

*1385th plenary meeting,
16 July 1965.*

D

CO-OPERATION AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL BETWEEN NATIONAL COMMISSIONS ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN OR EXISTING NATIONAL BODIES WITH SIMILAR INTERESTS⁸⁶

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering its resolution 961 F (XXXVI) of 12 July 1963 on United Nations assistance for the advancement of women in developing countries,

Considering the recommendation contained in the operative paragraph of that resolution, which calls the attention of States Members of the United Nations to the value of appointing national commissions on the status of women,

Recommends that such national commissions on the status of women co-operate with each other, or with the already existing national bodies with similar interests, at the regional level and organize regional meetings and seminars the reports of which would be sent for information to the Commission on the Status of Women.

*1385th plenary meeting,
16 July 1965.*

E

USE OF THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN THROUGH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND OTHER PROGRAMMES⁸⁷

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting the recommendation of the Commission on the Status of Women with regard to greater use of technical assistance and other United Nations resources for the advancement of women,

⁸⁶ *Ibid.*, paras. 138-141.

⁸⁷ *Ibid.*, paras. 148-149.

Believing that the full participation of women is essential to the social and economic development of a nation,

1. *Recommends* to Member States, and especially to those making use of technical co-operation programmes, that they give greater priority to projects and programmes directed towards the advancement of women and draws their attention to the following methods likely to assist them in accomplishing this purpose:

(a) Participation of a substantial number of women in all technical co-operation training projects and programmes, including especially those relating to education on any level, vocational and technical training, and fellowships;

(b) Creation of a special unit in the national Government, set up as a continuing body, to survey needs, develop policies and programmes for the advancement of women, including co-ordination of plans and resources, and to advise on any changes in legislation or practice necessary to improve the status of women;

(c) Co-operation with the United Nations and the specialized agencies in seminars, training courses and similar opportunities for the exchange of experience in the advancement of women;

2. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the executive heads of the specialized agencies:

(a) To encourage the participation of women in projects requested by Governments, and to draw the attention of resident representatives of the Technical Assistance Board and directors of the Special Fund programmes to the importance of this request;

(b) To continue and, if possible, increase the use of qualified women as technical experts;

(c) To ensure that all technical co-operation experts are alert to the potential of woman-power for national development;

3. *Calls the attention* of Member States and interested bodies to the possibility of technical assistance on a payment basis ("funds-in-trust" arrangements) which might be utilized for the advancement of women;

4. *Invites* non-governmental organizations in consultative status to co-operate in action along the above lines, and to report to the nineteenth session of the Commission on any new projects they are undertaking on a regional or national basis for the advancement of women.

*1385th plenary meeting,
16 July 1965.*

F

STATUS OF WOMEN IN PRIVATE LAW ⁸⁸

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering that the principle of equality of rights for men and women is solemnly proclaimed in the Charter of the United Nations,

Considering that article 16 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights provides that men and women are

⁸⁸ *Ibid.*, paras. 205-208.

entitled to equal rights as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution,

Having considered with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General on the dissolution of marriage, annulment of marriage and judicial separation ⁸⁹ as well as the reports of the regional United Nations seminars on the status of women in family law, ⁹⁰

Noting that, in some countries, the same legal grounds and legal defences in proceedings for divorce, annulment of marriage and judicial separation are not available to men and women on an equal basis,

Noting also that the principle of equality of rights for men and women with regard to legal status and capacity in the event of divorce, annulment of marriage and judicial separation is not ensured by law in some countries,

Noting further that there is no equality in the rights of men and women in the event of dissolution of marriage by death in some countries,

1. *Recommends* that Governments of Member States take all possible measures to ensure equality of rights between men and women in the event of dissolution of marriage, annulment of marriage and judicial separation;

2. *Recommends* the following principles for ensuring such equality, taking account of the special characteristics of legislation in different countries:

(a) Facilities for reconciliation should be made available;

(b) A divorce or judicial separation shall be granted only by a competent judicial authority and shall be legally recorded;

(c) Both spouses shall have the same rights and shall have available the same legal grounds and legal defences in proceedings for divorce, annulment of marriage and judicial separation;

(d) The right of either spouse to give or withhold full and free consent should be ensured by law in the event of divorce on the ground of mutual consent, in countries where mutual consent is a ground for divorce;

(e) In proceedings regarding custody of children, the interest of the children shall be the paramount consideration;

(f) Divorce, annulment of marriage, judicial separation or dissolution of marriage by death shall not have as a consequence an inequality in legal status and capacity of men and women.

*1385th plenary meeting,
16 July 1965.*

G

TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING OF WOMEN ⁹¹

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting with appreciation the work of the International Labour Organisation on the employment of women and on vocational guidance and training of women,

⁸⁹ E/CN.6/415, E/CN.6/415/Corr.1 and E/CN.6/415/Add.1.

⁹⁰ ST/TOA/HR/18, ST/TAO/HR/21 and ST/TAO/HR/22.

⁹¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/4025), paras. 234-236.*

Convinced that, to attain complete equality in all fields, women must have the right to work,

Noting that it is a prior condition of women's ability to exercise this right that they should have the opportunity of access to education at all levels and to vocational and technical training,

1. *Recommends* Member States to take all possible steps to promote the access of women to education at all levels and to vocational and technical training;

2. *Urges* Member States to promote by all possible means a full and active role for women in economic and social fields;

3. *Invites* Member States which have not already done so to ratify as soon as possible the International Labour Organisation Convention concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation (No. 111 of 1958) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Convention against Discrimination in Education (1960), and to accept the principles laid down in the International Labour Organisation Recommendation concerning Vocational Training (No. 117 of 1962) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization International Recommendation on Technical and Vocational Education (1962).

*1385th plenary meeting,
16 July 1965.*

H

LITERACY EDUCATION AND CONTINUING EDUCATION OF WOMEN⁹²

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the various resolutions concerning the world campaign for universal literacy adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 1937 (XVIII) of 11 December 1963), the Economic Commission for Africa (resolution 115 (VI))⁹³, the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (resolution 55 (XX))⁹⁴ and its own resolution 1032 (XXXVII) of 14 August 1964,

Referring more particularly to resolution 1.271 concerning the experimental literacy programme adopted unanimously and by acclamation by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirteenth session,

Considering the importance of the World Congress of Education Ministers which is to be held at Teheran in September 1965 at the generous invitation of His Imperial Majesty the Shahinshah of Iran,

Welcoming the appeal launched by His Imperial Majesty the Shahinshah of Iran to Heads of State with a view to promoting wide international co-operation for the eradication of illiteracy,

Recognizing that on a world basis illiteracy is more extensive among women than among men,

⁹² *Ibid.*, para. 286.

⁹³ *Ibid.*, *Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 10*, part III.

⁹⁴ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 2*, part III.

Convinced that literacy is a prerequisite to the effective and continuous advancement of women in all fields and of women's participation in the life of the community,

1. *Recommends* Member States to give a prominent place to programmes for women in planning their national literacy programmes and to take account of the special problems affecting women in rural areas,

2. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization:

(a) To devote particular attention at the World Congress of Education Ministers at Teheran to problems relating to the literacy education and continuing education of women;

(b) To encourage the inclusion, in the experimental programme to be launched in various countries during 1966, of projects relating particularly to the literacy education of women and directed towards the civic, social and economic education of women.

*1385th plenary meeting,
16 July 1965.*

I

ACCESS OF GIRLS AND WOMEN TO THE VARIOUS FORMS OF SECONDARY EDUCATION AND TO HIGHER EDUCATION⁹⁵

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering the importance of the role of ordinary, teacher-training, vocational and technical secondary education in preparing girls for the responsibilities which they will have to assume in the civil, political, economic and social fields,

Considering that women who have had secondary and higher levels of education in any of its forms have a role of special importance in raising the educational standard and thereby developing the social maturity of the population,

Considering the importance of the role of educational and vocational guidance at the secondary education level,

Considering the need for utilizing fully the intellectual capacities of women both in the industrialized and in the developing countries,

1. *Recommends* that Member States:

(a) Make provision, in planning their education systems, for all such measures—including schools, boarding schools and scholarships—as will assure girls, on a footing of complete equality with boys, access to secondary education, whether ordinary, teacher-training, vocational or technical;

(b) Adopt the necessary measures to ensure that pupils of all secondary establishments, boys and girls, can obtain guidance to enable them to proceed to the type of secondary education, whether ordinary, teacher-training, vocational or technical, best suited to their aptitudes;

(c) Ensure that girls who have completed their secondary studies have equal opportunities with boys of access

⁹⁵ *Ibid.*, *Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 7 (E/4025)*, paras. 293-294.

to jobs and occupations for which these studies fit them, and that those qualified for higher education have equal opportunities with boys of access to it;

(d) Take advantage, in developing the educational institutions required for increasing the number of women teachers in secondary education, of all the possibilities offered by technical assistance;

2. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to devote particular attention, in all its activities concerning secondary education and the planning of education, to the opportunities offered to girls in secondary education.

*1385th plenary meeting,
16 July 1965.*

1067 (XXXIX). Advisory services in the field of human rights

A

CIVIC AND POLITICAL EDUCATION OF WOMEN⁹⁶

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting the recommendations of the Commission on the Status of Women on the desirability of assisting women to utilize their civic and political rights more effectively *inter alia* by providing for the training of voluntary leaders, and equipping women to participate in public services,

Considering that seminars on the civic and political education of women are needed to accomplish this purpose,

Believing that women's non-governmental organizations may have valuable experience and special competence for assisting and equipping women for effective use of their rights and responsibilities as citizens through participation in public affairs,

1. *Invites* Member States, with a view to facilitating the exercise by women of their political rights, to consider organizing national and local seminars on the participation of women in public affairs;

2. *Suggests* that the national non-governmental organizations and national and local affiliates of non-governmental organizations in consultative status co-operate fully with Governments of Member States in planning, organizing and conducting such seminars;

3. *Invites* interested specialized agencies, particularly the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and the International Labour Organisation, and the United Nations Children's Fund, to co-operate with Member States and with non-governmental women's organizations in carrying forward these objectives;

4. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General examine the possibility of:

(a) Holding an additional annual seminar on the civic and political education of women, in the nature of a

⁹⁶ *Ibid.*, paras. 34-50.

demonstration or pilot project, which can be adapted and used for the follow-up projects at the national and local levels to equip women for more effective service to their countries;

(b) Including in his annual budget estimates for the human rights advisory services programme, and in his supplementary estimates, additional funds to enable such a seminar to be held annually;

(c) Providing United Nations sales publications, including particularly the new pamphlet *Civic and Political Education of Women*⁹⁷ free of cost for use in seminars or workshops organized with the assistance of interested specialized agencies and non-governmental women's organizations.

*1385th plenary meeting,
16 July 1965.*

B

ADVISORY SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the reports submitted by the Secretary-General on advisory services in the field of human rights,⁹⁸

Approves the programme of seminars proposed for 1966.

*1385th plenary meeting,
16 July 1965.*

1074 (XXXIX). Report of the Commission on Human Rights

A

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the report of the Commission on Human Rights (twenty-first session).⁹⁹

*1392nd plenary meeting,
28 July 1965.*

B

DRAFT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE¹⁰⁰

The Economic and Social Council,

Having taken note of resolution 1 (XXI) of the Commission on Human Rights concerning the draft convention on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance,

Draws the attention of the General Assembly to this resolution.

*1392nd plenary meeting,
28 July 1965.*

⁹⁷ United Nations publication, Sales No.: 64.IV.7.

⁹⁸ E/CN.4/877-E/CN.6/436, and *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-ninth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 28, document E/4023.

⁹⁹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 8 (E/4024)*.

¹⁰⁰ *Ibid.*, para. 326.