

1493 (XLVIII). Trends in the social situation of children

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on trends in the social situation of children,⁴

Considering that, in accordance with the Declaration of the Rights of the Child,⁵ the child should grow up in an atmosphere of affection and of moral and material security such as is normally provided by the family, that he should be protected by law and by other means against the risks inherent in the physical and social environment, against disease and against malnutrition and that he should be prepared for an active life through suitable education and training,

Believing that the achievement of these aims is vital for rapid and sustained social progress and development and for an effective participation of the young generation in the developmental processes and in community life,

Reaffirming its belief that observance of the rights of the child as they have been proclaimed by the United Nations calls for a greater effort on the part of the international community and Governments,

Aware that the social situation of children, particularly in the developing countries, remains disturbing and that the number of sick, under-nourished and uneducated children in the world is increasing,

Recalling its resolution 1445 (XLVII) of 1 August 1969 and General Assembly resolution 2582 (XXIV) of 15 December 1969, which mention the contribution that the present generation of children and young people could make towards the achievement of economic, social and cultural progress,

Recalling the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

1. *Invites* the Secretary-General and the competent organizations in the United Nations system, particularly the United Nations Children's Fund because of the importance of the part it plays in developing services for children, to increase their efforts to learn more about the needs of children and youth and to assist Governments in carrying out co-ordinated and inter-sectoral measures designed to satisfy these needs;

2. *Further invites* the Secretary-General and the competent organizations in the United Nations system to intensify their assistance to Governments during the Second United Nations Development Decade with a view to enabling them to meet such needs particularly in the fields of health, nutrition, education and social welfare, without losing sight of the over-all aspect of the problems and laying particular emphasis on the training of personnel;

3. *Draws the attention* of Member States and organizations in the United Nations system to the need to increase their efforts to prevent and eliminate suffering among children, including those who are the victims of wars and of injustice emanating from existing colonial régimes, to meet the needs of physically and mentally handicapped children, and to provide protection for children born out of wedlock, for those who have not found an appropriate social and emo-

tional environment, because their families were incomplete or broken, or for any other reason, and for those whose work is exploited for material gain, without prejudice to the continuation of efforts to achieve the abolition of child labour in all countries;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the transition from adolescence to adulthood and recommends to the international community and particularly to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization that they devote special attention to the psychosociological problems involved, with a view to ensuring a progressive and satisfactory participation of young people in society and preparing them for their future role therein;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit the present report on trends in the social situation of children to the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session and to prepare, at appropriate intervals, further reports on particular aspects of the subject, especially on the implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of the Child, for submission to the General Assembly through the Commission for Social Development.

*1690th plenary meeting,
26 May 1970.*

1494 (XLVIII). Social policy and planning in national development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1139 (XLI) of 29 July 1966 in which it recognized the interrelated character of economic and social factors and the importance of planning social development, in conjunction with economic development, for achieving better standards of life and the role of the Commission for Social Development as a preparatory body of the Council in the whole range of social development plans,

Recalling its resolution 1320 (XLIV) of 31 May 1968 in which it reaffirmed the necessity for progressive integration of social and economic goals and programmes in the context of the strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade,

Recalling also its resolution 1409 (XLVI) of 5 June 1969 which requested the Secretary-General to review and evaluate the means at his disposal to further the integrated aims of the Decade, and to report to it through the Commission for Social Development at its twenty-first session,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2436 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968 on the world social situation,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969 which cited planning for social progress and development as an integrated part of balanced over-all development planning, among the means and methods of achieving social progress and development,

Recognizing that in the actual experience of developing countries, limited resources impose practical limitations on the implementation of development programmes,

Noting with appreciation the report of the Meeting of Experts on Social Policy and Planning⁶ in national

⁴ E/CN.5/448.

⁵ See General Assembly resolution 1386 (XIV).

⁶ E/CN.5/445.