

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).*