

examination of the fundamental problems of social development so as to play its role in the review and appraisal of the achievements and failures during the Second United Nations Development Decade, with particular reference to the implementation of the ideas in the Statement on the world social situation in the first half of the Second United Nations Development Decade;⁷²

2. *Endorses* the views set out in the Statement on the world social situation in the first half of the Second United Nations Development Decade.

*1948th plenary meeting
6 May 1975*

1928 (LVIII). Equality of opportunity for women in the total development effort

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling that the General Assembly, in its resolution 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970 establishing the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, stressed that the full integration of women in the total development effort should be encouraged, and that article 5 of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development⁷³ calls for the active participation of all elements of society in achieving the common goals of development,

Recalling further those declarations and instruments adopted by the United Nations acknowledging the equality of status of men and women, *inter alia* the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,⁷⁴ the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women⁷⁵ and the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order⁷⁶ adopted by the General Assembly at its sixth special session,

Considering that the General Assembly, in its resolution 2716 (XXV) of 15 December 1970, set forth a programme of concerted international action for the advancement of women,

Taking into account General Assembly resolution 3010 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972, in which the Assembly proclaimed the year 1975 International Women's Year and decided to devote 1975 to intensified action to ensure the full integration of women in the total development effort, as well as to promote equality between men and women and to recognize the importance of women's increasing contribution to the development of friendly relations among States and to the strengthening of world peace,

Taking further into account General Assembly resolution 3342 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, in which the Assembly stressed the importance of fully integrating women in the national development process,

Noting that the General Assembly, in its resolutions 3275 (XXIX), 3276 (XXIX), and 3277 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974, set forth in broad outline the

⁷² For the text of the Statement, see *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 3, chap. I, sect. B, resolution 7 (XXIV)*.

⁷³ General Assembly resolution 2542 (XXIV).

⁷⁴ General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

⁷⁵ General Assembly resolution 2263 (XXII).

⁷⁶ General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI).

measures to be taken in achieving the objectives of the International Women's Year and in convening the World Conference of the International Women's Year,

Noting further that the World Conference of the International Women's Year, to be held in Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975, will be charged with preparing an international action plan which will address the subject of women in development,

1. *Urges* that appropriate measures be taken to assure the full participation of women in planning, decision-making and the implementation of all development programmes at all levels;

2. *Urges further* all those responsible for the preparation and implementation of national and international development programmes to make certain that women are given an opportunity to achieve their maximum potential as individuals and to make their maximum contribution to the economic, social and political development of their respective countries on the same terms as men, and that they receive their full share of the benefits of development;

3. *Recommends* that Governments work towards the goals set forth above throughout the International Women's Year and the World Conference of the International Women's Year as part of a long-term sustained effort to integrate women fully into the development process at all levels.

*1948th plenary meeting
6 May 1975*

1929 (LVIII). Popular participation and its practical implications for development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969 containing the Declaration on Social Progress and Development which, among other things, calls for the adoption of measures to ensure effective participation, as appropriate, of all elements of society in the preparation and execution of national plans and programmes of social and economic development,

Bearing in mind Economic and Social Council resolution 1746 (LIV) of 16 May 1973 on national experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes, in which the Council specifically recommended to Governments that appropriate measures should be taken at all levels to ensure more active participation by the entire population, including the labour force, in the production, preparation and execution of economic and social development policies and programmes,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970 containing the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade which calls for qualitative and structural changes in society and for the promotion of active support and integration of all segments of the population in achieving the objectives of the Decade,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 3176 (XXVIII) of 17 December 1973 containing the text of the first biennial over-all review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade which recommends that developing countries which adopt measures for active and

democratic participation of people in their development should receive due support from the international community,

1. *Considers* that, in the light of the above-mentioned resolutions popular participation connotes the voluntary and democratic involvement of people in:

(a) Contributing to the development effort;

(b) Sharing equitably in the benefits derived therefrom;

(c) Decision-making in respect of setting goals, formulating policies, and planning and implementing economic and social development programmes;

2. *Notes in particular* that, to be effective, popular participation should be consciously promoted by Governments with full recognition of civil, political, social economic and cultural rights and through innovative measures, including structural changes and institutional reform and development, as well as through the encouragement of all forms of education, particularly compulsory primary education, designed to involve actively all segments of society;

3. *Recognizes* that international co-operation in this field can be greatly facilitated by the systematic study, analysis and exchange of information and experience connected with popular participation as it operates in varying social, cultural, economic and political contexts;

4. *Recommends* that the Governments of Member States:

(a) Adopt popular participation as a basic policy measure in national development strategy;

(b) Encourage the widest possible active participation of all individuals and national non-governmental organizations, such as trade unions and youth and women's organizations, in the development process in setting goals, formulating policies and implementing plans;

(c) Include popular participation as an integral element in local, regional and national development plans and programmes in ways that will ensure maximum citizen participation consistent with the requirements of economic growth, social equity and administrative efficiency;

(d) Adopt measures, including structural changes and institutional arrangements, that will facilitate the contribution of the people to the development effort, their equitable sharing in the benefits derived therefrom and their involvement in making decisions on those matters which directly affect their economic advancement and social progress;

(e) Encourage the study, documentation and dissemination, for the information and benefit of other Member States, of innovative measures adopted by them for promoting popular participation in development and for monitoring and assessing their effectiveness;

(f) Encourage organized training programmes to impart to government officials and local leaders knowledge and skills in promoting and sustaining effective participation by the people in national, regional and local development plans and programmes;

5. *Recommends* that the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies, particularly the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and other international technical and financial assistance programmes and agencies, consider popular participation as a distinct category for the

purpose of technical co-operation and encourage Member States to request development assistance in this field;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in implementing the work programme and medium-term objectives of the Organization and within the available resources, to give priority to:

(a) Research and study that will lead to the development of a viable concept of and policy measures for popular participation that will enhance its effectiveness in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade and future global development strategies;

(b) Strengthen the competence of the Secretariat in providing technical support to projects for international co-operation referred to in paragraph 5 above, including, in particular:

(i) Promoting wide citizen involvement in development efforts through such measures as community development and similar programmes designed to facilitate voluntary participation by the people in the development effort;

(ii) Giving special attention to the problems of the rural poor, marginal groups and dwellers in urban shanty-towns;

(iii) Developing institutions at the local and regional levels designed to facilitate and sustain decision-making from below;

(iv) Helping to strengthen channels of communication between the people and the Government;

(v) Developing methodologies for assessing the impact of developing programmes on the intended beneficiaries;

(vi) Developing schemes and materials for training both local people and development officials in promoting and sustaining popular participation in development programmes;

(c) Promoting the exchange of knowledge and experience among countries in regard to innovative programmes and practices in furthering popular participation in development, utilizing *inter alia*, the global network of centres for research and training in regional development established under Economic and Social Council resolution 1582 (L) of 21 May 1971;

7. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Council at its sixty-second session, through the Commission for Social Development, on progress made in implementing the present resolution.

*1948th plenary meeting
6 May 1975*

1930 (LVIII). Capital punishment

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which affirms everyone's right to life, and article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,⁷⁷ which also affirms the right to life as inherent to every human being,

Recalling also its resolution 1745 (LIV) of 16 May 1973, which confirms the continuing interest of the United Nations in the study of the question of capital punishment to be made on the basis of updated and

⁷⁷ General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.