

which are not a part of regular national data collection systems;

2. *Requests* the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development to co-operate with other relevant bodies within the United Nations system in preparing an inventory of social and economic indicators relevant to the analysis of the status of women, on the basis of its work on the research data bank of development indicators and its project on monitoring changes in the conditions of women for planning and programming purposes.

2058th plenary meeting
12 May 1977

2062 (LXII). Preparatory work for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1980

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering that the General Assembly, in its resolution 3520 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, decided to convene in 1980 a world conference of all States to review and evaluate the progress made in implementing the objectives of the International Women's Year and, where necessary, to readjust existing programmes in the light of new data and research available,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1999 (LX) of 12 May 1976, in which the Council requested the Commission on the Status of Women at its twenty-sixth session to consider different aspects of the preparatory work for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1980, including its agenda, and decided to consider at its sixty-fourth session the preparatory work for the Conference on the basis of the deliberations of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Committee on Review and Appraisal,

Taking note of the recommendations made by the Commission on the Status of Women in its report on its twenty-sixth session,⁶⁹

1. *Request* the Commission on the Status of Women at its twenty-seventh session to give the highest priority to the consideration of the item entitled "Preparatory work for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1980" and to the study of proposals concerning the substantive and organizational arrangements for the Conference, taking into account all the relevant reports relating to the review and appraisal of the implementation of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year,⁷⁰ as well as the discussions of the Commission and the documents submitted to it at its twenty-sixth session, and to report to the Economic and Social Council at its sixty-fourth session;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare for the consideration of the Commission on the Status of Women at its twenty-seventh session a report outlining a programme of concrete action for the second half of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, 1976-1985, as the basis for a report to be submitted to the 1980 World Conference;

⁶⁹ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 3 (E/5909), chap. III, sect. E.

⁷⁰ *Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, Mexico City, 19 June-2 July 1975* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1), chap. II, sect. A.

3. *Decides* to establish, not later than June 1978, a preparatory committee composed of not more than twenty-three Member States designated by the President of the Economic and Social Council after consultation with regional groups, on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, to make recommendations concerning the substantive and organizational arrangements for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1980;

4. *Invites* the regional commissions to consider, at the earliest opportunity, ways and means of contributing effectively to the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1980, including the possibility of holding before 1980 regional seminars or meetings on the themes of the Conference, and reporting thereon to the Economic and Social Council at its sixty-fourth session.

2058th plenary meeting
12 May 1977

2063 (LXII). Influence of the mass communication media on attitudes towards the roles of women and men in present-day society

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling section IV of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year,⁷⁰ which provides guidelines for national action related to the mass communication media that encompass radio, television, cinema, press, advertising, public meetings and similar forums, as well as traditional types of entertainment which are essential for reaching the rural areas of many countries,

Convinced that the mass communication media, in many instances, have a detrimental effect on the attitudes and values regarding women's roles in society, that they often present obstacles to desirable changes in behavioural patterns, and that they can perpetuate stereotypes and myths pertaining to women,

Convinced also that the mass communication media have great potential as a vehicle for economic and social change, for the dissemination of information in the fields of education and training, for removing prejudices and stereotypes, for accelerating acceptance of the expanding roles of women and for the promotion of their integration in development as equal partners with men, and that they are important for the achievement of equality, development and peace,

Recalling that, in the progress report of the Secretary-General on the subject⁷¹ prepared for the Commission on the Status of Women at its twenty-sixth session, it is stated that there is little information available on the images of women projected by the more traditional types of mass communication media and their influence on the perpetuation of sex-role stereotypes, and that there is need for research in this area,

1. *Encourages* Member States to make representatives of mass communication media aware of the importance of formulating policies and guidelines for treatment of women in the media, which should include:

(a) *Review* of their recruitment, training and promotion policies and practices to ensure that there is no discrimination against women and that they have equal opportunities for admission and advancement at all

⁷¹ E/CN.6/601 and Corr.1.

levels of professional, technical and decision-making positions in the mass communication media;

(b) Publication of more news and editorials about women, particularly about progress and short-comings in the economic, legal, social and political fields, such news to be given the place and the importance it deserves in the light of its subject-matter and not all of it to be placed in sections reserved for women;

(c) Portrayal of the roles and achievements of women from all walks of life, especially in the fields of development, professional work and social welfare, including women in the rural areas;

2. *Recommends* that Member States should encourage the presentation of programmes and the publication of materials which ensure the elimination of sex-role stereotyping in educational and informational activities and the projection of a positive image of men and women;

3. *Requests* that Member States take whatever action is necessary to establish and strengthen co-operative systems for schools and libraries in the production and dissemination of education and information materials for use by television, radio, press, mobile units, community centres and other public facilities in urban and rural areas;

4. *Recommends* that Member States should encourage educational institutions and organizations to make greater use of the mass communication media for formal and informal education, literacy programmes, vocational training, political, civic and cultural education, as well as the formation of new attitudes about the role of men and women in society;

5. *Requests* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, with a view to rendering assistance to developing countries which request it, and with the advice of specialists of those countries, to organize seminars which can help countries in improving the image of women and removing stereotyped sex roles in their teaching materials, and to prepare educational materials, with the same objectives, including films and other visual aids for primary schools and literacy programmes;

6. *Suggests* that Member States create committees or councils, composed of men and women in private, governmental and intergovernmental sectors, to advise and meet with policy and decision-making staff of the mass communication media, including particularly the field of advertising, for discussions and evaluations of progress towards changing the image and status of women in the media;

7. *Encourages* governmental and the competent non-governmental organizations, especially in co-operation with those dealing with the mass communication media, to organize workshops and seminars intended to create a greater understanding and public awareness of the potential and actual role of women in their respective societies, and to utilize the mass communication media to project positive and more accurate images of women;

8. *Decides*, taking into account the close relationship between the economic, social and cultural aspects of development and the necessity of the full integration of women in the development process, to appoint a special rapporteur to prepare a study on the impact of the mass communication media on the changing roles of men and women, including action taken by the

public and private sectors at national, regional and international levels to remove prejudices and sex-role stereotyping, to accelerate the acceptance of women's new and expanded roles in society and to promote their integration into the development process as equal partners with men;

9. *Requests* the special rapporteur to submit a progress report to the Commission on the Status of Women, at its twenty-seventh session, and a comprehensive report containing findings, at its twenty-eighth session.

2058th plenary meeting
12 May 1977

2064 (LXII). Reduction of illicit demand for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report of the Director of the Division of Narcotic Drugs on the study of measures to reduce illicit demand for drugs,⁷² of which the Commission on Narcotic Drugs took note at its twenty-seventh session,⁷³

Considering that efforts to combat addiction to the narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances covered by the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol Amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961,⁷⁴ and by the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances,⁷⁵ call for an attack on the problem at the three levels of demand, supply and illicit traffic,

Being of the opinion that the solutions to the problem of reducing demand are multiple, interdisciplinary and, very often, still at an experimental stage,

Convinced that progress can be achieved only through international and interagency co-operation at all levels,

1. *Expresses satisfaction* at the fact that the specialized agencies, in particular the World Health Organization, the International Labour Organisation and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, have co-operated in the preparatory work for the report of the Director of the Division of Narcotic Drugs on the study of measures to reduce illicit demand for drugs;

2. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General should publish the report of the Director of the Division of Narcotic Drugs and the papers referred to in paragraph 4 thereof, and should continue that study on the same lines as hitherto, in co-operation with the World Health Organization and the other specialized agencies concerned and with the financial assistance of the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control;

3. *Recommends also* that the publication envisaged in paragraph 2 above should include an introduction outlining the reservations of a technical nature which emerged from the statements of some delegations at the twenty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

2059th plenary meeting
13 May 1977

⁷² E/CN.7/602 and Add.1.

⁷³ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7* (E/5933 and Corr. 1 and 2), para. 48.

⁷⁴ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.77.XI.3.

⁷⁵ See *Official Records of the United Nations Conference for the adoption of a Protocol on Psychotropic Substances*, vol. I (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.XI.3), part four.