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WORLD ASSEMBLY ON AGING

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Naoharu FUJII (Japan)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 18 September 1981, the General Assembly decided to include in its agenda the item entitled "World Assembly on Aging: report of the Secretary-General" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.
2. The Committee considered this item jointly with items 76, 77, 78, 80 and 90 at its 15th to 17th, 19th and 21st to 29th meetings, from 12 to 26 October 1981. The views expressed by representatives of Member States and specialized agencies and by observers on this item are contained in the summary records of those meetings (A/C.3/36/SR.15-17, 19 and 21-29).
3. The Committee had before it the following documents:
 - (a) Report of the Secretary-General (A/36/472);
 - (b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting a letter dated 6 May 1981 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Austria to the Secretary-General (A/36/357);
 - (c) Appointment of the members of the Advisory Committee for the World Assembly on Aging: note by the Secretary-General (A/35/806 and Add.1);
 - (d) Report of the Economic and Social Council, chapter XIX (A/36/3/Add.19). 1/

1/ To be incorporated in Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/36/3/Rev.1).

4. At the 15th and 16th meetings, on 12 and 13 October, the Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs and the Secretary-General of the World Assembly on Aging made introductory statements.

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

A. Draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.18 and Rev. 1

5. The Committee had before it a draft resolution (A/C.3/36/L.18) entitled "World Assembly on Aging" sponsored by Austria, Japan, Malta, and the United States of America.

6. At the 27th meeting, on 22 October, the representative of the United States of America introduced a revised draft resolution (A/C.3/36/L.18/Rev.1) sponsored by Austria, France, Japan, Malta and the United States of America, later joined by the Dominican Republic and Nicaragua. The operative part of the revised draft resolution read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"...

"1. Welcomes the offer of the Government of Austria to act as host to the World Assembly on Aging;

"2. Agrees that the World Assembly on Aging will be held in Vienna, Austria, from 26 July-6 August 1982;

"3. Further agrees that two days of pre-conference meetings should be held in Vienna immediately before the World Assembly on Aging in order to reach agreement on all procedural and organizational matters to be dealt with on the opening day of the Assembly;

"4. Approves, subject to the conditions in paragraph 8 below, the holding of three simultaneous meetings (a plenary session and two Main Committees) throughout the duration of the World Assembly on Aging;

"5. Requests, subject to the conditions in paragraph 8 below, the Secretary-General to convene in Vienna two sessions of the Advisory Committee, if possible, from 1-5 February 1982 and from 3-7 May 1982, in order to finalize the preparations and documentation for the World Assembly on Aging;

"6. Urges those countries in a position to do so to make generous voluntary contributions to the Fund for the World Assembly on Aging;

"7. Invites the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to continue to provide financial support to the preparatory work for the World Assembly on Aging;

/...

"8. Notes that paragraphs 4 and 5 above will be implemented only to the extent that they can be financed by economies within the direct and apportioned resources requested by the Secretary-General in Section 4B of his Proposed Programme Budget for 1982-83 (A/36/6), or voluntary contributions which may be or may become available from the Fund for the World Assembly on Aging."

7. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America further orally revised the draft resolution as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 3, the words, "subject to the conditions in paragraph 8 below", were inserted between the words "Further agrees that" and "two days of pre-conference meetings";

(b) In operative paragraph 8, the number "3", was inserted between the word "paragraphs" and "4 and 5".

8. The Committee had before it a statement on the administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution (A/C.3/36/L.25), which was subsequently revised (A/C.3/36/L.25/Rev.1).

9. At its 29th meeting, on 26 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.18/Rev.1, as further revised (see para. 7), without a vote (see para. 12).

B. Draft resolution A/C.3/36/L.19

10. The Committee had before it a draft resolution (A/C.3/36/L.19) entitled "World Assembly on Aging" sponsored by France.

11. The draft resolution was subsequently withdrawn by its sponsor.

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

12. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

World Assembly on Aging

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 33/52 of 14 December 1978, by which it decided to convene a World Assembly on Aging in 1982, and 35/129 of 11 December 1980,

Bearing in mind that the number of older people in the world, in both the developed and developing countries, will increase dramatically during the next two decades,

Recognizing that the aging are a valuable human resource as much in the economic and social fields as in the transmission of cultural heritage,

Emphasizing the great importance of the World Assembly on Aging in addressing the broad spectrum of questions concerning the aging and in helping to formulate policies to deal with these questions,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Advisory Committee for the World Assembly on Aging on its first session, held at Vienna from 17 to 21 August 1981, 2/

1. Welcomes the offer of the Government of Austria to act as host to the World Assembly on Aging;

2. Agrees that the World Assembly on Aging will be held at Vienna, from 26 July to 6 August 1982;

3. Further agrees that subject to the conditions in paragraph 8 below, two days of pre-conference meetings should be held at Vienna immediately before the World Assembly on Aging in order to reach agreement on all procedural and organizational matters to be dealt with on the opening day of the Assembly;

4. Approves, subject to the conditions in paragraph 8 below, the holding of three simultaneous meetings - plenary meetings and meetings of two Main Committees - for the whole duration of the World Assembly on Aging;

5. Requests the Secretary-General, subject to the conditions in paragraph 8 below, to convene at Vienna two sessions of the Advisory Committee for the World Assembly on Aging, if possible, from 1 to 5 February and from 3 to 7 May 1982, in order to finalize the preparations and documentation for the Assembly;

6. Urges those countries in a position to do so to make generous voluntary contributions to the Fund for the World Assembly on Aging;

7. Invites the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to continue to provide financial support to the preparatory work for the World Assembly on Aging;

8. Notes that paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 above will be implemented only to the extent that they can be financed by economies within the direct and apportioned resources requested by the Secretary-General in Section 4B of the Proposed Programme Budget for the biennium 1982-1983, 3/ or voluntary contributions which may be or may become available from the Fund for the World Assembly on Aging.

2/ A/36/472, annex.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/36/6).