

1981/19. Emerging social issues of international concern

The Economic and Social Council.

Recalling the Declaration on Social Progress and Development contained in General Assembly resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969, the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order contained in General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, and the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States contained in General Assembly resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974,

Recalling also the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980,

Concerned at the growing disparity in conditions of living and income levels between people in the developed and developing countries,

Concerned also at the adverse effects that unfavourable world economic trends may have on levels of living and social conditions of people, particularly in developing countries,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare a report on emerging social issues of international concern in connexion with the changes in the world economic situation, and to submit that report for consideration by the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1983 through the Commission for Social Development at its twenty-eighth session;

2. Also requests the Secretary-General to pay full attention in his reports on the world social situation to emerging social issues of international concern in connexion with the changes in the world situation, giving special attention to the relationship between disarmament and development and bearing in mind also that the resources released as a result of the implementation of disarmament measures should be channelled into the economic and social development of all countries and should contribute to the bridging of the economic gap between developed and developing countries.

*14th plenary meeting
6 May 1981*

1981/20. Strengthening developmental social welfare policies and programmes

The Economic and Social Council.

Concerned at the slow rate of progress of implementation of its resolution 1979/18 of 9 May 1979 on strengthening developmental social welfare policies and programmes,

Convinced of the value of developmental social welfare as an investment in the process of development,

Mindful of the importance of the nine regional conferences of ministers responsible for social welfare held since the 1968 International Conference of Ministers Responsible for Social Welfare and their contribution to the elaboration of strategies for social welfare in the context of over-all development,

Convinced that the conclusions and recommendations of those conferences should constitute a valuable resource for Governments in all regions as well as for the deliberations of the Commission for Social Development,

1. Reaffirms its resolution 1979/18, in which it requested the Secretary-General to strengthen the Secretariat's activities relating to policy, planning, training and operational aspects of social welfare, including those of relevance to integrated rural development, having in mind the guidelines established by the General Assembly with regard to development;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission for Social Development at its biennial sessions comparative interregional analyses of the deliberations and recommendations of regional conferences on social welfare and related areas;

3. Urges Governments to exploit to the full extent existing social welfare structures so as to make best use of available resources for serving the needs of all segments of the population;

4. Urges the Secretary-General to reinforce Secretariat research and operational activities related to developmental social welfare policies and programmes within existing resources;

5. Requests the regional commissions to report to the Commission for Social Development at its biennial sessions on social welfare and social development activities;

6. Further requests the Secretary-General to report on the progress achieved to the Commission for Social Development at its twenty-eighth session.

*14th plenary meeting
6 May 1981*

1981/21. Welfare of migrant workers and their families

The Economic and Social Council.

Recalling its resolutions 1926 (LVII) of 6 May 1975 and 1979/12 of 9 May 1979,

Conscious of the fact that in certain regions the problems of migrant workers are becoming more serious as a result of current economic trends and related social and cultural issues,

Concerned about the fact that, despite the efforts of Member States and international organizations, migrant workers and their families are, to a great extent, not always able to enjoy all the benefits of the application of the basic principle of equality of opportunity and treatment with regard to their working and living conditions,

Noting that the social provisions of bilateral agreements concluded between labour-employing and labour-supplying countries are often limited to general statements,

Taking into account the conventions and recommendations of the International Labour Organisation concerning migration for employment, migrant workers, migration in abusive conditions and the promotion of equality of opportunity for the treatment of workers,

Recognizing the need for further efforts to improve the welfare of migrant workers and their families as well as the preservation of their identity,

Recalling the World Population Plan of Action,³³ adopted by the World Population Conference, in which, *inter alia*, both labour-employing and labour-supplying countries were urged, if they had not yet done so, to conclude bilateral or multilateral

³³ Report of the United Nations World Population Conference, Bucharest, 19-30 August 1974 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.XIII.3), chap. I.