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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION: EFFECTIVE  
MOBILIZATION AND INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT

Progress made in the preparation of a world survey  
on the role of women in development

Report of the Secretary-General

1. In paragraph 10 of its resolution 35/78 of 5 December 1980 on the effective mobilization and integration of women in development, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive and detailed outline for an interdisciplinary and multisectoral world survey on the role of women in over-all development, taking into account the relevant recommendations of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, as well as the results of the relevant United Nations conferences on development issues, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session.
2. Pursuant to resolution 35/78 the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session his report on a comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development (A/36/590).
3. In its resolution 36/74 of 4 December 1981 entitled "Comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development", the General Assembly, taking note of the Secretary-General's report on this matter, emphasized the need for a multisectoral and interdisciplinary survey on the role of women in development. It recommended that the survey should analyse the role of women in relation to key developmental issues as envisaged in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, focusing in particular on trade, agriculture, industry, energy, money and finance, and science and technology. It further recommended that, the survey, in its analysis, should cover the present

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\* A/37/150.

role of women as active agents of development in each sector; an assessment of the benefits accruing to women as a result of their participation in development, namely, income, conditions of work, and decision-making; ways and means of improving women's role as agents and beneficiaries of development at the national, regional and international levels; and the potential impact of such improvements on the achievement of over-all development goals. The Assembly invited the Secretary-General, in preparing the survey, to give due attention to the problems and requirements of women in every region and to the contribution of women to the achievement of goals of self-reliance and to economic and technical co-operation among developing countries. It called upon him to include in the survey an overview analysing interrelationships among key developmental issues with regard to women's current and future roles in development with a view to providing a basis for future action for women's effective mobilization and integration in development. It also requested the Secretary-General to prepare the survey in close collaboration and co-operation with appropriate agencies of the United Nations system and with contributions from all organs and organizations concerned of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, as well as national institutions having expertise on this subject. Finally, the Secretary-General was requested to submit a progress report on the preparation of the survey to the Assembly at its thirty-seventh session and to submit the survey in its final form to the Assembly at its thirty-ninth session.

4. In its resolution 36/127 of 14 December 1981 entitled "Consideration within the United Nations of questions concerning the role of women in development", the General Assembly taking note of the report of the Secretary-General, which contained the comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development (A/36/590), expressed the desire that the Third Committee should be seized of the survey and requested the Secretary-General to ensure that the Commission on the Status of Women was consulted in the preparation of the survey.

5. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 36/127, the Commission on the Status of Women, at its twenty-ninth session, considered the matter of the world survey under its agenda item 8 on the programme for future work, including the draft provisional agenda for the thirtieth session (E/1982/14 (E/CN.6/1982/14), chap. VII, para. 187).

6. Upon a recommendation of the Commission, the Economic and Social Council, at its first regular session of 1982, approved in its decision 1982/123 of 4 May 1982 the provisional agenda and documentation for the thirtieth session of the Commission on the Status of Women which included, in the documentation for agenda item 3, entitled "Review and appraisal of progress achieved in the implementation of the World Plan of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women during the period 1982-1983", a report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the preparation of a world survey on the role of women in development (E/1982/INF.7).

7. Following discussions in the Commission on the Status of Women at its twenty-ninth session, a revised annotated outline of the survey was prepared. The proposed structure and content of the survey set out in that outline followed very

closely the recommendations contained in General Assembly resolution 36/74, and in particular those set out in paragraphs 2 to 5 of that resolution. It is intended that, following an overview prepared in accordance with paragraph 5, six chapters will examine the role of women in agriculture, industry, trade; the use, conservation and development of energy resources; money and finance; and the development and application of science and technology. Within each of these six chapters a sequence of four subsections will set out an examination of the present role of women; benefits accruing to women; ways and means of improving women's role; and the potential impact of improvement upon achievement of over-all development goals. In preparing the survey, the Secretary-General will bear in mind its underlying purpose, which is to provide a thorough but concise review of the most significant aspects of the situation. The survey will not attempt an encyclopaedic treatment of the issues, but rather will be concerned specifically with the situation at the national level, and will include an examination of the situation in both developed and developing countries.

8. In order to ensure the most effective collaboration and co-operation within the United Nations system in the preparation of the survey, the Secretary-General, in response to paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 36/74, has requested all appropriate specialized agencies and other United Nations organizations concerned to consider the proposed annotated outline of the survey and to provide suggestions on specific issues to be dealt with in each of the chapters and on the nature of their collaboration. Further interagency consultations on the above matters are being held in the preparation of the survey.

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