

4. *Urges* all Governments, national and international organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, the mass media, educational bodies and all individuals concerned to strengthen their efforts to adopt or change national laws to ensure that elderly women have equal opportunities to live in health, dignity, self-reliance and self-fulfilment.

*23rd plenary meeting
4 May 1982*

1982/24. Women and children under apartheid

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 35/206 N of 16 December 1980 on women and children under apartheid,

Recalling also resolution 45 adopted by the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women,³⁶

Reaffirming that apartheid is a crime against humanity,

Noting with admiration the great sacrifices of the women and children in South Africa and Namibia in the struggle for their inalienable rights and their national liberation,

Recognizing that the so-called constitutional and other reforms by the racist minority régimes are no more than mere adjustments within the framework of apartheid,

Affirming its full solidarity with the women of South Africa and Namibia in the struggle for liberation under the leadership of their national liberation movements,

Considering that international efforts should be greatly intensified to publicize the plight of women and children in South Africa and Namibia and to promote greater solidarity with and assistance to them in the context of their heroic struggle for the liberation of South Africa and Namibia,

Appreciating the valuable contribution made by the various United Nations voluntary funds for southern Africa, including the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa,

Gravely concerned about the inhuman oppression of millions of women and children under apartheid, which manifests itself in the killing, detention and torture of school children protesting against discrimination, the enforced separation of women from their husbands and mass starvation in the reserves,

Commending the Special Committee against Apartheid and its Task Force on Women and Children for giving special attention to the plight of women and children under apartheid,

Noting with appreciation the establishment of the International Committee of Solidarity with the Struggle of Women in South Africa and Namibia,

1. *Reaffirms* the commitment of the United Nations to the total eradication of apartheid and the promotion of the establishment of a democratic society in which all the people of South Africa as a whole, irre-

spective of race, colour, sex or creed, will enjoy equal and full human rights and fundamental freedoms and will participate freely in the determination of their destiny;

2. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to observe 9 August annually as the International Day of Solidarity with the Struggle of Women in South Africa and Namibia;

3. *Appeals* to all Governments and organizations to provide generous contributions to the projects of the national liberation movements and front-line States for assistance to refugee women and children from South Africa and Namibia;

4. *Further appeals* to all Governments to make generous contributions to the various trust funds for southern Africa, including the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa;

5. *Welcomes* the decision of the Special Committee against Apartheid to organize, in co-operation with the International Committee of Solidarity with the Struggle of Women in South Africa and Namibia, an international conference on women and apartheid, to be held at Brussels from 17 to 19 May 1982;

6. *Invites* women's organizations all over the world to intensify their action in solidarity with the struggle for liberation in South Africa and Namibia and to consider a greater co-ordination of their efforts in co-operation with the Special Committee against Apartheid.

*23rd plenary meeting
4 May 1982*

1982/25. Women and children refugees

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering the agony and suffering of the Kampuchean refugees in South-East Asia,

Considering the special problems of women refugees, particularly with regard to physical safety,

1. *Expresses grave concern* at the plight of Kampuchean women and children, including the many thousands who have been forced to flee to other countries as refugees;

2. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to share the burden of assisting refugees and displaced persons from Kampuchea.

*23rd plenary meeting
4 May 1982*

1982/26. Preparations for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering that the General Assembly, in its resolution 35/136 of 11 December 1980, decided to convene in 1985, at the conclusion of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, a world conference to review and appraise the achievements of the Decade,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 36/126 of 14 December 1981, in which the Commission on the

³⁶ *Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14-30 July 1980* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3 and corrigendum), chap. I, sect. B.

Status of Women was requested to give priority at its twenty-ninth session to the question of the preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, with a view to submitting to the Assembly at its thirty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, specific proposals on that question,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 35/10 C of 3 November 1980, by which the Assembly decided that preparatory committees should be established for special conferences only if that function could not be appropriately performed by an existing intergovernmental organ,

Emphasizing the importance of undertaking at the conclusion of the Decade a critical review and appraisal of progress at international, regional and national levels in the achievement of the goals of the Decade—equality, development and peace—and the subthemes of education, health and employment, and the obstacles encountered in the implementation of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year³⁷ and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women,³⁸ and also of developing a forward-looking perspective on the status of women,

Emphasizing also the need to identify the most effective strategies and methods of work at the international level and to establish priorities for the United Nations system,

Bearing in mind the positive response of many Governments to the World Plan of Action, in the form of national mechanisms or legislation,

Also bearing in mind the need in the coming years to realize the full potential of those mechanisms or legislation to enable women to maintain and consolidate gains made during the Decade,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women,³⁹ to be held in 1985,

1. *Decides* that the Commission on the Status of Women shall be the preparatory body for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women and shall operate on the basis of consensus, and invites the widest possible participation by Member States in the deliberations of the preparatory body;

2. *Recommends* that the Commission on the Status of Women, acting as the preparatory body for the Conference, should meet at Vienna in extraordinary session in 1983 and again in 1985 with conference preparations as the sole item of the agenda, and that its thirtieth regular session, in 1984, should be extended to allow additional time for conference preparations;

3. *Decides also* to recommend to the General Assembly that the Advancement of Women Branch of the

Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat should serve as the secretariat of the preparatory body, as well as of the Conference;

4. *Recommends also* that the General Assembly should make the necessary budgetary allocations, in the light of the proposals made by the preparatory body at its first session, to enable the Advancement of Women Branch to perform those duties;

5. *Recommends further* that, with a view to the achievement of the goals of the Decade, a forward-looking draft perspective on the status of women to the year 2000 should be prepared by the preparatory body for consideration by the Conference based on the experience gained in the implementation of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women;

6. *Encourages* Member States to consider establishing national committees to assist, for example, in national-level preparations for the Conference, consultations on issues and themes and the preparation of national reports;

7. *Invites* the regional commissions to conduct consultations, within existing resources, on issues and themes for the Conference and on organizational arrangements at the regional level to prepare for the Conference, and to submit the results of those consultations to the preparatory body;

8. *Invites* Member States to submit in writing, by 1 July 1982, their views on the proposed goals and specific themes of the Conference so that the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs can prepare a report based on those views by 31 January 1983, for consideration by the Commission, in its capacity as preparatory body, at its extraordinary session in 1983;

9. *Also invites* non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and intergovernmental organizations to submit their views, in writing, on their contributions to the Conference and on possible issues and themes for the Conference to the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, for consolidated presentation to the preparatory body;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake interagency consultations on issues and themes for the Conference with a view to presenting an interagency report on the question to the preparatory body at its first session;

11. *Decides* to consider at its first regular session of 1983, in connexion with the question of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its first session as preparatory body for the World Conference.

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³⁷ *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.

³⁸ *Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14–30 July 1980* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3 and corrigendum), chap. I, sect. A.

³⁹ E/CN.6/1982/8.

1982/27. International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1998 (LX) of 12 May 1976 and 1981/13 of 6 May 1981 on the International Re-