

Council and to make recommendations on urgent problems requiring immediate attention, based on all relevant information,

Reaffirming the need for reports based on the integrated reporting system for the continued performance of those functions by the Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling that the General Assembly, in its resolution 33/186 of 29 January 1979, decided to integrate the reporting systems on the implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women⁷⁰ with those procedures established for biennial system-wide reviews and appraisals of the realization of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year⁷¹ and of the progress made under the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade,⁷² and to review the new reporting system in the light of further developments,

Noting the reports on the revised procedures utilized for the purposes of the first biennial round of the integrated reporting system during the biennium 1978-1979, prepared by the Advancement of Women Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat,

Noting further the suggestions of the Advancement of Women Branch for further revision of procedures in order to take into account the needs of Governments, specialized agencies, regional commissions and other bodies of the United Nations system during the second biennial round of the integrated reporting system during the biennium 1980-1981, and for the undertaking of a programme of widespread dissemination of information obtained as a result of the operation of the reporting system,

Convinced that the Commission on the Status of Women should continue its fundamental functions of monitoring the situation with regard to the status of women and of developing proposals and recommendations to the Economic and Social Council on the basis of all relevant information, and that it should, for that purpose, co-ordinate the results of an improved reporting system on the status of women and the continuing work of the Advancement of Women Branch in the maintenance of the existing data bank and in the development of appropriate indicators of the status of women,

1. *Decides* to continue the existing integrated reporting system on the status of women as the means of monitoring the realization during 1980-1985 of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year and of the programme of action for the second half of the United Nations Decade for Women;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that, within the framework of the regular budget, the Advancement of Women Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs has the resources needed to implement its current programme for development of the integrated reporting system and to provide for the widest dissemination of information obtained therefrom;

3. *Further requests* the Advancement of Women Branch to provide, for each session of the Commission

⁷⁰ General Assembly resolution 2263 (XXII).

⁷¹ *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.

⁷² General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV).

on the Status of Women, a progress report on implementation of new strategies for women and on its work aimed at the follow-up and harmonization of activities of the various bodies of the United Nations system, including institutes and regional commissions, which contribute to the promotion of the rights of women.

22nd plenary meeting
2 May 1980

1980/39. Communications on the status of women

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling that the Commission on the Status of Women is entitled to receive communications relating to the status of women but has no mandate to act upon them,

1. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to submit to the Economic and Social Council, at its first regular session of 1982, its views on how communications relating to the status of women should be handled, taking into account the procedures of the Commission;

2. *Requests* the Commission on the Status of Women to consider at its twenty-ninth session procedures for handling communications relating to the status of women and to submit its views to the Council at its first regular session of 1982;

3. *Decides* to consider, at its first regular session of 1982, the matter of procedures for handling communications concerning the status of women, taking into account the views expressed by the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on the Status of Women;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to assist the Council in its consideration of the matter of communications concerning the status of women by providing background information regarding existing procedures on communications within the United Nations system.

22nd plenary meeting
2 May 1980

1980/40. Fundamental freedoms guaranteed to individuals

The Economic and Social Council,

Keeping in mind the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights⁷³ and of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,⁷⁴

Considering that everyone has the right to security of person,

Considering that all are equal before the law and are entitled, without discrimination, to equal protection of the law,

Considering that everyone is entitled, in full equality, to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal in the determination of his or her rights and obligations and of any criminal charge against him or her,

Deeply concerned about the fact that close relatives, particularly the spouses, mothers and children, of persons accused of a penal offence are often, because of

⁷³ General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

⁷⁴ General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.