



UNITED NATIONS



**WORLD CONFERENCE  
OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR**  
MEXICO CITY, 19 JUNE TO 2 JULY 1975

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Message from His Excellency Mr. Takeo Miki,  
Prime Minister of Japan

I take great pleasure in sending my greetings to the World Conference of the International Women's Year.

It is a matter of extraordinary significance that the United Nations has designated 1975 as the International Women's Year, with "Equality", "Development" and "Peace" as the main themes, and has planned this Conference for the countries of the world to meet together and hold discussions for the enhancement of women's status, at this time when mankind is confronted with various problems, not only of peace and development, but also of the environment, resources, food, population, inflation and other economic difficulties.

With the human society composed of the two sexes, neither the development and peace of the international society, nor the stabilization and prosperity of the domestic society, can be attained without the equal contribution and co-operation of both sexes. It is to be welcomed indeed that this Conference is now meeting under the United Nations to see how best the excellent talents of women can be put to use for the development and peace of the world. I expect that the Japanese delegation will make constructive contributions towards the success of this Conference.

In Japan, as in other countries, women of various circles are showing a keenest interest in the International Women's Year and the World Conference. The Diet has passed a "Resolution for the Enhancement of the Social Status of Women on the Occasion of the International Women's Year". The Japanese Government intends to exert its utmost effort and adopt effective measures for the enhancement of women's status, in the light of what it may have learned through the discussions at this Conference and the Plan of Action to be finally decided upon. It therefore places high expectations on the results of the Conference.

This Conference is in fact an epoch-making one in the sense that various problems of women are to be discussed on a global scale for the first time in history. The whole world is earnestly watching the course of its deliberation. I am hoping with confidence that it will respond to the expectations of the world and will prove, through its fruitful discussions, to be an auspicious starting point for the enhancement of women's status and for their greater contributions to mankind with their fine qualities.