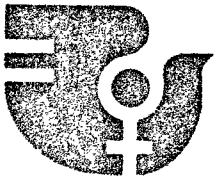




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WORLD CONFERENCE UN/SA COLLECTION
OF THE
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR
MEXICO CITY, 19 JUNE TO 2 JULY 1975

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Message by H. E. Mr. Todor Zhivkov, President of the State
Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria

Allow me, Mr. President, on behalf of the State Council, the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and Bulgarian society as a whole to offer my sincere congratulations to you and all the participants in the World Conference convened by the United Nations on the occasion of International Women's Year as an expression of the broad recognition of the increasing role of women in creating a world without war, a more humane and socially just world.

I note with satisfaction that International Women's Year is taking place in conditions of détente in the world and of the affirmation of the principles of peaceful coexistence as the basis of relations between States with differing social systems. In the new conditions, women are uniting their efforts and intensifying their participation in the struggle for the consolidation of peace and security throughout the world, the development of international co-operation, the final liquidation of colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination, and social progress.

There can be no question that the present Conference, whose theme is "Equality, Development and Peace", will focus the attention of Governments and world public opinion on the problem of achieving genuine equality of women's rights with those of men and their harmonious development, and will signal the beginning of active joint efforts aimed at enhancing their role in political life, economic and social progress and the raising of the level of the material and cultural well-being of peoples.

In the People's Republic of Bulgaria the social emancipation of women, the securing of conditions favourable to their development and their recognition as members of society having equal rights and as creative human beings in all fields of human activity constitute one of the greatest triumphs of the socialist revolution. The profound structural changes which have taken place in the social and economic life of the country have created the material basis for achieving genuine equality of rights for women and men. The State Council and the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria are systematically and consistently carrying out the special programme for the enhancement of the role of women in the building of a developed socialist society.

I hope that the work of the participants in the World Conference will be successful and productive.

14 June 1975
Sofia