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PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE WORLD
CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS
DECADE FOR WOMEN: EQUALITY,
DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE
Third session
Agenda item 3 (c)

REVIEW OF THE SUBSTANTIVE REPORTS ON AGENDA ITEMS 7, 8, 9 AND 10 OF
THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE CONFERENCE: DOCUMENTATION SUBMITTED
UNDER ITEM 9 OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE CONFERENCE

Draft Programme of Action for the second half of the United Nations
Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, 1981-1985,
designed to implement the World Plan of Action

Report of the Drafting Group

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Addendum

D. Dissemination of information and experience

42. The United Nations and UNESCO should ensure the inclusion of women in the current work undertaken in preparation for the new international information order as both recipients and participants in information systems in which their problems and issues are considered. In the definition of new communication policies the participation of women and their positive and dynamic image must be emphasized.

43. The United Nations system should ensure that the women's issues are closely linked within the existing international information systems and data banks (such as AGRIS, INRES, INTIB, DIS) particularly ISU information system unit within the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs in order to facilitate free exchange of experience and knowledge among international organizations and their member States.

44. United Nations information centres of the Joint United Nations Information Committee (JUNIC) which have responsibility for programmes of social and economic information should:

(a) Ensure that the annual JUNIC plans of action take into consideration issues and topics of particular interest to women, matters which particularly affect women, as well as their participation in information activities such as press, publications, radio programmes, film and television projects, reportage of field trips, seminars, etc.;

(b) Advocate that an information component be built into projects such as those assisted by the Voluntary Fund for the Decade and by other organizations of the United Nations system, and which would be disseminated by the Department of Public Information, specialized agencies etc.;

(c) Ensure that guides and directories of the United Nations Information Centre on information of the United Nations system contain relevant data relating to women's programmes, activities etc.

45. The United Nations and other organizations in the United Nations system such as UNCTAD, UNDP, UNFPA, UNEP, UNIDO, UNICEF, UNITAR, the ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO, WFP should include in their publications media support activities, training programmes and seminars etc., specific guidelines on issues and topics of particular interest to women and those in which women could be successfully integrated. In particular, United Nations agencies concerned with development, education, employment, health, population, food production etc. should increase their information output on matters affecting women especially in developing countries with emphasis on reaching mass audiences in rural and isolated regions and countries where women tend to be cut off from the main media channels.

46. In its programme on major political, economic and social issues as well as on human interest stories, United Nations radio should include contributions and participation of women in all these areas. The present weekly radio programme on women should be continued through the Decade or longer as the need may be with adequate provision being made to adapt it in different languages and distribute it more extensively. Co-production agreements between United Nations visual service and local networks to expand the number of films on United Nations topics should include co-production with women producers in developing countries on films related to women's issues.

47. The United Nations should issue booklets, pamphlets and publications with periodical progress reports on Decade activities and encourage the exchange of information and experience between women in Member States through study visits and the distribution of publications. The United Nations Handbook on the New International Economic Order should plan to include data and information on aspects of women's participation. The development forum and other publications should contain items related to the Decade. The United Nations information centres should improve their library materials on women and disseminate information on women more actively, especially in developing countries. Information on women should be on the agenda of the meeting of the UNIC directors for the duration of the Decade.

48. The United Nations and organizations of the United Nations system dealing with development should strengthen their information component relating to women in development and highlight the communication component of development projects.

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Well researched and built-in communication components should be included in all development programmes or projects for the integration of women in development and more adequate evaluation of the uses of media in development support to spread knowledge and increase the possibility of transfer. The United Nations and organizations of the United Nations system should collect and disseminate information on training programmes in development communication with special reference to programmes for women.

E. Review and appraisal

49. The United Nations system should continue to carry out a comprehensive and thorough biennial review and appraisal of progress achieved in implementing the provisions of the World Plan of Action and of the programme of the second half of the Decade. The central role in the carrying out of this review and appraisal should be played by the Commission on the Status of Women. The feed-back system as well as the measures for dissemination of information should be designed for the effective use of the result of monitoring by all bodies concerned.

The Commission on the Status of Women and the Branch for the Advancement of Women should be strengthened to provide machinery to monitor and co-ordinate the implementation of the Programme of Action for the second half of the Decade.

50. With a view to achieving the full integration of women into the over-all development planning of the United Nations, the review and appraisal of progress made in implementing the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the second half of the Decade should be part of the procedures for the review and appraisal of progress made in the implementation of the international development strategy for the third United Nations Development Decade.

51. The specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system as well as other relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations should consider the Plan of Action for the second half of the Decade and assist in its implementation.

52. The special mechanisms within the United Nations bodies and specialized agencies should be strengthened to implement the Plan of Action, to increase the incorporation of women's needs into all their programmes and activities and also to increase women's participation in and benefit from those programmes and activities.

53. Guidelines should be established wherever they do not already exist for the study of programmes and projects in respect of their likely impact on women, and measures for monitoring and evaluating such programmes with respect to their benefits to women.

54. Co-ordination and co-operation among the specialized agencies and United Nations bodies should be effective by increasing use of the Inter-Agency Programme for the Decade of Women and of the Branch for the Advancement of Women.

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55. The regional commissions in their periodical reviews and appraisals to the Economic and Social Council should report fully on specific aspects of the situation of women in every sector of their development programmes based on replies to the questionnaire on the implementation of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the second half of the Decade. These should be supplemented by appraisals of specific sectors undertaken by the regional commissions and specialized agencies, reports of relevant regional meetings of the United Nations and other documents and independent research.
56. Regional commissions should submit reports regularly to the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat on this programme as part of the over-all review and appraisal of the World Plan of Action. There should be a close co-ordination of the regional programmes for the advancement of women with United Nations Headquarters to ensure a better use of resources.
57. Regional commissions should ensure that the high-level regional intergovernmental and expert meetings which they periodically convene should include in their over-all periodical appraisal, an assessment of the situation of women as a fundamental prerequisite for planning action programmes to meet the objectives of the third development decade and the New International Economic Order.

II. REGIONAL POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES

58. The international policies and programmes outlined above have clear application at the regional level and should also be regarded as regional priorities. In addition the regional commissions in co-operation with the regional offices of the specialized agencies have specific responsibilities to provide assistance to Governments and non-governmental organizations for developing policies, strategies and programmes for the second half of the Decade in the light of the review and appraisal of progress achieved in the first half.
59. The strengthening of appropriate regional action programmes for women should be based on the development of co-operation between the countries of the region with the aim of promoting the principle of self-reliance. The formulation of regional policies and programmes is a multidimensional process requiring the adoption of action-oriented measures that are both bilateral and multilateral in scope and which require an increase in financial, technical and personnel resources to implement effectively regional programmes and priorities. To this end, regional commissions should adopt the following measures:
- (a) Integrate the recommendations of this programme into the work programme of their respective sectoral units so that its implementation contributes to the development strategy of the third development decade;
 - (b) Promote fellowship and other special training programmes of the tertiary sectors which comprise the majority of the female labour force both in rural and urban areas so that they can also improve and/or gain better occupational and socio-economic status;

(c) Strengthen their existing information and data collection systems with a view to providing more systematic advice and analysis of data on the situation of women so that a more effective policy of advisory services to Governments in this field can be provided in order to improve national, regional and subregional systematic reviews of progress achieved in the implementation of this programme of action;

(d) Emphasize the regional commission's role in promoting adequate national social infrastructure allowing women to discharge their dual role in the family;

(e) Undertake "skilled womenpower" inventories at national, subregional and regional levels so that trained women can have more equal opportunities to be recruited in jobs related to main areas of the development process at national, regional and international levels.

Institutional arrangements

60. Measures should be taken for:

(a) The strengthening of offices of the regional commission by establishing posts at a high level and at appropriate levels of responsibility, including that of programme officers from their regular budgets and not only from extrabudgetary sources, charged with implementing the programmes for the second half of the Decade;

(b) The reinforcement of the regional centres for research and training.
