

2. Welcomes the appointment of the Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women;

3. Expresses its hope that the Institute will start functioning shortly;

4. Expresses also its hope that a date will be set for a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women during the first quarter of 1982;

5. Calls upon all Member States to contribute or increase their contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, both financially and in kind;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1982 a report on the organization, programme and activities of the Institute.

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#### 1981/14. United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

*The Economic and Social Council,*

Having considered the report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development on its activities during the period from 1 November 1978 to 31 October 1980,<sup>25</sup>

Recognizing the importance of research on social issues for the formulation and implementation of integrated development plans and policies, promoting participation of all segments of society in the development process and an equitable distribution of the benefits therefrom,

Considering the functions of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development and the important contribution made by the Institute in this area,

Recognizing that the Institute has complied with the recommendations of the Commission for Social Development in its resolution 10 (XXV) of 3 February 1977,<sup>26</sup> particularly with regard to its catalytic role and its support for research by national research bodies,

Stressing the need to provide the Institute with the necessary financial means to ensure the continuation of its work,

Considering the appeal made by the Secretary-General to the Commission for Social Development at its twenty-seventh session in the same respect,

1. Expresses its appreciation to Governments providing financial support to the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development;

2. Invites those Governments that have not yet done so to make financial contributions to the Institute according to their possibilities and, in the case of those Governments that actually support the Institute, to examine the possibility of increasing their contributions, in both cases preferably on a regular basis or a project basis.

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<sup>25</sup> E/CN.5/595.

<sup>26</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 5 (E/5915)*, chap. I, sect. B.

#### 1981/15. Social aspects of rural development

*The Economic and Social Council,*

Recalling the Declaration on Social Progress and Development contained in General Assembly resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969,

Recalling also the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980,

Concerned at the distressing social conditions prevailing in rural areas of many countries,

Taking into account the need for implementing integrated rural development programmes to fight mass poverty, raise the levels of living of the rural population and achieve the goal of equitable distribution of national income,

1. Calls upon Governments, while implementing the relevant provisions of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and national development programmes, to give special attention to increasing the social impact of basic rural development policies such as:

(a) Implementing agrarian reforms;

(b) Promoting co-operative endeavours;

(c) Introducing development planning;

(d) Strengthening the role of national qualified personnel in rural development;

(e) Encouraging popular participation in the development process of rural areas;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to devote special attention in the forthcoming report on the world social situation to the social aspects of rural development, taking into account the provisions of the present resolution;

3. Invites the Secretary-General to facilitate increasing dissemination of information on national experience of countries with different socio-economic systems in rural development;

4. Further requests the Secretary-General to report to the Commission for Social Development at its twenty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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#### 1981/16. Youth in the contemporary world

*The Economic and Social Council,*

Noting with great interest the importance attached by the General Assembly and other United Nations bodies to the concerns of youth,

Recalling its resolution 1979/16 of 9 May 1979, as well as General Assembly resolutions 35/126 of 11 December 1980 on the International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace and 35/139 of 11 December 1980 on channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations,

Noting with satisfaction that the Declaration on the Promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding between Peoples<sup>27</sup> continues to provide a useful basis and incentive for further action in the field of youth, at the national, regional, interregional and international levels,

<sup>27</sup> General Assembly resolution 2037 (XX).

*Convinced* that the preservation and strengthening of international peace and security are prerequisites for a secure and happy future for the youth of all countries,

*Recognizing* the importance of integrating young people in the over-all life of society and of taking fully into account their special needs when formulating national plans and programmes,

*Emphasizing* the need for increasing the quantity and quality of opportunities for young people for their active and productive participation in the general development of society,

*Reaffirming* the necessity to intensify and consolidate the efforts of the United Nations so as to give effect to a co-ordinated and practical approach to youth programmes of all the United Nations agencies involved, as well as to strengthen co-operation with non-governmental organizations of youth or directly dealing with youth,

*Noting* the views on the question of youth in the contemporary world expressed in the report of the Secretary-General<sup>28</sup> and in the report of the Commission for Social Development on its twenty-seventh session,<sup>29</sup>

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on youth in the contemporary world,<sup>28</sup> prepared for the Commission for Social Development;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring that report to the attention of the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session;

3. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to take into account the views expressed on youth in the Commission for Social Development in the preparation of the documentation to be submitted to the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace;

4. *Decides* to include the item entitled "Youth in the contemporary world" in the agenda of the twenty-eighth session of the Commission for Social Development and that the Commission should consider under this item the second report on the situation of youth to be submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/16.

*14th plenary meeting  
6 May 1981*

#### **1981/17. Social aspects of the access to culture**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Mindful* of mankind's lofty ideals enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of 16 December 1966,<sup>30</sup>

*Recalling also* the Declaration on Social Progress and Development,<sup>31</sup>

*Convinced* of the importance of the role culture has to play in meeting the common needs of all peoples, and in raising the quality of their lives,

*Recognizing* the relationship between the cultural progress of peoples, their co-operation, understanding and friendship, and world peace,

<sup>28</sup> E/CN.5/587.

<sup>29</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1981, Supplement No. 6 (E/1981/26)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>30</sup> See General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>31</sup> General Assembly resolution 2542 (XXIV).

*Recognizing also* that cultural values represent a basic component of the identity of nations, which promotes understanding of their respective cultures and their values, and that full utilization of the cultural heritage is an indispensable condition of each nation's self-affirmation,

*Convinced* that every person, without distinction as to race, colour, sex, language, religion, nationality, ethnic origin, family or social status and political conviction, has the right of access to cultural values,

*Aware* that unless special institutional forms of national assistance are established, it will soon not prove possible to overcome the legacy of long-standing backwardness and negligence,

1. *Reaffirms* that cultural development is one of the most important factors of social progress;

2. *Calls upon* States to pursue continuous efforts to protect and further develop cultural values as social and spiritual energy for authentic national development and as mankind's common heritage;

3. *Appeals* to all nations to create cultural values which enhance friendship among them and to establish better social relations in the world, in particular in mass culture;

4. *Commends* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for its record of achievement thus far in the field of access to culture, including, in particular, the reduction of illiteracy, raising the level of general education and the protection and further development of cultural values;

5. *Urges* all Governments and other public and private institutions, both national and international, to intensify their organizational, intellectual and financial efforts with a view to expanding as effectively as possible wide access of all people to culture and cultural amenities for promoting a balanced social development.

*14th plenary meeting  
6 May 1981*

#### **1981/18. Draft declaration on social and legal principles relating to adoption and foster placement of children nationally and internationally**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* its resolution 1979/28 of 9 May 1979, in which it submitted the draft declaration on social and legal principles relating to adoption and foster placement of children nationally and internationally to the General Assembly for preliminary consideration at its thirty-fourth session,

*Bearing in mind* the report of the Secretary-General<sup>32</sup> on views of Member States on the text of the draft declaration,

*Convinced* that adoption of the draft declaration will promote the well-being of children with special needs,

*Requests* the General Assembly to consider at its thirty-sixth session the draft declaration on social and legal principles relating to adoption and foster placement of children nationally and internationally so that the further action proposed in Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/28 may proceed.

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<sup>32</sup> A/35/336.