

regions that may wish to act as host or at the headquarters of the regional commission concerned, annually, beginning in 1988, except in years when an interregional meeting is held, to provide the financial resources required from available resources and, if necessary, to seek additional extrabudgetary resources;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, at his discretion, to invite States outside the region that request observer status and that are actively involved in countering the illicit drug traffic in, through or from the region to send observers to the meetings, on the understanding that any expenses would be borne by the States concerned;

4. *Requests* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to include in the agenda of its regular and special sessions a separate item entitled "Development and promotion of more effective action against illicit drug trafficking through regional co-operation in drug law enforcement", under which it should consider reports or recommendations of the meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies and the Sub-Commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East and take appropriate action.

*13th plenary meeting  
25 May 1988*

**1988/16. Improved measures for reduction of the illicit demand for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* that the General Assembly, in its resolution 42/112 of 7 December 1987, welcomed the successful conclusion of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking and, in particular, the adoption of the Declaration<sup>19</sup> and the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control,<sup>20</sup>

*Concerned* about the growing abuse of drugs in most parts of the world,

*Recognizing* that measures for prevention, public awareness, treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration are essential in curbing drug abuse,

*Aware* that existing strategies for the reduction of the illicit demand for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and conventional methods for the evaluation of preventive measures and methods of treatment have not always been effective owing to the complexity of the causes of the phenomenon,

1. *Urges* all Governments to foster, through national policies, the best possible conditions for the healthy development of, and a meaningful life for, all young people and to facilitate their integration into the community, so as to mitigate the social and economic circumstances that encourage abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

2. *Recommends* that scientific research into the factors that might promote or prevent drug dependence should be strengthened and that the methodol-

ogies and results of such research should be made available to all States;

3. *Appeals* to all Governments to develop and implement comprehensive national strategies for drug abuse prevention and public awareness that are designed to meet the particular situations and needs of the target groups and provide for long-term and continuous measures;

4. *Also appeals* to all Governments to create a national network of counselling and treatment services to advise high-risk groups and help misusers by providing appropriate treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration programmes aimed at reducing the harm associated with drug abuse and leading to a drug-free life;

5. *Calls upon* all Governments to engage non-governmental organizations as partners in the development and implementation of prevention strategies and the establishment of counselling and treatment services, in view of the importance of community commitment to demand reduction programmes;

6. *Requests* Governments to take suitable measures, as part of their national strategies in their campaigns against drug abuse, to reduce excessive and inappropriate use of medicinal products containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including such measures as special education and training of medical, pharmaceutical and paramedical personnel on all aspects of the abuse problem and the rational use of such drugs;

7. *Calls upon* the Governments of countries facing problems of drug abuse to take, when appropriate, the necessary measures to reduce significantly the illicit demand for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite all Governments to implement the present resolution in accordance with the Declaration of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking and the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control.

*13th plenary meeting  
25 May 1988*

**1988/17. Improvement of the status of women in the secretariats of the United Nations system**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* that the Charter of the United Nations provides that no restrictions shall be placed on the eligibility of women and men to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in the work of the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations,

*Noting* the importance attached to the appointment of women at senior decision-making and managerial levels in paragraphs 306, 315, 356 and 358 of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,<sup>30</sup>

<sup>30</sup> See *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development, and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

*Mindful* of recommendation 46 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations,<sup>31</sup>

*Referring* to the report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations Secretariat,<sup>32</sup>

*Sharing* the concern of the Secretary-General expressed in that report that the interests of women in the Secretariat should not suffer disproportionately from the impact of the restructuring and retrenchment measures being applied in the Secretariat,

1. *Requests* each organization of the United Nations system to designate, within existing resource allocations for personnel services, a high-level coordinator for the improvement of the status of women within that organization;

2. *Recommends* that each organization adopt specific action programmes and work plans outlining the measures to be taken to improve the status of women in its secretariat;

3. *Also recommends* that the Secretary-General take the necessary measures to ensure that current financial restraints and retrenchment measures do not have disproportionately negative consequences for women;

4. *Further recommends* that all organizations of the United Nations system take measures to ensure a greater proportion of women in the Professional category and above, especially at higher levels, in accordance with paragraph 358 of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, General Assembly resolution 40/258 B of 18 December 1985 and paragraph 8 of Assembly resolution 41/111 of 4 December 1986;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, to report biennially in even-numbered years, within existing resources, to the Commission on the Status of Women on progress made by the organizations of the United Nations system in improving the level of recruitment, conditions of service, career development and promotion opportunities of women;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report to the General Assembly on the situation of women in the United Nations Secretariat and to transmit to the Commission on the Status of Women on a regular basis:

(a) The report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations Secretariat;

(b) Relevant sections of the annual report of the Secretary-General on the composition of the United Nations Secretariat;

(c) Relevant sections of background reports to the International Civil Service Commission;

<sup>31</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 49 (A/41/49)*, chap. IV, sect. B.

<sup>32</sup> A/C.5/42/24.

(d) Relevant resolutions, decisions, reports and employment guidelines of the organizations of the United Nations common system, including information on the distribution of female staff members by nationality and by level.

*15th plenary meeting  
26 May 1988*

## **1988/18. Programme planning and activities to advance the status of women**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Reaffirming* the high priority that Member States attach to activities to advance the status of women,

*Welcoming* the priority given by the Secretary-General to the advancement of women in the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989,

*Noting* the important roles played by the Commission on the Status of Women and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in achieving the global equality of women,

*Concerned* that activities to advance the status of women should not suffer disproportionately from the impact of restructuring and retrenchment measures,

*Stressing* the need to ensure that budgetary resources allocated to activities for the advancement of women are commensurate with the priorities of Governments,

*Referring* to the reports of the Secretary-General on programme planning matters pertaining to the status of women,<sup>33</sup>

### **I. MEDIUM-TERM PLANNING MATTERS**

1. *Reiterates* the recommendation made by the Commission on the Status of Women<sup>34</sup> that the Secretary-General should identify the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women<sup>30</sup> and the status of women in general as a global priority for the period 1990-1995 in the introduction to the next medium-term plan;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in preparing his proposals for the next medium-term plan, to formulate a separate major programme on the advancement of women, which should include the four existing or proposed subprogrammes of the global social development issues programme which relate to women and incorporate the intersectoral presentation of activities called for by the General Assembly in resolution 40/108 of 13 December 1985;

### **II. PROGRAMME BUDGET MATTERS**

1. *Decides* that the Secretary-General's proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 and subsequent programme budgets should provide for full funding from the regular budget for the implementation of all aspects of legislative mandates for the advancement of women;

<sup>33</sup> A/42/273-E/1987/74 and Add.1, A/42/512, E/CN.6/1988/10, E/CN.6/1988/CRP.1 and E/CN.6/1988/CRP.4.

<sup>34</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1987, Supplement No. 2 (E/1987/15)*, chap. I, sect. C, resolution 4.