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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

Effective mobilization of women in development

Report of the Secretary-General

1. In its resolution 33/200 of 29 January 1979 on the effective mobilization and integration of women in development, the General Assembly, in paragraph 3, urgently requested the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the regional commissions, the United Nations Children's Fund, the specialized agencies, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organisation, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Health Organization and the World Bank, and other bodies of the United Nations system to prepare development-oriented studies relevant to their programmes of work, focusing on the impact of policies aimed at the effective mobilization and integration of women in the development process, on the over-all development of their countries, with special emphasis on the developing countries, and on ways of promoting such policies, with a view to the early submission of these studies to the preparatory bodies referred to in paragraph 2 below and to the Assembly at its thirty-fourth session.
2. In paragraph 5 of the resolution, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to bring these studies to the attention of the Preparatory Committee for the New International Development Strategy and to the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women.
3. In paragraph 6 of the resolution, the Secretary-General was further requested, on the basis of the studies requested in paragraph 3 of the resolution, to submit a comprehensive report on the matter to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session.
4. Among those organizations which were contacted as at 31 August 1979, material relevant to the implementation of the resolution was provided by UNESCO, UNCTAD,

the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Economic Commission for Western Asia. This information is available for consultation in the Secretariat.

5. The information provided by ESCAP contains six major intercountry studies prepared jointly by the Commission and FAO. These studies evaluate different rural women's projects aimed at training rural women in income-raising activities. They cover 39 case-studies in nine Asian countries. ESCAP also submitted five additional case-studies on the role of women in community life in India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan and the Philippines, which were undertaken jointly with national commissions. Furthermore, ESCAP also provided a list of studies which are planned for their future programme. The information provided by ECWA includes four major projects involving the preparation of workshops, development-oriented studies on the impact of policies affecting women and reviews on progress made and obstacles encountered at the national level. One of these projects is being undertaken by ECWA in co-operation with ECA. It involves 22 countries - 14 are members of ECWA and eight of the League of Arab States and of ECA. Another project involves eight countries of the region (Democratic Yemen, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Oman, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen). Information received from UNCTAD refers to one study that has been initiated on the role of women in technological transformation, which is to be submitted to the third session of the Committee on Transfer of Technology in 1980, and to be available to other United Nations bodies. In the field of technical co-operation, UNCTAD also reported the existence of an integrated programme of training which is being prepared in the context of a study of the training needs of developing countries, in the field of shipping and ports, and which intends to put equal emphasis on the need for training women in this field, and for recruitment of women as trainees/lecturers. UNESCO provided five major studies on various areas including education, employment, working mothers and childhood education, and on the status of women. These studies involve 23 different country-studies, namely, in Egypt, India, Hungary, Nigeria, Trinidad and Tobago (working mothers), Argentina, the Ivory Coast, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka (on education and employment), Afghanistan, Jamaica, Jordan, Madagascar, the Mongolian People's Republic, Portugal and Turkey (on education differences in curricula), Brazil, Ghana, Japan, Tunisia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (on the status of women). Furthermore, a study on the effects of rural/urban migration on women, which is representative of the entire region of ECLA, was undertaken by UNESCO in collaboration with FLASCO (Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences).

6. The Secretary-General believes that more time is needed in order to enable him to comply with the request contained in paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 33/200, which calls for a comprehensive report to be submitted to the Assembly. The Secretary-General would accordingly propose to submit a comprehensive report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session when the Assembly will also have before it the recommendations of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women.
