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HUMAN RIGHTS AND SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS

Report of the Secretary-General

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^{*} A/39/150.

I. INTRODUCTION

- 1. In its resolution 35/130 A of 11 December 1980, the General Assembly stressed the importance of implementing the provisions and principles contained in the Declaration on the Use of Scientific and Technological Progress in the Interests of Peace and for the Benefit of Mankind, adopted by the Assembly in its resolution 3384 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, in order to promote human rights and fundamental freedoms under conditions of scientific and technological progress and requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its thirty-sixth session a report prepared on the basis of the information received from Member States regarding the implementation of the provisions of the Declaration.
- 2. At its thirty-sixth session, the General Assembly had before it a report of the Secretary-General (A/36/429 and Add.l and 2), which contained replies from the following Member States: Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Dominica, Dominican Republic, German Democratic Republic, Israel, Kuwait, Malta, Netherlands, Qatar, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Sierra Leone.
- 3. In its resolution 36/56 A of 25 November 1981, the General Assembly requested the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take into account in their programmes and activities the provisions of the Declaration, and invited those Member States, specialized agencies and other organizations that had not yet done so to submit their information in accordance with resolution 35/130 A.
- 4. At its thirty-seventh session, the General Assembly had before it a report of the Secretary-General (A/37/330 and Add.1) containing communications from the following Member States: Austria, Cuba, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Liberia, Pakistan, Philippines, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The report also contained replies received from the United Nations University, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Health Organization, the World Bank, the International Telecommunication Union and the International Atomic Energy Agency.
- 5. In its resolution 37/189 B of 18 December 1982, the General Assembly invited those Member States, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that had not yet done so to submit their information in accordance with resolution 35/130 A.
- 6. At its thirty-eighth session, the General Assembly had before it a report of the Secretary-General (A/38/195) containing communications from the following Member States: Afghanistan, Cyprus, Indonesia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Suriname and Thailand.
- 7. In its resolution 38/112 of 16 December 1983, the General Assembly invited those Member States, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that had not yet done so to submit their information pursuant to resolution 35/130 A.

- 8. In accordance with resolution 38/112, a note verbale was sent on 27 February 1984 by the Secretary-General to Member States, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that had not complied with the previous requests addressed to them.
- 9. As at 10 August 1984, substantive replies had been received from the Governments of Cameroon and Rwanda. The replies received are contained in section II of the present report. Replies had also been received from the Economic Commission for Latin America, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Health Organization, the International Monetary Fund, the World Intellectual Property Organization and the International Fund for Agricultural Development. These communications are found in section III of the present report.

II. PEPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

CAMEROON

[Original: English]

[3 August 1984]

Scientific and technical research carried out in Cameroonian research institutes and university institutions is oriented exclusively towards solving socio-economic problems. Our research is geared to alleviating human suffering and creating the best possible conditions for human life. Its primary concern is the fight against hunger, poverty, disease and ignorance. Cameroon's research programmes are clearly not in any way meant for the progress of war or armaments build-up and, therefore, conform totally to the spirit of General Assembly resolution 3384 (XXX) of 10 November 1975.

RWANDA

[Original: French]

[21 June 1984]

- 1. It should be pointed out first of all that the Rwandese Government realizes the key role to be played by science and technology in promoting respect for human rights.
- 2. In this regard, the Rwandese Government attaches particular importance to the dignity of the human person, whose rights and freedoms are protected by the Rwandese Constitution.
- 3. To this end, the benefits of science and technology should be used to increase production, create employment, ensure the good health of the population and provide education.

- 4. This objective can be achieved only if all States Members of the United Nations strive to eliminate the threat of war by inviting the countries involved in the arms race to commit themselves resolutely to disarmament in order to maintain international peace and security, which are essential to the observance of civil and political rights.
- 5. All countries would then be able to participate in economic and social development by promoting the effective use of technology for peaceful purposes and for the benefit of all mankind.
- 6. In addition, since the developed countries have a monopoly on science and technology, co-operation between rich and poor countries in the field of transfer of technology must begin so that the international community may reap the benefits of science.
- 7. In this connection, the Rwandese Government is pleased to note that the United Nations Industrial Development Organization is carrying out a programme for development and transfer of technology for the benefit of the third world, and that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development is considering the preparation of a code of conduct for the transfer of technology.
- 8. The Rwandese Government hopes that all States Members of the United Nations will co-operate unreservedly with these bodies so that they may effectively carry out their mission, which is so important to the cause of human rights.
- 9. The Rwandese Government believes that the establishment of a new international economic order requires not only the transfer of technology for the benefit of the least developed countries, but also the rational and constructive use of the results of scientific research in order to increase the means of production and communication and protect human life against disease and destruction.
- 10. The Rwandese Government believes that the responsibility of scientists must be brought into focus so that they may combine their creative genius with conscience and use their know-how to seek solutions that would be useful in meeting the basic needs of mankind and ensuring its well-being.
 - III. REPLIES RECEIVED FROM SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

[Original: English]

[1 June 1984]

ECLA draws attention to the report of the ninth session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts: Science and Technology for Development (E/CEPAL/G.1290) and states that point 2 of the second part relates to the crucial importance and fundamental role of science and technology in the Latin American development process. One of the conclusions reached is that Latin America would be

able to deal with the challenges facing it in future to the extent that it builds an indigenous scientific and technological capability aimed at achieving well-being for the majority of its peoples, within the framework of a democratic society.

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

[Original: French]

[4 May 1984]

1. UNESCO has for many years been concerned with questions related to human'rights and scientific and technological developments. Such questions were discussed at the 1968 General Conference; in that connection, the Organization's programme and budget approved on that occasion stated that

"Recent developments in science and technology such as computers, the miniaturization of recording devices, wire-tapping and eavesdropping mechanisms ... as well as experimentation on human beings, have created a threat to human rights in general and to the individual's right to privacy in particular. A meeting of experts [was] convened in 1969 to examine the impact of such developments on the right to privacy and related human rights and fundamental freedoms, and to make available information on what measures are being taken in various countries for the protection of these rights." 1/

2. In implementation of this work plan and the relevant resolutions of the International Conference on Human Rights (Teheran, 1968), UNESCO convened, from 19 to 23 January 1970, a meeting of experts on the right to privacy, for the purpose of considering ways of implementing article 12 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states:

"No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honour and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks."

- 3. In September of the same year, 1970, the International Commission of Jurists was entrusted by UNESCO to undertake a comparative survey of the right to the protection of privacy. The results of the survey carried out by that Commission in about 10 countries were published in the <u>International Social Science Journal</u> (No. 3, 1972) under the title: "The protection of privacy".
- 4. At its seventeenth session, in 1972, the General Conference recommended that the Director-General should pay special attention to, inter alia, a

"Study of the implications for human rights of mankind's new powers resulting from scientific and technological progress, particularly in biology, medicine and psychiatry, with a view to actively fostering the establishment and adoption of codes of professional ethics, of the principles of social morality and of the rules of law, which are now indispensable". 2/

- 5. On the occasion of the observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, The UNESCO Courier (July 1973) devoted part of an issue to the right to privacy, while two special issues of UNESCO Features, Nos. 661 and 662 (1974), entitled "Biology, medicine and human rights", dealt with a round-table conference on the implications for human rights of scientific and technological progress in biology and medicine, held in November 1973 by the Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences (CIOMS).
- 6. At the request of UNESCO, the International Institute of Human Rights, Strasbourg, France, carried out a world survey in 1977-1978 on the teaching of human rights and professional ethics in medical faculties and schools. The results of that survey were the subject of a report published in The Teaching of Human Rights, Proceedings of the International Congress on the Teaching of Human Rights, Vienna, 12-16 September 1978 (UNESCO, 1980), pp. 51-80.
- 7. Among the meetings organized by UNESCO on the question of human rights and scientific and technological developments, mention may be made of two meetings of experts: one on the ethical problems posed by recent developments in biology, held at Varna, Bulgaria, in June 1975; the other on genetics and ethical values, held at Noordwijkerhout, Netherlands, in March 1978. The first emphasized the necessity and urgency of developing an appropriate ethic for the new questions raised by scientific and technological progress. The second, after examining the problems of genetics in relation to anthropology, development, the control of life, research in genetics and social imperatives, mindful of the importance of the social implications of the orientation of genetic research, recognized that those issues were so interdependent and complex that scientists were not in a position to provide all the necessary answers by themselves.
- 8. In December 1983, the Trieste International Institute for the Study of Human Rights, with the financial assistance of UNESCO, organized a meeting of experts on scientific and technological developments and human rights, which, among other things, considered ways and means of protecting human rights in the light of scientific progress, and proposed a UNESCO study and research programme in that connection.
- 9. In addition, UNESCO will organize, in December 1984, a symposium on the problems raised by recent scientific and technological developments for the effective protection of human rights, and will carry out studies on the effects of the introduction of computer technology on the right to privacy, and on the means of guaranteeing it, taking into account the differences between cultural traditions concerning that right.
- 10. Finally, several works related to that field have been published by UNESCO:

The Challenge Presented to Cultures by Science and Technology, by Jean Ladrière (Paris, UNESCO/Aubier, 1977). It is available in English and Spanish editions (UNESCO, 1977, and UNESCO/Ediciones Sigueme, 1978, respectively);

Biology and Ethics, an overview presented by Bruno Ribes on the basis of studies and discussions at the meeting of experts on the ethical problems posed by recent developments in biology (Paris, UNESCO, 1978, "Insights" collection, in English, French and Spanish).

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

[Original: English]

[6 April 1984]

- 1. The main current strategy of WHO, health for all by the year 2000, is based on the concept that the right to health like the right to life is an inherent fundamental human right.
- 2. An intrinsic feature of the health for all by the year 2000 strategy is its very broad approach. Therefore its realization needs not only the efforts of the medical, or even of the entire health, sector, but also the application of various scientific and technological achievements in a variety of sciences, including behavioural and socio-economic. The channelling of resources resulting from the development of science and technology for the implementation of the WHO strategy would therefore be one of the most effective ways to promote human rights and fundamental freedoms.
- 3. The concern about the future of mankind in the face of the continuing arms race, and in particular the growing threat of a nuclear war, expressed in the resolution on the strategy is reflected in the two resolutions WHA34.38, and WHA36.28 reproduced below, adopted by the World Health Assembly in May 1981 and 1983 respectively on "The role of physicians and other health workers in the preservation and promotion of peace as the most significant factor for the attainment of health for all".
- 4. UNESCO had also drawn attention to the report on the effects of nuclear war on health and health services, referred to in resolution WHA36.28, which is now being given wide distribution.

WHA36.28

16 May 1983

THE ROLF OF PHYSICIANS AND OTHER HEALTH WORKERS IN THE PRESERVATION AND PROMOTION OF PEACE AS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT FACTOR FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF HEALTH FOR ALL

The Thirty-sixth World Health Assembly,

Bearing in mind the principle laid down in the WHO Constitution that the health of all peoples is fundamental to the attainment of peace and security;

Recalling resolution WHA34.38 on the role of physicians and other health workers in the preservation and promotion of peace as the most significant factor for the attainment of health for all;

Having considered the report on the effects of nuclear war on health and health services, prepared by the International Committee of Experts in Medical Sciences and Public Health established by the Director-General in conformity with resolution WHA34.38;

- 1. THANKS the International Committee for its report;
- 2. NOTES with grave concern the conclusions of the Committee on the effects of nuclear war on health and health services;
- 3. ENDORSES the Committee's conclusion that it is impossible to prepare health services to deal in any systematic way with a catastrophe resulting from nuclear warfare, and that nuclear weapons constitute the greatest immediate threat to the health and welfare of mankind;
- 4. URGES Member States to give careful consideration to the conclusions of the report;
- 5. REQUESTS the Director-General:
 - (1) to publish the report with all its scientific attachments and to preface it with this resolution;
 - (2) to ensure that wide publicity is given to the report;
 - (3) to transmit the report to the Secretary-General of the United Nations with a view to its consideration by the appropriate United Nations and other bodies;
- 6. RECOMMENDS that the Organization, in co-operation with other United Nations agencies, continue the work of collecting, analysing and regularly publishing accounts of activities and further studies on the effects of nuclear war on health and health services, the World Health Assembly being kept periodically informed.

WHA34.38 Rev.1

22 May 1981

HEALTH FOR ALL BY THE YEAR 2000 THE CONTRIBUTION OF HEALTH TO SOCIOECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION 34/58 OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL
ASSEMBLY AND OF RESOLUTIONS WHA32.24 and WHA33.24

The role of physicians and other health workers in the preservation and promotion of peace as the most significant factor for the attainment of health for all

The Thirty-fourth World Health Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Executive Board and of the Director-General on the Global Strategy for the attainment of health for all by the year 2000 and the contribution of health to the socioeconomic development of countries, particularly developing countries, as well as to the preservation and promotion of peace as the most significant factor for the protection of people's life and health;

Bearing in mind the provisions of the WHO Constitution stating that the attainment of the highest possible standard of health of peoples, on the basis of the fullest co-operation of individuals and States, is one of the fundamental factors for peace and security, and also resolution 34/58 of the United Nations General Assembly stating that peace and security, in their turn, are important for the preservation and improvement of the health of all people, and that co-operation among nations on vital health issues can contribute importantly to peace;

Recalling the provisions of the Alma-Ata Declaration emphasizing that an "acceptable level of health for all the people of the world by the year 2000 can be attained through a fuller and better use of the world's resources, a considerable part of which is now spent on armaments and military conflicts";

Recalling resolutions WHA13.56, WHA13.67, WHA15.51, WHA17.45, WHA20.54, WHA22.58, WHA23.53, WHA32.24, WHA32.30, WHA33.24 and others on the role of the physician in the preservation and promotion of peace, the protection of mankind against nuclear radiation, the reduction of military expenditures and the allocation of the resources thus released to socioeconomic development and also to public health, especially in developing countries;

Considering the present aggravation of the international situation and the growing danger of thermonuclear conflict, whose unleashing in any form and on any scale will inevitably lead to irreversible destruction of the environment and the death of hundreds of millions of people and also grave consequences for the life and health of the population of all countries of the world without exception and of future generations, thus undermining the efforts of the States and WHO to achieve health for all by the year 2000;

Noting further the growing concern of physicians and other health workers in many countries at the mounting danger of thermonuclear war as the most serious threat to the life and health of all populations and their desire to prevent thermonuclear disaster, which is an indication of their increased awareness of their moral, professional and social duty and responsibility to safeguard life, to improve human health, and to use 11 means and resources for attaining health for all:

1. REITERATES most strongly its appeal to Member States to multiply their efforts to consolidate peace in the world, reinforce détente and achieve disarmament so as to create conditions for the release of resources for the development of public health in the world;

2. REQUESTS the Director-General:

- (1) To expedite and intensify the study of the contribution that WHO, as a United Nations specialized agency, could and should make to economic and social development and to facilitate the implementation of the United Nations resolutions on strengthening peace, détente and disarmament and preventing thermonuclear conflict, creating for this purpose an international committee composed of eminent experts in medical science and public health;
- (2) To continue collaboration with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and with other governmental and non-governmental organizations, to the extent required, in establishing a broad and authoritative international committee of scientists and experts for comprehensive study and elucidation of the threat of thermonuclear war and its potentially baneful consequences for the life and health of peoples of the world.

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

[Original: English]

[13 March 1984]

Having noted in particular paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 38/112, the IMF must point out that, while the subject is no doubt of great importance, the specialized character of the Fund's responsibilities and competence allows little scope for specific activities in the area.

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

[Original: English]

[28 March 1984]

1. It may be noted that the activities of WIPO are directed towards the objective of promoting the protection of intellectual property throughout the world through co-operation among States, as provided in the Convention of 1967 establishing

WIPO. This objective corresponds to article 27, paragraph 2, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and article 15 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. This is so because "intellectual property" means the rights which result from intellectual activity in the industrial, scientific, literary or artistic fields, and the legal protection of intellectual property gives statutory expression to the moral and economic rights of creators and of the public in access to their creations. Such protection promotes creativity and the dissemination and application of its results.

2. In the view of WIPO, effective ways and means of using the results of scientific and technological developments for the promotion and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms depend essentially on effective ways and means to promote such developments, including the protection of intellectual property.

INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

[Original: English]

[19 June 1984]

- 1. The activities of IFAD are directed exclusively towards assisting the most disadvantaged groups in many developing countries, namely small-scale farmers, landless workers, small-scale artisans, poor fishermen and the like who constitute the Fund's target group.
- 2. IFAD has recognized that only the increase in food production in developing countries can provide a fundamental and permanent solution to the food and nutrition problems of developing countries. The production aspect of the Fund's objectives will be pursued by overcoming the specific obstacles that have hampered the increase in production. These include shortages of input, such as fertilizer, pesticides, reliable water supplies, credit and institutional or other barriers to the dissemination of new technologies.
- 3. Accordingly, in selecting, formulating and implementing the projects and programmes that the Fund supports and finances, one of the important criteria is to increase production and productivity of small-scale farmers through the introduction of appropriate technologies. In this connection, the Fund pays particular attention to the following points:
- (a) The weakness of delivery systems for extension, research, credit, input supply and marketing support in many developing countries should be well defined and will be overcome through projects and programmes.
- (b) Each project or programme can be viewed in a broader perspective, with attention being given to its negative or positive interaction with other parts of the system. Within this broad context, due consideration should be given to the dissemination of improved and appropriate technologies to small-scale farmers, capital investment programmes that increase output per unit of land and labour, and

the promotion of labour-intensive rural activities that improve the quality or efficiency of inputs, storage facilities or processing of farm output.

- (c) Proportionally larger benefits from projects and programmes should go to the poorest segments of the population.
- (d) Effective implementation of an investment project or programme for the rural poor requires the mobilization of beneficiaries to establish viable rural institutions which are people-based, people-oriented and with the participation of people.
- 4. IFAD has also recognized the need to support agronomic and socio-economic research to provide new technological bases for increasing the productivity of agricultural resources. Accordingly, the Fund's Lending Policies and Criteria have emphasized the need to focus on research that leads to new production parameters in favour of the small-scale farmers and the landless in the developing world. Paragraph 29 of the Fund's Lending Policies and Criteria states: "the Fund will accord priority to activities that strengthen the technical and institutional capacity essential for agricultural development." It further states the main purposes of financing technical assistance, which include:

"support to countries for research and extension activities, in particular, the development of technology appropriate to small farms would be supported. Small-scale but innovative projects with a strong exploratory element, leading to future large-scale investment decisions, would receive special attention".

5. Paragraph 35 of the same document further states that "in addition, the Fund may provide, in co-operation with other agencies, grants for suitable activities of international, regional and national research institutions". The Fund's explicit concern for research directed at the welfare of the lower-income groups in the rural areas of the developing countries is also reflected in paragraph 18 of the same document, which states that:

"The food problem of the poor may be approached from different angles: e.g., by encouraging research and extension specific to the production of foods consumed by them; by taking development programmes to where poor people live; by researching, developing and extending technologies which increase employment while raising the productivity of capital and land; and by favouring policies which guarantee equitable income to food growers and associate them with the overall benefits of development."

Therefore, the Fund has been supporting research programmes that adhere both to efficiency and equity goals of selected activities of international, regional and national research institutions, and reflect the objectives of the Fund's Lending Policies and Criteria.

6. The experience gained so far from the IFAD operation indicates clearly that the productivity of small-scale farmers can be increased substantially if they are provided with adequate means of production and other services including appropriate technology and the results of relevant scientific research. With increasing food

production, the disadvantaged small-scale farmers and the landless have been able to increase their negotiating power and to assert their human rights to food and to relatively more decent standards of living. IFAD has been able to organize the rural poor into functional groups, provide them with the necessary technical package and input supply mechanisms and marketing and research support. Putting to use the technological and scientific results of research for the benefit of the disadvantaged would contribute not only to peace and security but also to the establishment of a new international economic order. It is our hope that the Fund's efforts and activities will not only satisfy the immediate need of this group of people and reduce their dependence, but will also hasten the attainment of self-sufficiency in food through the application of the principle of self-reliant development. The only permanent solution to the problem of hunger and malnutrition lies in teaching farmers how to explore and employ their full potentialities to satisfy their basic needs.

- 7. In line with its Lending Policies and Criteria, IFAD has been expanding its technical assistance to the extent possible allowed by its operations. The Fund finances technical assistance for the following main purposes:
 - (a) Project preparation;
 - (b) Human and institutional development included in IFAD projects;
- (c) Agricultural research and certain other activities which directly support the attainment of the Fund's objectives.
- 8. The Fund has expanded its technical assistance activities in the past six years of its operations along these broad lines. Support for international agricultural research has been focused on research programmes of low-cost food crops such as roots, tubers, legumes and basic grains which are mainly cropped and consumed by small-scale farmers and on those farming systems which impose particular constraints on small-scale farmers. A major part of those kinds of technical assistance grants has been supplied to agricultural research activities carried out through centres co-ordinated by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) but a considerable amount has also been provided for those outside this network.
- 9. Technical assistance has also been provided for the elements in the Fund's financed projects for human and institutional development, such as training, extension, monitoring and evaluation and pre-investment studies. In most cases, it has been incorporated in the project loans, but in some it was provided on a grant basis, mostly to low-income recipient countries. Other activities in the choice, acquisition and transfer of technologies include assistance in project formulation and in establishing development strategies in agricultural and rural sectors. In assisting developing Member States to formulate effective and feasible projects and implement the approved projects effectively and efficiently, IFAD has been sending missions at various stages of project identification, preparation, appraisal supervision and evaluation.
- 10. In many instances, increasing food production for the target group, inter alia, through the provision of appropriate technology, requires structural

reforms covering the political, economic and social aspects prevailing in a certain area in addition to investment in selected fields. This is essential to reap the maximum benefit from investment projects and modern technology and research. The small-scale farmers and the landless must be freed from discrimination and deprivation in order to realize their full potential. The structural reform process is slow and difficult and requires the concerted efforts of all concerned. Through its projects, IFAD has been able to assist participating Governments to change, modify or adjust policies and institutions in order to ensure that the benefits flowing from the project are largely received by the poor. For example, in some cases it has been stipulated that new improved land in irrigation and land-reclamation projects will be made available to small-scale farmers or landless agricultural labourers. In others, traditional cost-sharing arrangements between landlords and tenants regarding payment for inputs or facilities being provided through the project would be revised so as to benefit the poor.

In order to assist the rural poor to assert their rights and hold the reins of their own destiny, IFAD places great emphasis on the involvement and effective participation of the rural poor which is fundamental to the evolution and success of poor-oriented agricultural and rural development. The rural poor should determine for themselves the most appropriate use of the means of production put at their disposal including technology and the result of relevant research. Effective participation implies active involvement in decision-making regarding project identification, formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation and, above all, benefit-sharing. In IFAD, people's participation is viewed as an essential instrument of development and, hence, as an important criterion for assessing the It goes without saying impact and benefits of a development project or programme. that women constitute a large segment of the poor and underprivileged group in most rural societies. Thus IFAD seeks in the projects which it finances to provide support for the involvement of women in development. One central element of the Fund's efforts is to make the poor self-reliant in order that they can carry on and improve upon the project-initiated activities by themselves, once external aid comes to an end.

Notes

- 1/ UNESCO, Approved Programme and Budget for 1969-1970 (15C/5 Approved), Paris, January 1969, para. 1065.
- 2/ UNESCO, Records of the General Conference, Seventeenth Session, Paris, 17 October to 21 November 1972, vol. 1, Resolutions, Recommendations, chap. II, recommendation 7.11.