

1989/33. Women and children under *apartheid*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1988/23 of 26 May 1988.

Noting the concern of women throughout the world about the continuing degradation and abuse to which African women and children are subjected daily by the white minority régime of South Africa.

Recalling that this concern was expressed in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,⁵⁹ which also contain proposals for various forms of assistance to be rendered to women and children inside South Africa and to those who have become refugees,

Recognizing that the inhuman exploitation and dispossession of the African people by the white minority régime is directly responsible for the appalling conditions in which African women and children live,

Also recognizing that the equality of women cannot be achieved without the success of the struggle for national liberation and self-determination of the people of South Africa against the racist régime of Pretoria,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on new developments concerning the situation of women under *apartheid* in South Africa and Namibia and measures of assistance to women in South Africa and Namibia,⁶¹

1. Commends the tenacity and bravery of those women both inside and outside South Africa who have resisted oppression, who have been detained, tortured or killed, and of those whose husbands, children and relatives have been detained, tortured or killed and who, despite this, have remained steadfast in their opposition to the racist régime;

2. Acknowledges the efforts of those Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals that have campaigned for and applied sanctions against the racist régime;

3. Condemns unequivocally the South African régime for the imposition of the state of emergency, the forcible separation of black families, the detention and imprisonment of women and children and the restrictions on non-violent anti-*apartheid* democratic organizations and individuals;

4. Urges the South African régime to accord prisoner-of-war status to captured freedom fighters, in accordance with the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949⁶² and the Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 relating to the protection of victims of international armed conflicts (Protocol I), adopted in 1977,⁶³ to accord all political prisoners sentenced to death, among whom are women, a fair trial based on international legal standards, and to stop the execution of political prisoners;

5. Demands the immediate and unconditional release of all political prisoners and detainees, among whom are an increasing number of women and children;

6. Again calls upon Governments, in view of the deterioration of the situation in South Africa, to impose, as a matter of urgency, comprehensive sanctions in accordance with the resolutions of the

Security Council and the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women;

7. Appeals to all countries to support educational, health and social welfare programmes for women and children under *apartheid*;

8. Also appeals to the international community for increased assistance for women and children refugees in southern Africa;

9. Urges the international community to look into the newly developing situation of refugees and displaced persons, with a view to providing material assistance for them;

10. Urges Member States and United Nations bodies, in consultation with liberation movements, to give effect forthwith, to the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies that deal with women and children under *apartheid*, giving particular attention to education, health, vocational training and employment opportunities and to the strengthening of the women's sections of the liberation movements;

11. Requests the Commission on the Status of Women to work closely with women in the liberation movements in order to disseminate information and to ensure a proper assessment of the needs and aspirations of the women and children living under *apartheid*;

12. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-fourth session a comprehensive report on the implementation and monitoring of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies in regard to women and children under *apartheid*.

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24 May 1989

1989/34. Situation of Palestinian women

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,⁶⁴

Mindful of the humanitarian principles and provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949,⁶⁵

Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,⁵⁹ in particular paragraph 260 thereof,

Recalling also its resolution 1988/25 of 26 May 1988,

Taking into account the *intifadah* of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories against the Israeli occupation and the oppressive practices of Israel against the Palestinian people, including women and children.

1. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive report on the situation of Palestinian women, making use of all available information, including United Nations reports, information from Governments, non-governmental organizations and missions undertaken by United Nations bodies and specialized agencies to the occupied territories, and reports of meetings and seminars, as appropriate, and to submit the report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-fourth session:

⁵⁹E/CN.6/1989/3.

⁶²United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

⁶³*Ibid.*, vol. 1125, No. 17512.

⁶⁴E/CN.6/1989/4 and Corr.1.

⁶⁵United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

2. *Requests* the specialized agencies, in sending missions to the occupied Palestinian territories, to include an expert on women's issues to assess the situation of the Palestinian women and to elaborate specific projects of assistance;

3. *Strongly condemns* the continuation of the "iron-fist" policy practiced by Israel, the occupying Power, against Palestinian women and their families in the occupied Palestinian territories;

4. *Reaffirms* that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949 is applicable to the territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem;

5. *Again requests* the Secretary-General to send a mission composed of experts on the status of women to investigate the condition of Palestinian women and children, in the light of the drastic deteriorating situation in the occupied Palestinian territories;

6. *Requests* the Commission on the Status of Women to monitor the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, in particular the provisions of paragraph 260 thereof concerning assistance to Palestinian women and children inside and outside the occupied Palestinian territories;

7. *Reaffirms* that Palestinian women, as an integral part of a nation whose people are prevented from exercising their basic human and political rights, cannot fully participate in the attainment of the objectives of the Forward-looking Strategies, namely, equality, development and peace, without the realization of their inalienable right to return to their homes, their right to self-determination and their right to establish an independent State in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions.

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24 May 1989*

1989/35. Women and peace in Central America

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling that, in adopting the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace recognized that women should participate fully in all efforts to strengthen and maintain international peace and security and to promote international co-operation,⁶⁶

Recalling also that the World Conference also recognized that the violence and destabilization in Central America hindered the fulfilment of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies, essential for the advancement of women,⁶⁷

Recalling further the agreement on "Procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America",⁶⁸ signed at the Esquipulas II summit meeting at Guatemala City, on 7 August 1987, by the Presidents of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, and noting the

⁶⁶Report 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, para. 240.

⁶⁷Ibid., para. 247.

⁶⁸Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-second Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1987, document S/19085, annex.

subsequent meetings of the Presidents in 1988 and February 1989,

Recognizing the valuable contribution of the Contradora Group and its Support Group to the process of bringing peace to Central America,

Recognizing also the valuable efforts put forth by the Secretary-General and the international community to secure peace and development in Central America,

Convinced of the exceptional importance to the peoples of Central America, particularly the women, of the achievement of peace, reconciliation, development and social justice in the region, as well as the recognition of their economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights.

Considering that the General Assembly, in its resolution 42/1 of 7 October 1987, requested the Secretary-General to promote a special plan of co-operation for Central America,

Desiring to encourage the active participation of women in the promotion of peace and development in Central America,

1. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the will to achieve peace manifested by the Presidents of the Central American countries in their signing of the agreement on "Procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America" and at their efforts for the implementation thereof;

2. *Again calls upon* the Presidents of the Central American countries to continue their joint efforts to achieve peace in Central America, particularly the efforts to establish the Central American Parliament, in order to ensure conditions favourable for the attainment in the region of the objectives of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,⁶⁹ and requests the international community to support those efforts;

3. *Urges* all States to support the peace efforts, fully respecting the principles of self-determination of peoples and non-intervention;

4. *Also urges* the international community to ensure that programmes of technical, economic and financial co-operation for the region take account of the particular needs and interests of women in Central America;

5. *Recommends* to the Secretary-General that the special plan of co-operation for Central America include specific activities supporting the advancement of women in the region;

6. *Exhorts* the Governments of the Central American countries and of the countries of the Contradora Group and its Support Group to encourage and ensure the full participation of women at all levels in the search for peace, pluralism, democracy and overall development in the Central American region;

7. *Urges* national and international, governmental and non-governmental women's organizations to participate in and support actively the processes of democratization, peace and development in Central America.

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