

Considering that issues relating to women have grown more complex and numerous, particularly in the developing countries,

Recalling that the Commission is to hold in 1990 a session of extended duration to review and appraise progress in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,<sup>59</sup>

1. *Decides* that the membership of the Commission on the Status of Women should be increased to forty-five and that the seats should be allocated on the basis of the principle of equitable geographical distribution according to the following pattern:

- (a) Thirteen members from African States;
- (b) Eleven members from Asian States;
- (c) Four members from Eastern European States;
- (d) Nine members from Latin American and Caribbean States;
- (e) Eight members from Western European and other States;

2. *Also decides* that the enlargement of the Commission should take effect from the beginning of 1990 before the convening of the extended session of the Commission to review and appraise progress in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women;

3. *Further decides* that the additional seats resulting from the increase in the membership of the Commission should be filled at the organizational session for 1990 of the Council.

*15th plenary meeting  
24 May 1989*

#### **1989/46. Critical social situation in Africa**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969 containing the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, which provides the framework for international co-operation in the field of social development,

Recalling also General Assembly resolutions 39/29 of 3 December 1984 and 40/40 of 2 December 1985, which led to the convening of the thirteenth special session of the General Assembly, devoted to the critical economic situation in Africa, at which the Assembly adopted by consensus resolution S-13/2 of 1 June 1986, to which is annexed the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990,

*Alarmed* at the acceleration in the deterioration of social conditions in most African countries,

*Noting with concern* the gravity of the situation in the southern part of Africa due to the continued policy of *apartheid* of the racist régime of South Africa,

*Noting* that in Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery 1986-1990,<sup>60</sup> the Governments of African States reaffirmed their primary responsibility for the economic and social development of their countries, identified areas for priority action, and undertook to mobilize and utilize domestic resources for the achievement of their priority objectives,

*Emphasizing* that the African social and economic crisis is a development crisis that concerns the

<sup>60</sup>A/40/666, annex I, declaration AHG/Decl. I (XXI), annex.

international community as a whole and that greater realization of the rich physical and human potential of the continent is an integral part of a common strategy to promote the economic and social advancement of all peoples.

*Recognizing* the efforts being made by African Governments to redress some of the acute social problems confronting the African continent,

*Noting* that the prospects for concerted implementation of Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery 1986-1990 are being affected by an unfavourable external economic environment, debt-servicing obligations and the rate of flow of development finance, particularly that of a concessionary nature.

1. *Takes note* of the 1989 report on the world social situation,<sup>74</sup> including the annex thereto on the critical social situation in Africa;

2. *Appeals* to the international community, the States members of the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to increase their co-operation and assistance to enhance the efforts made by the African countries to establish or improve their infrastructure, through the creation of a favourable economic environment;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Organization of African Unity, the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development Bank, to prepare a report providing an in-depth evaluation of the critical social situation in Africa, paying particular attention to the obstacles to the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990, including the impact of structural adjustment policies on the social situation in Africa, for submission to the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-second session;

4. *Decides* that the Commission should consider at its thirty-second session the report requested in paragraph 3 above, in the context of its review of the world social situation.

*15th plenary meeting  
24 May 1989*

#### **1989/47. Social welfare, development and science and technology**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Noting* that scientific and technological progress is an important factor in the social and economic development of society,

*Reaffirming* the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, adopted by the General Assembly by its resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969, in which States are called upon to share equitably scientific and technological advances, to intensify international co-operation in this field and to use science and technology for the benefit of the social development of society,

*Reaffirming also* the Declaration on the Use of Scientific and Technological Progress in the Interests of Peace and for the Benefit of Mankind, adopted by the General Assembly by its resolution 3384 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, in which all States are called upon to promote international co-operation to ensure that the results of scientific and technological developments are used in the interests of strengthening international peace and security, freedom and inde-