

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,⁵⁹

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 1986-1990,⁶⁰ 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

⁶⁰A/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,⁷⁴ 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-

pendence, and also for the purpose of the economic and social development of peoples and the realization of human rights and freedoms in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

Considering that implementation of the above-mentioned Declarations will contribute to the social and economic development of peoples and international co-operation in the interests of scientific and technological progress, as well as to the strengthening of peace,

Emphasizing that international co-operation among States for the promotion of scientific and technological progress is in the interest of the social and economic development of all peoples,

Convinced that, in a time of rapid scientific and technological progress, the resources of humankind and the work of scientists make an important contribution to the peaceful economic and social development of nations and to the improvement of the living standards of all peoples,

Aware that technical co-operation, including the possibility of transfer of technology, is one of the ways of achieving better social progress in developing countries,

1. *Calls upon* all States to encourage co-operation to ensure scientific and technological progress for the welfare and social and economic development of their peoples and of all human beings, and to contribute to promoting economic development and eliminating grave social problems in the world;

2. *Stresses* the necessity of using scientific and technological progress as a major aspect of the process of fully implementing fundamental political, economic, social and cultural rights, as laid down in the International Covenants on Human Rights;⁸¹

3. *Calls upon* all Governments to make every effort to use scientific and technological achievements for the promotion of peaceful social and economic development, and to prevent their misuse to the disadvantage of human beings;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, when elaborating the next report on the world social situation, to take due account of the effects of science and technology on processes of social welfare and development, on the basis of information available from Governments and organizations of the United Nations system;

5. *Invites* the Commission for Social Development, in its discussion of the world social situation, to pay increasing attention to the effects of science and technology on the processes of social welfare and development;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General or interested Governments to consider in the near future convening, within existing resources, an expert seminar on the effects of science and technology on social welfare and development.

*15th plenary meeting
24 May 1989*

1989/48. Twentieth anniversary of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

⁸¹General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969 by which it solemnly proclaimed the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, and its resolutions 2543 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969, 32/117 of 16 December 1977, 34/59 of 29 November 1979 and 41/142 of 4 December 1986 on the implementation of the Declaration,

"Reaffirming, on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of its proclamation, the importance of the Declaration as a source of inspiration for national and international efforts for the promotion of social progress and development,

"Recalling its resolutions 40/98 of 13 December 1985 on the improvement of the role of the United Nations in the field of social development, 42/49 of 30 November 1987 on the achievement of social justice and 43/113 of 8 December 1988 on the indivisibility and interdependence of economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights,

"Recalling also that in its resolution 42/48 of 30 November 1987 it decided to observe in 1989 the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration,

"Desirous of achieving effective application of the provisions of the Declaration,

"Noting the continuing validity and importance of the principles and objectives proclaimed in the Declaration,

"1. *Invites* all Governments to take into consideration the provisions of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development in their developmental policies, plans and programmes, as well as in their bilateral and multilateral co-operation;

"2. *Recommends* that the Declaration be taken into account in the formulation of the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade and in the implementation of programmes of international action to be carried out during the decade;

"3. *Recommends also* that the international organizations concerned with development continue to use the provisions of the Declaration, which is an important United Nations document, in formulating strategies, programmes and international instruments aimed at social progress and development;

"4. *Urges* the Secretary-General to carry out the activities indicated in the annex to its resolution 42/48 in order to ensure the successful observance of the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration;

"5. *Reiterates its invitation* to all States that have not yet done so to transmit to the Secretary-General their views and comments, pursuant to paragraphs 4 and 5 of its resolution 42/48;

"6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in the next report on the world social situation a special section dealing with the activities carried out in pursuance of the present resolution;

"7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session an item entitled 'Twenty-fifth anniversary of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development'."

*15th plenary meeting
24 May 1989*