

1. *Places on record* its satisfaction with the work done by the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development;

2. *Expresses the wish* that the social objectives of the new international development strategy should furnish the principal focus and orientation for the research activities of the Institute in the coming years, which should include, more particularly, a continuous study of alternative forms and techniques of democratic participation of the people in the process of economic and social development;

3. *Recommends* that the activities of the Institute should be pursued to an increasing extent in collaboration with and through appropriate research institutes in the interested States Members of the United Nations, particularly the developing countries.

*14th plenary meeting
9 May 1979*

1979/27. Co-ordination and information in the field of youth

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 2078 (LXII) of 13 May 1977 on youth in the contemporary world,

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General on measures taken to implement the Declaration on the Promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding between Peoples and the present and future role and the participation of youth in the development and nation-building process as well as in the promotion of international co-operation and understanding,³²

Noting the views expressed by the Commission for Social Development at its twenty-sixth session on the subject of youth,³³ in particular on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 33/7 of 3 November 1978 on the International Youth Year,

Recalling that General Assembly resolution 2037 (XX) of 7 December 1965, containing the Declaration of the Promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding between Peoples, continues to provide a useful basis and incentive for further action in the field of youth at the national, regional, interregional and international levels,

Reiterating the importance of publicity as an instrument for furthering the principles set forth in the Declaration and mindful of the continuing need for taking all measures necessary to ensure their universal implementation and to acquaint world public opinion with all aspects of the concerns of youth,

Noting with great satisfaction that some of the specialized agencies, especially the International Labour Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Health Organization, have developed procedures and programmes in the field of youth and that their work significantly complements the activities undertaken by United Nations bodies in the same field,

³² E/CN.5/575.

³³ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1979, Supplement No. 4 (E/1979/24), paras. 103-108.*

Recognizing the necessity for better co-ordination of efforts in dealing with problems confronting young people and in examining the manner in which those problems are being treated by the specialized agencies and by various United Nations bodies,

Recalling that by its resolution 2078 (LXII) it requested the Secretary-General, in order to give effect to a co-ordinated and practical approach to youth policies and programmes, to establish an interagency task force drawn from the Secretariat of the United Nations and the specialized agencies directly concerned with youth policies and programmes and to report on the work of that task force to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to analyse systematically the documents of the specialized agencies and of various United Nations bodies containing views, observations and suggestions on the situation, needs and aspirations of young people in the contemporary world and to pay special attention to the question of improving the existing modes of co-ordination, co-operation and communication in the field of youth within the United Nations system;

2. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take concrete measures, through all the communication media at his disposal, to give widespread publicity to the activities of the United Nations system in the field of youth and to increase the dissemination of information about youth;

3. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to take into account in the preparation of reports on youth to be submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session the views expressed in this respect during the twenty-sixth session of the Commission for Social Development and during the first regular session of 1979 of the Economic and Social Council;

4. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the work of the interagency task force drawn from the Secretariat of the United Nations and the specialized agencies directly concerned with youth policies and programmes.

*14th plenary meeting
9 May 1979*

1979/28. Adoption and foster placement of children

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the draft declaration on social and legal principles relating to adoption and foster placement of children nationally and internationally,³⁴

Convinced that appropriate measures should be taken to educate the public in order to increase community awareness of the existence of children with special needs,

Fully aware of the urgent need for more active involvement of Governments in matters of family and child welfare,

Recognizing that it is the responsibility of Governments to determine the adequacy of their national

³⁴ E/CN.5/574.

services for children and to recognize those children whose needs are not being met by existing services,

Recalling its resolution 1925 (LVIII) of 6 May 1975, in which it decided that the Expert Group which was to prepare a draft declaration should also draft guidelines for the use of Governments in the implementation of the principles,

1. *Takes note* of paragraphs 150 to 154 of the report of the Commission for Social Development on its twenty-sixth session³⁵ concerning the draft declaration on social and legal principles relating to adoption and foster placement of children nationally and internationally and submits the draft declaration³⁶ to the General Assembly for preliminary consideration at its thirty-fourth session;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the text of the draft declaration to all Member States with a view to obtaining their comments on the matter and submitting the results of the inquiry to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session;

3. *Draws the attention* of the General Assembly to the fact that the Commission for Social Development, at its twenty-sixth session, expressed the wish that, in the event of the Assembly adopting the declaration on social and legal principles relating to adoption and foster placement of children nationally and internationally and subject to the availability of extrabudgetary funds for that purpose, the Secretary-General should be authorized to convene a group of experts, with relevant experience in family and child welfare, representative of all geographical regions, to draft guidelines for the use of Governments in the implementation of those principles.

*14th plenary meeting
9 May 1979*

1979/29. Preparations for the Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting from the report of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control on its fifth session³⁷ that the Secretariat has made considerable progress in the preparation of the Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

Conscious of the need for co-ordinated efforts to ensure the success of the Sixth Congress,

Recognizing that the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch, which is a unit of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, is charged with the substantive preparation of the Sixth Congress,

Noting the intention of the Secretary-General to retain at United Nations Headquarters four posts of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch in preparation for the Congress,

Reaffirming its support for the Secretary-General's plans with respect to the transfer of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch,

³⁵ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1979, Supplement No. 4 (E/1979/24).*

³⁶ See E/CN.5/574, sect. IV.

³⁷ E/CN.5/558, paras.51-54.

Having taken note of General Assembly resolutions 31/194 of 22 December 1976 and 33/181 of 21 December 1978,

Requests the Secretary-General, nevertheless, to examine the possibility of temporarily deferring the transfer of the staff members of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch involved in the preparation of the Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders until the end of the Congress.

*14th plenary meeting
9 May 1979*

1979/30. Enlargement of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 32/60 of 8 December 1977,

Convinced of the desirability of increasing the membership of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control as suggested by the Committee at its fifth session, without prejudice to the principle of equitable geographical distribution,

1. *Decides* to increase the membership of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control to twenty-seven members;

2. *Decides* that the seats on the Committee will be distributed as follows:

Seven seats to African States;

Six seats to Asian States;

Three seats to Eastern European States;

Five seats to Latin American States;

Six seats to Western European and other States.

*14th plenary meeting
9 May 1979*

1979/31. International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade

The Economic and Social Council,

Aware of the gravity of the problem of drinking water supply and sanitation and the crisis that mankind may have to face unless timely action is taken,

Recognizing that the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan³⁸ adopted by the United Nations Water Conference includes, *inter alia*, the launching of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade recommended in paragraph 15 of the Action Plan,

Taking note of the progress report on drinking water supply and sanitation,³⁹ prepared by the World Health Organization in co-operation with other international organizations, and the reports of the regional meetings held under the auspices of the regional commissions⁴⁰ and the proposals contained therein,

³⁸ *Report of the United Nations Water Conference, Mar del Plata, 14-25 March 1977* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.77.II.A.12), chap. I.

³⁹ E/C.7/80 and Add.1.

⁴⁰ E/C.7/90-94.