



General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/44/757
20 November 1989

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fourth session
Agenda item 113

FAMILIES IN THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Wilfried GROLIG (Federal Republic of Germany)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1989, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in its agenda the item entitled "Families in the development process" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.
2. The Committee considered the item jointly with items 90, 91, 92, 93, 97, 99, 101 and 102 at its 12th to 20th, 30th and 37th meetings, on 18 to 20, 23 to 26 October and 2 and 9 November 1989. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/44/SR.12-20, 30 and 37).
3. The Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on preparation for and observance of an international family year (A/44/407).
4. At the 12th meeting, on 18 October, the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna and the Director of the Social Development Division made introductory statements (see A/C.3/44/SR.12).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.3/44/L.18

5. At the 30th meeting, on 2 November, the representative of Poland introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/44/L.18), entitled "International Year of the Family", sponsored by Austria, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mexico, Mongolia, the

Philippines, Poland, Romania, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Uruguay, Venezuela and Viet Nam. Subsequently, El Salvador, Myanmar and Suriname joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 37th meeting, on 9 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/44/L.18 without a vote (see para. 8).

7. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representatives of the Netherlands, Sweden (also on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Norway), Australia, New Zealand and Egypt made statements.

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

8. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International Year of the Family

The General Assembly,

Guided by the resolve of the peoples of the United Nations to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom, with a view to the creation of conditions of stability and well-being, which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations between nations,

Guided also by the relevant provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1/ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 2/ and the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, 3/ according to which the widest possible protection and assistance should be accorded to the family,

Recalling its resolution 42/49 of 30 November 1987 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1988/46 of 27 May 1988 and 1989/71 of 24 May 1989 entitled "Achievement of social justice",

Bearing in mind the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women 4/ and recalling that by its resolution 42/125 of

1/ Resolution 217 A (III).

2/ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

3/ Resolution 2542 (XXIV).

4/ Report 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.

7 December 1987 it endorsed for action the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future, 5/ which called for social welfare policies to give greater attention to the family,

Recognizing the efforts of Governments at the local, regional and national levels in carrying out specific programmes concerning the family, in which the United Nations may have an important role to play, and in raising awareness, increasing understanding and promoting policies that improve the position and well-being of the family,

Recalling its resolutions 42/134 of 7 December 1987 and 43/135 of 8 December 1988 on the need to enhance international co-operation in the field of the protection of and assistance to the family, as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 1983/23 of 26 May 1983, 1985/29 of 29 May 1985 and 1989/54 of 24 May 1989,

Taking into account its decision 35/424 of 5 December 1980 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 concerning guidelines for international years and anniversaries,

Taking note with interest and appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General prepared in pursuance of its resolution 43/135, 6/

1. Proclaims 1994 as International Year of the Family;
2. Decides that the major activities of the observance of the Year should be concentrated at the local, regional and national levels and assisted by the United Nations and its system of organizations, with a view to creating among Governments, policy-makers and the public a greater awareness of the family as the natural and fundamental unit of society;
3. Endorses the main recommendations, objectives and principles for the observance of the Year, as contained in the comprehensive outline of a possible programme for an international year of the family; 7/
4. Invites all Governments, specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, as well as interested national organizations, to exert all possible efforts in the preparation for and observance of the Year and to co-operate with the Secretary-General in achieving the objectives of the Year;

5/ See E/CONF.80/10, chap. III.

6/ A/44/407.

7/ Ibid., sect. IV.

5. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare, on the basis of his report and in consultation with Member States, concerned specialized agencies and interested intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, a draft programme for the preparation for and observance of the Year and to submit a progress report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session;
6. Also requests the Secretary-General to take specific measures, through all the communication media at his disposal, to give widespread publicity to the activities of the United Nations system in the area of family issues and to increase the dissemination of information on the family;
7. Designates the Commission for Social Development as the preparatory body and the Economic and Social Council as the co-ordinating body of the International Year of the Family;
8. Decides to consider the report of the Secretary-General at its forty-fifth session under an item entitled "International Year of the Family".
