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COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
Twenty-third session

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Note by the Secretary-General

1. In accordance with rule 5 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman, has drawn up the provisional agenda for the twenty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women.
2. The twenty-third session will be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva, from 23 March to 10 April 1970. The first meeting will be convened on Monday, 23 March, at 11.00 a.m.

Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
4. Unified long-term programme for the advancement of women and United Nations assistance in this field:
 - (a) Participation of women in the economic and social development of their countries;
 - (b) Women's service as a means of enabling women to work gratuitously for the benefit of the community
5. Review of programme of work and establishment of priorities. Control and limitation of documentation
6. Access of women to education:
 - (a) Co-education;
 - (b) Illiteracy
7. Economic rights and opportunities for women:
 - (a) International Labour Organisation activities which have a bearing on the employment of women;
 - (b) Repercussions of scientific and technological progress on the conditions of work and employment of women
8. Progress achieved in the field of political rights of women
9. The status of the unmarried mother
10. Protection of women and children in emergency or war-time, fighting for peace, national liberation and independence
11. Influence of activities of foreign economic and other interests on the living conditions of women in dependent Territories
12. Status of women and family planning
13. Youth and human rights
14. Advisory services in the field of human rights

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15. Periodic reports on human rights
16. Co-operation with intergovernmental organizations outside the United Nations system: report of the Inter-American Commission of Women
17. Communications concerning the status of women
18. Report of the twenty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women to the Economic and Social Council

Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Election of officers

Rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, as amended by the Council in resolution 1231 (XLII) of 6 June 1967, provides that each year, at the commencement of its first meeting, the Commission shall elect a Chairman and one or more Vice-Chairmen, and other officers from among its members.

2. Adoption of the agenda

Rule 9 of the rules of procedure provides that, except for the election of officers, the first item on the provisional agenda of any session shall be the adoption of the agenda.

It may be noted that the Commission decided at its twenty-second session, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 2478 (XXIII) and Economic and Social Council resolution 1379 (XLV), to replace summary records by shorter minutes, while reserving the right to ask for summary records in respect of any item for which the Commission decided they were needed; such decision to be taken at the time of the adoption of the agenda (E/4619, paragraph 120).

3. Implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

In its resolution 1325 (XLIV) the Economic and Social Council initiated a series of reports by Member States, the specialized agencies and the non-governmental organizations concerned on publicity given to the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and on action taken by them in compliance with its principles. In accordance with this resolution and the

requests of the Commission itself contained in its resolution 5 (XXII), the Secretary-General will present to the Commission at its twenty-third session:

- (a) A report on the activities of the Secretary-General in giving publicity to the implementation of the Declaration, including audio-visual material (Commission on the Status of Women resolution 5 (XXII), paragraph 2);
- (b) A report based on the replies of Member States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations on the implementation of the Declaration (Economic and Social Council resolution 1325 (XLIV), paragraphs 6 and 7; and Commission on the Status of Women resolution 5 (XXII), paragraph 3).

4. Unified long-term programme for the advancement of women and United Nations assistance in this field

At its twenty-second session the Commission adopted resolution 9 (XXII), containing a number of recommendations relating to the unified long-term programme for the advancement of women, and it decided to consider the question further as a matter of priority at its twenty-third session.

The item may be subdivided as follows:

- (a) Participation of women in the economic and social development of their countries

Under this subitem the Commission will have before it:

- (i) A report of the Secretary-General prepared with special attention to the request contained in paragraph 5 of the Commission resolution 9 (XXII) that a five-year programme of concerted action for the advancement of women be prepared within the framework of technical co-operation programmes, including the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights;
- (ii) The revised analysis of the replies of Governments to the questionnaire on the role of women in the economic and social development of their countries, which was prepared and circulated at the request of the Economic and Social Council in resolution 1133 (XLI). The revised analysis incorporates additional replies received under Commission resolutions 5 (XXI) and 9 (XXII);
- (iii) A report prepared pursuant to resolution 14 (XX), in which the Commission requested the Secretary-General "in consultation with the

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specialized agencies concerned, to review existing regional training institutes or centres and the extent to which they offer, or might be requested to offer, training or retraining needed for the advancement of women and to report thereon to the Commission on the Status of Women".

(b) Women's service as a means of enabling women to work gratuitously for the benefit of the community

This subitem is included in the provisional agenda in accordance with paragraph 1 of resolution 6 (XXII) of the Commission. The Secretary-General will submit a report which, in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of the same resolution, will be based on information received from Governments of Member States on their experience with respect to women's service as a means of enabling women to work gratuitously for the benefit of the community.

5. Review of programme of work and establishment of priorities. Control and limitation of documentation

The Commission will have before it a note by the Secretary-General on the programme of work, the establishment of priorities and the control and limitation of documentation, with special reference to the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council.

6. Access of women to education

(a) Co-education

The Commission will have before it the complete report of the United Nations Economic and Social Council on co-education prepared in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1327 (XLIV) and a request of the Commission at its nineteenth session (E/4175, paragraph 374). The Commission considered a summary of that report (E/CN.6/520) at its twenty-second session (see E/4619, chapter X).

(b) Illiteracy

UNESCO will also submit to the Commission a report on illiteracy prepared pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 821 V B (XXXII).

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7. Economic rights and opportunities for women

(a) International Labour Organisation activities which have a bearing on the employment of women

In accordance with resolution 321 IV B (XXXII) of the Economic and Social Council, the ILO will submit to the Commission its annual report on ILO activities of special interest in relation to the employment of women.

(b) Repercussions of scientific and technological progress on the conditions of work and employment of women

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1328 (XLIV) the Commission will have before it a report by the ILO containing information on the findings of national surveys on this question and on recent ILO activities in this field.

8. Progress achieved in the field of political rights of women

The Commission will have before it a report of the Secretary-General entitled "Political rights of women", prepared in accordance with resolution 1132 (XLI) of the Economic and Social Council and containing information on constitutions, electoral laws and other legal instruments relating to political rights of women.

9. Status of the unmarried mother

In its resolution 6 (XX) of 1957 the Commission decided to place the subject of the unmarried mother on the agenda of an early session and requested the Secretary-General to prepare a report concerning law and practice with respect to unmarried mothers based on information available to him. A report prepared in accordance with this request will be submitted to the Commission.

10. Protection of women and children in emergency or war-time, fighting for peace, national liberation and independence

In its resolution 4 (XXII) the Commission, inter alia, requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its twenty-third session a report, based in particular on information contained in United Nations official documents and in the reports of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the United Nations Children's Fund, on the conditions of women and children in the Territories

referred to in resolutions I and XIII adopted by the International Conference on Human Rights and in General Assembly resolutions 2443 (XXIII) and 2444 (XXIII). A report prepared pursuant to this request will be submitted to the Commission.

11. Influence of activities of foreign economic and other interests on the living conditions of women in dependent Territories

In resolution 3 (XVII) the Commission requested the Special Committee referred to in General Assembly resolutions 2236 (XXII) and 2425 (XXIII) to devote a part of the report which it was to present to the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly to the influence of activities of foreign economic and other interests on the living conditions of women in dependent Territories.

12. Status of women and family planning

This item has been included in the provisional agenda of the twenty-third session of the Commission at the request of the Special Rapporteur appointed in 1968 to continue the study of the status of women and family planning. The Special Rapporteur will submit a progress report to the Commission.

13. Youth and human rights

This item has been included in the provisional agenda of the Commission by virtue of resolution 20 (XXV) of the Commission on Human Rights (E/4621, chapter XVIII). In paragraph 7 of that resolution the Commission on Human Rights invites the attention of the Commission on the Status of Women "to relevant parts of the documentation prepared in accordance with this resolution so that it may at its twenty-third session have at its disposal the reports of non-governmental women's organizations on their efforts in promoting the philosophy of human rights in the consciousness of youth". The relevant documentation will be presented to the Commission.

14. Advisory services in the field of human rights

The Commission will have before it:

(a) A report of the Secretary-General on the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights prepared in accordance with General Assembly resolution 926 (X);

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(b) The report of the seminar on the effects of scientific and technological developments on the status of women, held in Iasi, Romania, from 5 to 18 August 1969.

15. Periodic reports on human rights

In accordance with resolution 1074 C (XXXIX) of the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General will forward to the Commission periodic reports on developments in human rights by Member States and specialized agencies, together with a subject and country index to these reports. Information received from non-governmental organizations in consultative status, as well as any comments which might have been made on them by the Member States concerned, will also be made available to the Commission. The above reports and information, which will be submitted to the Commission at its twenty-third session, will deal primarily with economic, social and cultural rights and will cover the period ending 30 June 1969.

In resolution 1074 C (XXXIX) the Economic and Social Council has invited the Commission to inform the Commission on Human Rights of its comments on the materials it receives under the terms of the resolution and of any recommendation it may wish to make.

16. Co-operation with intergovernmental organizations outside the United Nations system: report of the Inter-American Commission of Women

In accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution 48 (IV) of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission will have before it a report of the Inter-American Commission of Women on its activities.

17. Communications concerning the status of women

The Commission will have before it two lists of communications prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with resolution 76 (V) of the Economic and Social Council, as amended by resolution 304 I (XI):

(a) A non-confidential list containing a brief summary of communications which deal with the principles relating to the promotion of women's rights in the political, economic, civic, social and educational fields;

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(b) A confidential list of other communications concerning the status of women.

18. Report of the twenty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women to the Economic and Social Council

In accordance with rule 38 of the rules of procedure, the Commission shall report to the Council on the work of each session.
