

GENERAL
ASSEMBLYA/2156
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Seventh session

DRAFT CONVENTION
ON THE POLITICAL RIGHTS OF WOMENNote by the Secretary-General

1. At its sixth session, the Commission on the Status of Women adopted a resolution^{1/} recommending the Economic and Social Council to approve a draft convention on the political rights of women the text of which it transmitted to the Council.
2. At its fourteenth session, the Economic and Social Council, having examined the draft resolution recommended to it by the Commission on the Status of Women, adopted the following resolution:^{2/}

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Considering that the time is appropriate for an international convention under the auspices of the United Nations designed to eliminate all discrimination against women in the field of political rights, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 56 (I),

"1. Recommends to the General Assembly that an international convention on the political rights of women embodying the following preamble and substantive clauses be opened for signature and ratification by Member States and such other States as will be invited by the General Assembly;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to draft the necessary formal clauses of that convention:

^{1/} E/2208, paragraph 30.

^{2/} Resolution 445 B (XIV).

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"The Contracting Parties,

"Desiring to implement the principle of equality of rights for men and women contained in the Charter of the United Nations,

"Recognizing that every person has the right to take part in the government of his country and has the right to equal access to public service in his country, and desiring to equalize the status of men and women in the enjoyment and exercise of political rights, in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

"Having resolved to conclude a convention for this purpose,

"Hereby agree as hereinafter provided:

"Article 1. Women shall be entitled to vote in all elections on equal terms with men.

"Article 2. Women shall be eligible for election to all publicly elected bodies, established by national law, on equal terms with men.

"Article 3. Women shall be entitled to hold public office and to exercise all public functions, established by national law, on equal terms with men."

3. The Secretary-General accordingly desires to draw the attention of the General Assembly to this resolution, in which the Economic and Social Council recommends to the Assembly that a convention on the political rights of women embodying the preamble and substantive clauses reproduced in the resolution be opened for signature and ratification by Member States and such other States as will be invited by the Assembly.