

*Reaffirming* its resolution 37/63 of 3 December 1982, by which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation,

*Recalling* its resolution 39/124 of 14 December 1984, in which it requested the Commission on the Status of Women to consider what measures might be necessary in order to implement the Declaration,

*Bearing in mind* its resolution 40/102 of 13 December 1985, in which it requested the Commission on the Status of Women to consider measures which may be necessary to implement the Declaration in the context of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women for the period up to the year 2000,

*Wishing* to encourage the active participation of women in promoting international peace, security and co-operation,

*Convinced* that increased efforts are required to eliminate still existing forms of discrimination against women in every field of human endeavour,

*Conscious* of the need to implement the provisions of the Declaration,

1. *Pledges its determination* to encourage the full participation of women in the economic, social, cultural, civil and political affairs of society and in the endeavour to promote international peace and co-operation;

2. *Appeals* to all Governments to take the necessary measures for putting into practice the principles and provisions of the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation;

3. *Invites* all Governments to give wide publicity to the Declaration and its implementation;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take adequate steps to ensure that publicity is given to the Declaration;

5. *Endorses* Economic and Social Council resolution 1986/20 of 23 May 1986, in which the Council called upon Member States to take practical institutional, educational and organizational measures to facilitate women's participation on an equal footing with men in the decision-making process, including that related to peace, disarmament negotiations and the solution of conflicts, and to inform the Secretary-General of their activities undertaken at all levels to implement the Declaration as a contribution to the International Year of Peace;

6. *Recommends* that future medium-term plans of the United Nations and the specialized agencies should, in accordance with the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, contain intersectoral presentations of the various programmes dealing with issues of concern to women, including those relating to the participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation;

7. *Invites* the Commission on the Status of Women at its session in 1987 to consider, *inter alia*, guidelines for the long-term programme of work of the Commission up to the year 2000, including activities for the participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation;

8. *Decides* to consider the further implementation of the Declaration at its forty-second session, as a sub-item of the item entitled "Forward-looking strategies for the advancement of women to the year 2000".

97th plenary meeting  
4 December 1986

#### 41/110. The role of women in society

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the validity of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

*Noting* the importance of the documents adopted by the world conferences held during the Decade,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 40/101 of 13 December 1985, and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1986/27 of 23 May 1986, which reiterated the expression by the Assembly of its awareness of the necessity to enlarge the possibilities for both men and women to combine parental duties and household work with paid employment and social activities, and of its awareness that the role of women in childbearing should not be the cause of inequality and discrimination and that child rearing demands shared responsibilities among women, men and society as a whole,

*Convinced* of the necessity to secure for all women full and effective enjoyment of the rights embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>2</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>60</sup> the International Covenants on Human Rights<sup>24</sup> and other pertinent instruments in this field,

*Emphasizing* that the achievement of equal and full participation of women in all spheres of activity is an integral part of the political, economic, social and cultural development of all countries,

*Commending* the expanding participation of women in political, economic, social and cultural life and in the promotion of international peace and co-operation,

*Convinced* that the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women<sup>59</sup> should be among the developmental and policy priorities of Governments, United Nations organs, specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

*Bearing in mind* that promotion of the status of women in all its aspects and complete integration of women in society go beyond the problem of legal equality and that deeper structural transformations of society and changes in current economic relations, as well as elimination of traditional prejudices through education and the dissemination of information, are required to create conditions in which women may develop fully their intellectual and physical capacities and participate actively in the decision-making process related to their political, economic, social and cultural development,

*Bearing in mind also* that economic inequality, colonialism, racism, racial discrimination in all its forms, *apartheid*, aggression and interference in the internal affairs of other States, and violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms are obstacles to the active integration of women in all spheres of life,

*Bearing in mind* the resolution on equal opportunities and equal treatment for men and women in employment, adopted on 27 June 1985 by the International Labour Organisation,<sup>61</sup>

1. *Recommends* that all Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations should pay due attention in their activities to the role of women in

<sup>60</sup> Resolution 34/180, annex.

<sup>61</sup> International Labour Office, *Official Bulletin*, vol. LXVIII, 1985, Series A, No. 2, p. 85.

society in all its interrelated aspects —as mothers, as participants in the economic development process and as participants in public life;

2. *Reaffirms* that the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women should contribute to the elimination of all forms of inequality between women and men and to the integration of women in the development process, and should ensure the broad participation of women in efforts to strengthen international peace, security and co-operation;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to adopt the necessary effective measures with a view to the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies as a matter of priority, including the establishment or strengthening of appropriate mechanisms for the advancement of women and for the implementation of the Strategies, in order to ensure the full integration of women in the political, economic, social and cultural life of their countries;

4. *Invites* Member States to encourage such social and economic development as will ensure the equal participation of women in all spheres of work activity, equal pay for work of equal value, and equal opportunities for education and vocational training;

5. *Appeals* to Member States to promote conditions that will enable women to participate as equal partners with men in public and political life, in the decision-making process at all levels and in the management of different spheres of life in society;

6. *Urges* Governments to recognize the special status and social importance of childbearing and child rearing and to take all necessary measures to encourage the support of parenthood, including paid maternity, parental and child-care leave, and to provide women with security for their jobs as long as necessary with a view to allowing them to fulfil their role as mothers without prejudice to their professional and public activities;

7. *Appeals* to Governments to promote the establishment of appropriate facilities for the care and education of children as a means of combining parenthood with economic, political, social, cultural and other activities, and thus to assist women towards full integration in their societies;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, when preparing future reports on the world social situation, to pay due attention to the question of the status of women, their role in society and the progress achieved in the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, when preparing surveys on the role of women in development, to pay due attention to all the interrelated aspects of the role of women in society;

10. *Invites* the Commission on the Status of Women to consider the inclusion, in an appropriate form, of the question of the role of women in society in its agenda and programme of work for the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women.

#### 41/111. Implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* all its relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 40/108 of 13 December 1985, in which, *inter alia*, it endorsed the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women<sup>59</sup> for the period up to the year 2000 and set out measures for their immediate implementation and for the overall achievement of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

*Taking into consideration* Economic and Social Council resolutions 1986/30 of 23 May 1986 and 1986/65 and 1986/71 of 23 July 1986,

*Conscious* of the considerable and constructive contribution to the advancement of the status of women made by the Commission on the Status of Women, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and other organizations of the United Nations system, Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

*Emphasizing* the need for the immediate and full implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies and for their evaluation and follow-up,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women;<sup>62</sup>

2. *Reaffirms* the need for the Forward-looking Strategies to be translated immediately into concrete action by Governments, as determined by overall national priorities, as well as by the organizations of the United Nations system, the specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

3. *Reaffirms also* the central role of the Commission on the Status of Women in matters related to the advancement of women and calls upon the Commission to promote the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies to the year 2000 based on the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace and the subtheme "Employment, Health and Education", and urges all organizations of the United Nations system to co-operate with the Commission in this task;

4. *Reaffirms further*, in the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies, the role of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, in particular the Branch for the Advancement of Women, as the substantive secretariat of the Commission on the Status of Women and as a focal point for matters on women, the catalysing role of the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the role of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women in the advancement of women in the context of the participation of women in development;

5. *Endorses* Economic and Social Council resolution 1986/30, in particular the decision by the Council to convene in January 1987 a session of the Commission on the Status of Women for five working days prior to the organizational session of the Council and its decision that the session be held in New York as an exception to the general principle, reaffirmed by the General Assembly in its resolution 40/243 of 18 December 1985, that United Nations bodies shall plan to meet at their respective established headquarters;