RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THE REPORTS OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

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2263 (XXII). Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

The General Assembly,

Considering that the peoples of the United Nations have, in the Charter, reaffirmed their faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women,

Considering that the Universal Declaration on Human Rights asserts the principle of non-discrimination and proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth therein, without distinction of any kind, including any distinction as to sex,

Taking into account the resolutions, declarations, conventions and recommendations of the United Nations and the specialized agencies designed to eliminate all forms of discrimination and to promote equal rights for men and women,

Concerned that, despite the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenants on Human Rights and other instruments of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and despite the progress made in the matter of equality of rights, there continues to exist considerable discrimination against women,

Considering that discrimination against women is incompatible with human dignity and with the welfare of the family and of society, prevents their participation, on equal terms with men, in the political, social,

economic and cultural life of their countries and is an obstacle to the full development of the potentialities of women in the service of their countries and of humanity,

Bearing in mind the great contribution made by women to social, political, economic and cultural life and the part they play in the family and particularly in the rearing of children,

Convinced that the full and complete development of a country, the welfare of the world and the cause of peace require the maximum participation of women as well as men in all fields,

Considering that it is necessary to ensure the universal recognition in law and in fact of the principle of equality of men and women,

Solemnly proclaims this Declaration:

Article 1

Discrimination against women, denying or limiting as it does their equality of rights with men, is fundamentally unjust and constitutes an offence against human dignity.

Article 2

All appropriate measures shall be taken to abolish existing laws, customs, regulations and practices which are discriminatory against women, and to establish adequate legal protection for equal rights of men and women, in particular:

- (a) The principle of equality of rights shall be embodied in the constitution or otherwise guaranteed by law;
- (b) The international instruments of the United Nations and the specialized agencies relating to the elimination of discrimination against women shall be ratified or acceded to and fully implemented as soon as practicable.

Article 3

All appropriate measures shall be taken to educate public opinion and to direct national aspirations towards the eradication of prejudice and the abolition of customary and all other practices which are based on the idea of the inferiority of women.

Article 4

All appropriate measures shall be taken to ensure to women on equal terms with men, without any discrimination:

- (a) The right to vote in all elections and be eligible for election to all publicly elected bodies;
 - (b) The right to vote in all public referenda;
- (c) The right to hold public office and to exercise all public functions.

Such rights shall be guaranteed by legislation.

Article 5

Women shall have the same rights as men to acquire, change or retain their nationality. Marriage to an alien shall not automatically affect the nationality of the wife either by rendering her stateless or by forcing upon her the nationality of her husband.

Article 6

1. Without prejudice to the safeguarding of the unity and the harmony of the family, which remains the

- basic unit of any society, all appropriate measures, particularly legislative measures, shall be taken to ensure to women, married or unmarried, equal rights with men in the field of civil law, and in particular:
- (a) The right to acquire, administer, enjoy, dispose of and inherit property, including property acquired during marriage;
- (b) The right to equality in legal capacity and the exercise thereof;
- (c) The same rights as men with regard to the law on the movement of persons.
- 2. All appropriate measures shall be taken to ensure the principle of equality of status of the husband and wife, and in particular:
- (a) Women shall have the same right as men to free choice of a spouse and to enter into marriage only with their free and full consent;
- (b) Women shall have equal rights with men during marriage and at its dissolution. In all cases the interest of the children shall be paramount;
- (c) Parents shall have equal rights and duties in matters relating to their children. In all cases the interest of the children shall be paramount.
- 3. Child marriage and the betrothal of young girls before puberty shall be prohibited, and effective action, including legislation, shall be taken to specify a minimum age for marriage and to make the registration of marriages in an official registry compulsory.

Article 7

All provisions of penal codes which constitute discrimination against women shall be repealed.

Article 8

All appropriate measures, including legislation, shall be taken to combat all forms of traffic in women and exploitation of prostitution of women.

Article 9

All appropriate measures shall be taken to ensure to girls and women, married or unmarried, equal rights with men in education at all levels, and in particular:

- (a) Equal conditions of access to, and study in, educational institutions of all types, including universities and vocational, technical and professional schools;
- (b) The same choice of curricula, the same examinations, teaching staff with qualifications of the same standard, and school premises and equipment of the same quality, whether the institutions are co-educational or not;
- (c) Equal opportunities to benefit from scholarships and other study grants;
- (d) Equal opportunities for access to programmes of continuing education, including adult literacy programmes;
- (e) Access to educational information to help in ensuring the health and well-being of families.

Article 10

1. All appropriate measures shall be taken to ensure to women, married or unmarried, equal rights with men in the field of economic and social life, and in particular:

- (a) The right, without discrimination on grounds of marital status or any other grounds, to receive vocational training, to work, to free choice of profession and employment, and to professional and vocational advancement;
- (b) The right to equal remuneration with men and to equality of treatment in respect of work of equal value:
- (c) The right to leave with pay, retirement privileges and provision for security in respect of unemployment, sickness, old age or other incapacity to work;
- (d) The right to receive family allowances on equal terms with men.
- 2. In order to prevent discrimination against women on account of marriage or maternity and to ensure their effective right to work, measures shall be taken to prevent their dismissal in the event of marriage or maternity and to provide paid maternity leave, with the guarantee of returning to former employment, and to provide the necessary social services, including child-care facilities.
- 3. Measures taken to protect women in certain types of work, for reasons inherent in their physical nature, shall not be regarded as discriminatory.

Article 11

- 1. The principle of equality of rights of men and women demands implementation in all States in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- 2. Governments, non-governmental organizations and individuals are urged, therefore, to do all in their power to promote the implementation of the principles contained in this Declaration.

1597th plenary meeting, 7 November 1967.

2293 (XXII). World social situation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1916 (XVIII) of 5 December 1963, 2035 (XX) of 7 December 1965 and 2215 (XXI) of 19 December 1966,

Emphasizing the responsibilities assumed by Member States under the Charter of the United Nations for international co-operation in the solution of international social and economic problems,

Noting with deep concern that, despite the adoption of its resolutions 1522 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and 1711 (XVI) of 19 December 1961 and despite efforts in many countries of the world, the social situation remains unsatisfactory owing to factors which include inadequate contribution, which up to now remain below the recommended target,

Noting also the need for continuing improvement in the co-ordination of technical assistance in the social field and the importance of concentrating such assistance systematically on the priority needs of the developing countries through a fully co-ordinated programme of assistance to each country,

Convinced that the implementation of the main objectives and principles of the social programme of the United Nations set forth in Economic and Social Council resolution 1139 (XLI) of 29 July 1966, on

the basis of clearly defined concepts of social development, is of the utmost importance to the solution of the basic social problems,

Recognising the interdependence of the economic and social aspects of development and the fact that, while national efforts are being intensified, a significant expansion of international assistance for development is required for the improvement of the world social situation,

Welcoming Economic and Social Council resolution 1227 (XLII) of 6 June 1967, which invited the Commission for Social Development to make recommendations on ways of strengthening the operational programmes of the United Nations system in the social field, in order to enable these programmes to play their full role in promoting social development in the immediate years ahead and during the forthcoming decade,

Convinced also that the consideration every three years of the reports on the world social situation reflecting the over-all social situation and trends in different regions of the world and in countries with differing economic and social systems, as well as the elaboration of the declaration on social development as decided by General Assembly resolution 2215 (XXI), will substantially influence the comprehensive approach to the problems of social development and facilitate the continuing process of improvement of the United Nations programmes in the social field,

- 1. Calls upon the Economic and Social Council, the Commission for Social Development and the Secretary-General to continue the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1139 (XLI), taking into account the urgency of determining clearly the concepts and targets of social development and also the necessity for the concentration of efforts on priorities and on the use of the most effective methods contained in that resolution;
- 2. Calls upon the Economic and Social Council to request the Committee for Development Planning to take fully into account the role of social development in accelerating the attainment of the goals of development of nations, particularly in the context of the preparations for the decade following the current United Nations Development Decade;
- 3. Appeals to all Member States, and in particular the economically advanced States, to respond to the Secretary-General's appeal for a significant expansion of international assistance for development, which will contribute to the improvement of the world social situation, in order to maximize the success of the decade following the current United Nations Development Decade;
- 4. Requests the Secretary-General to exert all appropriate efforts in order that the needs of developing countries for United Nations assistance in social development, as reflected in requests by Governments, are met as effectively as possible;
- 5. Requests the Secretary-General to submit his next report on the world social situation to the General Assembly at its twenty-third session, together with a separate report consisting of conclusions and suggestions directed towards the realization of substantial progress in the implementation of the programmes in the social field, taking into account the comments of the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council thereon;
- 6. Notes with appreciation the progress achieved by the Commission for Social Development in the