the United Nations system, relevant governmental departments and indigenous communities.

56. Indigenous organizations and international indigenous networks should develop information for local communities concerning the goals of the Decade and the activities of the United Nations.

57. Establish and support indigenous schools and university-level institutions and collaborate with the relevant United Nations agencies; participate in the revision of school texts and the contents of programs of study in order to eliminate discriminatory content and promote the development of indigenous cultures and, where appropriate, in indigenous languages and scripts; develop indigenous curricula for schools and research institutions.

58. Create documentation centres, archives and in situ museums concerning indigenous people, their cultures, laws, beliefs and values, with material that could be used to inform and educate non-indigenous people on these matters. Indigenous people should participate on a preferential basis in the administration of these centres.

59. Establish and promote networks of indigenous journalists and launch indigenous periodicals at the regional and international levels.

60. Indigenous people may transmit their views on the programs concerning their priority rights to Governments, the United Nations and the specialized agencies and regional organizations.

8. Activities of non-governmental organizations and other interested parties, e.g., including education establishments, the media and business

61. Cooperate with indigenous organizations, communities and people in the planning of activities for the Decade.

62. Non-governmental organizations working with indigenous people should involve indigenous people in their activities.

63. Create radio and television centres in indigenous regions, when appropriate and in accordance with national legislation, to provide information on the problems and proposals of indigenous people and to improve communications between indigenous communities.

64. Promote indigenous cultures, with due respect for intellectual property rights, through the publication of books, the production of compact discs and the organization of various artistic and cultural events which enhance knowledge of and serve to develop indigenous cultures and establish indigenous cultural and documentation centres.

65. Involve different social and cultural groups in the activities planned for the Decade.

50/162. Proposed merger of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women

The General Assembly,
Recalling its resolution 48/111 of 20 December 1993 regarding the proposal to merge the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women,
Recalling also its resolution 49/160 of 23 December 1994 regarding the proposed merger,
Bearing in mind the report of the Secretary-General of 7 July 1994, submitted pursuant to resolution 48/111,
Bearing in mind also the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions of 7 September 1994, prepared in compliance with resolution 48/111,
Taking into consideration its request to the Secretary-General, in resolution 49/160, that he submit, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, an updated report which would contain, inter alia, the information requested by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 1993/235 of 27 July 1993 and by the General Assembly in paragraphs 2 and 3 of resolution 48/111, as well as the additional information requested by the Advisory Committee,
Also taking into consideration paragraph 5 of resolution 49/160, in which it requested the Economic and Social Council to re-examine the issue at a resumed session to take place after the Fourth World Conference on Women and before the Third Committee of the General Assembly considered the question of the advancement of women, taking into account the deliberations of the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-ninth session, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions concerning institutional arrangements in the United Nations system for the advancement of women,
Keeping in mind that the Commission on the Status of Women did not give an opinion on this matter, as requested by the General Assembly in resolution 49/160, owing to the lack of the documents requested therein,
Keeping in mind also that the Fourth World Conference on Women did not discuss the proposed merger of the Institute and the Fund, but outlined their mandates separately and distinctly,
Taking note of the opinion expressed in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit, entitled “The advancement of women through and in the programmes of the United Nations system: what happens after the Fourth World Conference on Women”, that the vast majority of women, and the most pressing problems for women, are in the developing world and that therefore at least one of the specific United Nations women’s units should also be based there,
1. Takes note of the note by the Secretariat prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 49/160;
2. Takes note also of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;
3. Reaffirms the view expressed in paragraph 360 of the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women at Beijing on 15 September 1995, that, recognizing the roles of United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, in particular the special roles of the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, in the promotion of the empowerment of women and, therefore in the implementation of the Platform for Action within their respective mandates, inter alia, in research, training and information activities for the advancement of women, as well as technical and financial assistance to incorporate a gender perspective in development efforts, the resources provided by the international community need to be sufficient and should be maintained at an adequate level;
4. Concurs with the views expressed in paragraphs 334 and 335 of the Platform for Action concerning the mandates of the Institute and the Fund;
5. Regrets that, owing to the absence of sufficient information on the legal, technical and administrative implications of the proposed merger, it is currently unable to decide on the proposed merger:

6. Urges the Secretary-General to implement the mandates set out in its resolution 49/163 of 23 December 1994;

7. Recommends that the interaction between the Commission on the Status of Women, the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Secretariat and the United Nations Development Fund for Women should be reviewed and rationalized within the context of ongoing efforts to revitalize the Economic and Social Council in pursuance of a stronger, more unified programme for the advancement of women as requested in paragraph 2 of resolution 48/111;

8. Also recommends that any proposal dealing with the institutional structure and the mandates of the different United Nations bodies dealing with the advancement of women must be considered part of the general restructuring exercise of the United Nations.

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50/163. International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The General Assembly,
Recalling its resolution 48/105 of 20 December 1993,
Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/45 of 27 July 1995,
Taking note also of the report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women on its fifteenth session,126
Taking note further of the analysis done by the Board of Trustees and its recommendation that the Institute should also report to the Second Committee of the General Assembly under relevant agenda items, in order to improve the coordination and synergy of its programmes with other economic and social issues,

Reaffirming the original mandate and distinct capacity of the Institute to carry out research and training for the advancement of women, as stipulated in General Assembly resolution 3520 (XXX) of 15 December 1975,

Stressing the need for independent research to ensure that policy-making and project implementation address issues and emerging areas of concern to women, and the role of the activities of the Institute therein,

Noting the recommendation of the Board of Trustees that the Institute should implement the recommendations emanating from the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women, especially those related to research and training needs for the advancement of women, and coordinate effectively with United Nations bodies and organizations to avoid duplication,

Convinced that sustainable development cannot be achieved without the full participation of women,

Taking into account paragraph 334 of the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women at Beijing on 15 September 1995,125

1. Expresses its satisfaction with the report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, and commends the Institute for its efforts to focus on problems that constitute barriers to improving the status of women and their full participation in the sustainable development process;

2. Emphasizes the unique function of the Institute as the only entity within the United Nations system devoted exclusively to research and training for the integration of women in development, and stresses the importance of making its research findings available for policy purposes and for operational activities;

3. Commends the efforts of the Institute to address all levels of poverty that hamper so dramatically the advancement of women, through the coordination of research and training activities in the areas of empowerment of women; statistics and indicators in gender issues; communications; women, natural resources and sustainable development; water, sanitation and waste management; renewable sources of energy; and issues related to different population groups, such as older and displaced women, refugee and migrant women and women in rural areas;

4. Encourages the Institute to further develop active and close cooperation with the specialized agencies and related organizations of the United Nations system and with other institutions, such as universities and research institutions, so as to promote programmes that contribute to the advancement of women;

5. Reiterates the importance of maintaining the level of resources devoted to independent research and related training activities which are crucial for the situation of women;

6. Expresses its appreciation to those Governments and organizations which have contributed to and supported the activities of the Institute;

7. Invites Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute, through voluntary contributions and pledges, to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, thus enabling the Institute to continue to respond effectively to its mandate;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a report on the activities of the Institute, especially on those activities related to research and training needs for the advancement of women as contained in the follow-up process of the plans and platforms emanating from the major United Nations conferences, under the item entitled “Advancement of women”.

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50/164. Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat

The General Assembly,
Recalling Articles 1 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations,
Recalling also Article 8 of the Charter, which provides that the United Nations shall place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs,