tation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.⁴⁹

Emphasizing the need for full implementation by Governments and community organizations, non-governmental organizations, educational institutions, and the public and private sectors, as appropriate, of the measures set out in the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action,

Urging that Governments allocate adequate resources within their budgets and mobilize community resources for activities related to the elimination of violence against women, including resources for the implementation of plans of action at all appropriate levels, as called for in paragraph 124 (p) of the Platform for Action,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/27 of 24 July 1995, in which the Council approved resolution 8 of the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders concerning the elimination of violence against women and urged the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to continue to consider the elimination of violence against women within its priority themes and within the training and technical assistance efforts of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme,

Recognizing the importance of cooperation with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women,

Reaffirming the importance of developing a holistic and multidisciplinary approach to the task of promoting families, communities and States that are free from violence against women, and affirming the need for coordinated and strengthened international support for this approach,

Recalling its resolution 48/107 of 20 December 1993, in which it reaffirmed the catalytic role that the United Nations Development Fund for Women has played in facilitating the efforts of Governments and non-governmental organizations at the national and community levels to support innovative activities that directly benefit and empower women and in increasing opportunities and options for women in developing countries to participate more effectively in the development of their countries, in line with national priorities,

1. Reiterates its appreciation for the advocacy initiatives of the United Nations Development Fund for Women, including its contribution to and participation in the follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, in particular with respect to efforts to combat violence against women, commends the Fund for its support of catalytic and innovative projects that strengthen the national capacity to improve the situation of women, and takes note with appreciation of the Platform for Action which affirmed that the Fund had the mandate to increase options and opportunities for women’s economic and social development in developing countries by providing technical and financial assistance to incorporate the women’s dimension into development at all levels and that it should review and strengthen, as appropriate, its work programme in the light of the Platform for Action, focusing on women’s political and economic empowerment;

2. Requests the Fund, as one of the operational bodies of the United Nations, to take into account the need to strengthen its activities to eliminate violence against women as part of system-wide efforts of the United Nations towards this goal, in accordance with the measures set out in the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women and focusing on activities, particularly at the national and community levels, and calls upon Member States to promote cooperation with the Fund to these ends;

3. Also requests the Fund, in undertaking any relevant activities, to cooperate closely with the relevant United Nations organs and bodies, in particular the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Secretariat, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat, the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Secretariat, and the United Nations Children’s Fund, in order to ensure that its activities form part of the system-wide efforts of the United Nations to eliminate violence against women;

4. Further requests the Fund to include in its regular reports information regarding its activities to eliminate violence against women and girls and to provide such information to the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Human Rights;

5. Requests the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, in consultation with the Secretary-General, as well as with the relevant United Nations organs and bodies, in particular the Division for the Advancement of Women, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, the Centre for Human Rights and the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch, to consider the possibility of establishing a trust fund, within the existing mandate, structure and management of the United Nations Development Fund for Women, in support of national, regional and international actions, including those taken by Governments and non-governmental organizations, to eliminate violence against women;

6. Requests the Fund to include in its regular reports information on the implementation of the present resolution and also to provide such information to the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Human Rights.

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995

50/167. Traffic in women and girls

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the principles set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,⁵ the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,⁶ the International Covenants on Human Rights,⁷ the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,⁸ the Convention on the Rights of the Child⁹ and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,¹⁰

Recalling that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993, affirmed the human rights of women and the girl child as an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights,

Welcoming the Programme of Action of the Interna-

⁴⁹Resolution 39/46, annex.
¹⁰Resolution 48/104.
tional Conference on Population and Development, which, inter alia, called upon all Governments to prevent all international trafficking in migrants, especially for the purpose of prostitution, and for the adoption by Governments of both receiving countries and countries of origin of effective sanctions against those who organize undocumented migration, exploit undocumented migrants or engage in trafficking in undocumented migrants, especially those who engage in any form of international traffic of women and children.

Recalling the recognition by the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, of the danger to society of the trafficking in women and children,

Welcoming the initiatives taken by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, held at Cairo from 29 April to 8 May 1995, towards criminalizing clandestine traffic in illegal migrants,

Concurring with the conclusion in the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women at Beijing on 15 September 1995, that the effective suppression of trafficking in women and girls for the sex trade is a matter of pressing international concern,


Acknowledging the work done by intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in compiling information on the scale and complexity of the problem of trafficking, in providing shelters for trafficked women and children and in effecting their voluntary repatriation to their countries of origin,

Noting with concern the increasing number of women and girl children from developing countries and from some countries with economies in transition who are being victimized by traffickers, and acknowledging that the problem of trafficking also victimizes young boys,

Convinced of the need to eliminate all forms of sexual violence and sexual trafficking, including for prostitution and other forms of commercial sex, which are violations of the human rights of women and girl children and are incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person,

Realizing the urgent need for the adoption of effective measures nationally, regionally and internationally to protect women and girl children from this nefarious traffic,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the traffic in women and girls, with a view to providing better protection of the rights of women and girls and to punishing perpetrators, through both criminal and civil measures;

2. Invites Governments to combat trafficking in women and children through nationally and internationally coordinated measures, at the same time establishing or strengthening institutions for the protection of the victims of trafficking of women and children, and to ensure for victims the necessary assistance, including legal support services that are linguistically and culturally accessible, for their full protection, treatment and rehabilitation;

3. Also invites Governments to consider the development of standard minimum rules for the humanitarian treatment of trafficked persons, consistent with human rights standards;

4. Urges concerned Governments to support comprehensive, practical approaches by the international community to assist women and children victims of transnational trafficking to return home and be reintegrated into their home societies;

5. Encourages Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others, international agreements on the suppression of slavery and other relevant international instruments;

6. Invites the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in addressing the obstacles to the realization of the human rights of women, in particular, through his contacts with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women and the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, to include the traffic in women and girls among his priority concerns;

7. Also encourages the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat to include the traffic in women and girls in its programme of work under its advisory, training and information services, with a view to providing assistance to member Governments, upon their request, in instituting preventive measures against trafficking through education and appropriate information campaigns;

9. Requests the Commission on Human Rights to encourage the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to continue to address the issue of the traffic in women and girls under its draft programme of action on the traffic in persons and the exploitation of the prostitution of others;

10. Requests the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to consider appropriate follow-up to the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders on measures to address the problem of trafficking in women and children and to submit a report thereon to the Secretary-General, through the usual channels, for inclusion in his report to the General Assembly;

11. Invites relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide advisory services to Governments, upon their request, in planning and setting up rehabilitation programmes for victims of trafficking and in training personnel who will be directly involved in the implementation of these programmes;
12. Decides to focus the International Day for the Abolition of Slavery, 2 December 1996, on the problem of trafficking in human persons, especially women and children, and to devote one meeting of the fifty-first session of the General Assembly to the discussion of this problem.

13. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session, under the item entitled "Advancement of women", a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution, with due regard for possible measures to improve the reporting procedure.

99th plenary meeting 22 December 1995

50/168. Violence against women migrant workers

The General Assembly,


Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,\(^\text{146}\)

Taking note with concern of the report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities on its twentieth session,\(^\text{147}\) in particular its observations with respect to the treatment of migrant workers,

Acknowledging the preliminary report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and its consequences,\(^\text{148}\)

Stressing that the promotion of the human rights of women constitutes an integral part of human rights activities of the United Nations, as reaffirmed in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,\(^\text{149}\)

Affirming the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,\(^\text{150}\) which called upon all countries to take full measures to eliminate all forms of exploitation, abuse, harassment and violence against women,

Welcoming the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, adopted by the World Summit on 12 March 1995,\(^\text{151}\) which declared that countries should take concrete measures against the exploitation of migrants,

Welcoming also the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action, adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women on 15 September 1995,\(^\text{152}\) which recognized the vulnerability to violence and other forms of abuse of women migrants, including women migrant workers, whose legal status in the host country depends on employers who may exploit their situations,

\(^\text{144}\)Ibid. 1995, Supplement No. 6 (E/1995/26), chap. I, sect. C.
\(^\text{145}\)Ibid. Supplement No. 3 and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II.
\(^\text{146}\)A/50/378.
\(^\text{147}\)E/1995/28 and Add.1
\(^\text{148}\)E/1995/42.

Noting the large numbers of women from developing countries and from some countries with economies in transition who continue to venture forth to more affluent countries in search of a living for themselves and their families, as a consequence of poverty, unemployment and other socio-economic conditions, while acknowledging the primary duty of States to work for conditions that provide employment and security to their citizens,

Concerned by the continuing reports of grave abuses and acts of violence committed against the persons of women migrant workers by some employers in some host countries,

Encouraged by some measures adopted by some receiving countries to alleviate the plight of women migrant workers residing within their areas of jurisdiction,

Reiterating that acts of violence directed against women impair or nullify their enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

1. Determines to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls;

2. Calls upon States Members of the United Nations to adopt measures for the effective implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,\(^\text{153}\) including applying them to women migrant workers, as well as all relevant measures emanating from recent world conferences;

3. Encourages Member States to enact and/or reinforce penal, civil, labour and administrative sanctions in domestic legislation to punish and redress the wrongs done to women and girls who are subjected to any form of violence, whether in the home, the workplace, the community or society;

4. Also encourages Member States to adopt and/or implement and periodically to review and analyse legislation to ensure its effectiveness in eliminating violence against women, emphasizing the prevention of violence and the prosecution of offenders, and to take measures to ensure the protection of women subjected to violence and that they have access to just and effective remedies, including compensation and indemnification and healing of victims, and for the rehabilitation of perpetrators;

5. Reiterates the need for States concerned, specifically the sending and receiving States of women migrant workers, to conduct regular consultations for the purpose of identifying problem areas in promoting and protecting the rights of women migrant workers and ensuring health, legal and social services for them, adopting specific measures to address these problems, setting up, as necessary, linguistically and culturally accessible services and mechanisms to implement these measures and, in general, creating conditions that foster greater harmony and tolerance between women migrant workers and the rest of the society in which they reside;

6. Encourages Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,\(^\text{154}\) as well as the Slavery Convention of 1926;\(^\text{155}\)

7. Recommends that the issue of violence against women migrant workers be included in the agenda of the