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, *inter alia*, poverty, unemployment and other socio-economic conditions, and acknowledging the duty of sending States to work for conditions that provide employment and security to their citizens,

Acknowledging the economic benefits that accrue to sending and receiving States from the employment of women migrant workers,

Emphasizing the need for accurate, objective and comprehensive information and data as a basis for policy formulation,

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 measures adopted by some receiving States 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. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on violence against women migrant workers;\(^4^1\)

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

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 their access to just and effective remedies, including compensation and indemnification and healing of victims, and for the rehabilitation of perpetrators;

5. *Invites* Member States concerned, specifically the sending and receiving States, to consider adopting appropriate legal measures against intermediaries who deliberately encourage the clandestine movement of workers and who exploit women migrant workers;

6. *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 those problems. Setting up, as necessary, linguistically and culturally accessible services and mechanisms to implement those 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;

7. *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,\(^4^2\) as well as the Slavery Convention of 1926;\(^4^3\)

8. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat and the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences, as well as all relevant bodies and programmes in the United Nations system, when addressing the issue of violence against women, to give particular attention to the issue of violence perpetrated against women migrant workers;

9. *Invites* Member States, as well as relevant international organizations, to provide their views and comments to the Secretary-General on the issue of indicators as a basis for addressing the situation of women migrant workers, as set forth in the report of the Secretary-General;

10. *Also invites* the Administrative Committee on Coordination, within its mandate, to examine how to improve coordination within the United Nations system on the question of violence against women migrant workers;

11. *Invites* the regional commissions and the regional offices of the International Labour Organization to examine ways and means, within their mandates, of dealing with concerns pertaining to women migrant workers;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution, including the reports received from all authorities and bodies of the United Nations system, Member States, intergovernmental organizations and other concerned bodies, with due regard for possible measures to improve reporting procedure.

*82nd plenary meeting*  
12 December 1996

51/66. Traffic in women and girls

*The General Assembly,*

Reaffirming the principles set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,\(^4^4\) the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,\(^4^5\)

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\(^{4^1}\) A/51/325.

\(^{4^2}\) Resolution 45/158, annex.

\(^{4^3}\) See *Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.XIV.1 (vol. I, Part I)).

\(^{4^4}\) Resolution 217 A (III).

\(^{4^5}\) Resolution 34/180, annex.
the International Covenants on Human Rights, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women.

Recalling the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others, and taking note of the comments contained in the report of the Secretary-General,

Recalling also all previous resolutions on the problem of the traffic in women and girls,

Affirming the provisions of the outcome of the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, the International Conference on Population and Development, held at Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994, the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, the Fourth World Conference on Women, held at Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995, 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, pertaining to the traffic in women and children,

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;

2. Welcomes the convening of the World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children at Stockholm from 27 to 31 August 1996;

3. Calls upon Governments of countries of origin, transit and destination and regional and international organizations, as appropriate, to implement the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women by:

(a) Considering the ratification and enforcement of international conventions on trafficking in persons and on slavery;

(b) Taking appropriate measures to address the root factors, including external factors, that encourage trafficking in women and girls for prostitution and other forms of commercialized sex, forced marriage and forced labour in order to eliminate trafficking in women, including by strengthening existing legislation with a view to providing better protection of the rights of women and girls and to punishing the perpetrators, through both criminal and civil measures;

(c) Stepping up cooperation and concerted action by all relevant law enforcement authorities and institutions with a view to dismantling national, regional and international networks in trafficking;

(d) Allocating resources to provide comprehensive programmes designed to heal and rehabilitate into society victims of trafficking, including through job training, legal assistance and confidential health care and by taking measures to cooperate with non-governmental organizations to provide for the social, medical and psychological care of the victims of trafficking;

(e) Developing educational and training programmes and policies and considering enacting legislation aimed at preventing sex tourism and trafficking, giving special emphasis to the protection of young women and children;

4. Invites Governments to accord standard minimum humanitarian treatment to trafficked persons, consistent with human rights standards;

5. Also invites Governments, with the support of the United Nations, to formulate manuals for the training of personnel who receive and/or hold in temporary custody victims of gender-based violence, including trafficking, with a view to sensitizing them to the special needs of victims;

6. Encourages, in this regard, relevant United Nations organizations and bodies, including the International Research

46 Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
47 Resolution 39/46, annex.
48 Resolution 44/25, annex.
49 Resolution 46/104.
50 Resolution 317 (IV).
51 A/51/309.
52 See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I).
54 See A/CONF.166/9.
55 A/CONF.177/20 and Add.1.
56 See A/CONF.169/16.
and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to contribute to the preparation of guidelines for the use of Governments in the elaboration of their manuals, in cooperation with all relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including those concerned with traumatic stress, taking into account existing research material or studies on the subject;

7. *Calls upon* all Governments to criminalize trafficking in women and girls in all its forms and to condemn and penalize all those offenders involved, including intermediaries, whether their offence was committed in their own or in a foreign country, while ensuring that the victims of these practices are not penalized, and to penalize persons in authority found guilty of sexually assaulting victims of trafficking in their custody;

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

9. *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 those programmes;

10. *Encourages* Governments, institutions and non-governmental organizations to take preventive and assistance measures, including by establishing helplines to enable victims or potential victims of trafficking to seek assistance, and to provide targeted training to those groups dealing with this problem, including law enforcement and judicial personnel, using as far as possible female police officers to assist victims;

11. *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, its causes and consequences 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;

12. *Invites* States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child to include information and statistics on trafficking in women and girls as part of their national reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, taking into account the general recommendation of the Committee, and to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, respectively;

13. *Encourages* the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality to continue to address the issue as part of the integrated follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women;

14. *Encourages* all Governments to develop methodologies and to collect national information, including statistical data, on trafficking in women and girls in countries with special vulnerability;

15. *Encourages* countries with special vulnerability to conduct campaigns designed to increase public awareness of the problem;

16. *Welcomes* the consideration given to the problem of trafficking in women and girls by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and invites the Commission to continue to consider appropriate measures to address this issue;

17. *Also welcomes* the decision of the Economic and Social Council to devote its coordination segment of 1997 to mainstreaming a gender perspective;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

82nd plenary meeting
12 December 1996

51/67. Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Recalling Articles 1 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as Article 8, 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,

Recalling also its resolutions 45/125 of 14 December 1990 and 45/239 C of 21 December 1990, as well as the relevant paragraphs of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women on 15 September 1995,58

Concerned at the serious and continuing underrepresentation of women in the Secretariat, particularly at the D-1 level and above, where the numbers of women remain unacceptably low,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;59

2. *Also welcomes* the achievement of the goal of 35 per cent overall participation rate of women in posts subject to geographical distribution;

3. *Reaffirms* the goal of 50/50 gender distribution by the year 2000, and expresses its concern that this goal may not

58 A/CONF.177/20, chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.
59 A/51/304.