

(c) Dissemination of information about best practices concerning implementation of the Rules.

11. At its thirty-fourth session, the Commission for Social Development should establish an open-ended working group to examine the Special Rapporteur's report and make recommendations on how to improve the application of the Rules. In examining the Special Rapporteur's report, the Commission, through its open-ended working group, shall consult international organizations of persons with disabilities and specialized agencies, in accordance with rules 71 and 76 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

12. At its session following the end of the Special Rapporteur's mandate, the Commission should examine the possibility of either renewing that mandate, appointing a new Special Rapporteur or considering another monitoring mechanism, and should make appropriate recommendations to the Economic and Social Council.

13. States should be encouraged to contribute to the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability in order to further the implementation of the Rules.

48/97. International Day of Disabled Persons

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 37/52 of 3 December 1982, by which it adopted the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,⁴⁷ and 37/53 of 3 December 1982, in which, *inter alia*, it proclaimed the period 1983-1992 the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons as a long-term plan of action,

Recalling also its request to the Secretary-General, made in its resolution 45/91 of 14 December 1990, to shift the focus of the United Nations programme on disabled persons from awareness-raising to action, with the aim of achieving a society for all by the year 2010,

Recalling further its resolution 47/3 of 14 October 1992 proclaiming 3 December as the International Day of Disabled Persons,

Noting that, despite an appreciable increase in activities designed to enhance public awareness of the needs and circumstances of people with disabilities and of related issues, there continues to be a need for sustained efforts to overcome physical and social barriers to the full equality and participation of disabled persons,

Aware of the need for broader and more vigorous action and measures at all levels to fulfil the objectives of the Decade and the World Programme of Action,

Bearing in mind that the purpose of the World Programme of Action is to promote effective measures for the prevention of disability, for rehabilitation and for the realization of the goals of full participation of disabled persons in social life and development and of equality, which means opportunities equal to those of the entire population and an equal share in the improvement in living conditions resulting from social and economic development,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the number of Member States that celebrated the first International Day of Disabled Persons on 3 December 1992;

2. *Appeals* to all Governments to observe the International Day of Disabled Persons, using this opportunity to take the

lead in awakening the consciousness of populations regarding the gains to be derived by individuals and society from the integration of disabled persons into every area of social, economic and political life;

3. *Reiterates* the need to involve disabled persons and their organizations in decisions on all matters of concern to them, including the celebration of the International Day of Disabled Persons;

4. *Invites* Member States to consider a way of linking, each year, the observance of the International Day of Disabled Persons with important United Nations events such as the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, the International Year of the Family, to be observed in 1994, the International Conference on Population and Development, to be held at Cairo in September 1994, the World Summit for Social Development, to be held at Copenhagen in March 1995, and the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, to be held at Beijing in September 1995;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-fourth session on measures taken by Member States to observe the International Day of Disabled Persons.

*85th plenary meeting
20 December 1993*

48/98. Implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the growing concern of the international community with the issues related to population and individual ageing,

Noting with satisfaction the clear conceptual framework of the United Nations programme on ageing, revealed in the United Nations Principles for Older Persons,⁵⁷ the global targets on ageing for the year 2001⁵⁸ and the Proclamation on Ageing,⁵⁹ to further the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing,⁶⁰

Recalling that, in the Proclamation on Ageing, it decided to observe the year 1999 as the International Year of Older Persons,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/22 of 27 July 1993, in which the Council invited Member States to strengthen their national mechanisms on ageing, *inter alia*, to enable them to serve as national focal points for the preparation for and observance of the International Year of Older Persons,

Noting the recent measures aimed at consolidating the social and economic activities of the United Nations,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General⁶¹ on the third review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing;

2. *Endorses* the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General, in the form of global and national

targets on ageing for the year 2001,⁶² aimed at streamlining the implementation of the Plan of Action in its second decade;

3. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to maintain the integrity and the identity of the United Nations programme on ageing;

4. *Commends* the International Institute on Ageing on its training programme and related activities, and invites national, regional and international organizations to cooperate closely with the Institute;

5. *Urges* the United Nations, Member States and non-governmental organizations to support the African Society of Gerontology in developing and implementing a regional programme of activities on ageing;

6. *Invites* interested Member States, non-governmental organizations and research centres to support the activities of the United Nations programme on ageing, particularly research activities aimed at suggesting policy options to enhance contributions by the elderly to development;

7. *Invites* Governments, non-governmental organizations and United Nations organizations and bodies concerned with ageing to submit to the Secretary-General their proposals for the preparation for and observance of the International Year of Older Persons*;

8. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to draft a conceptual framework of a programme for the preparation for and observance of the International Year of Older Persons* and to submit it, through the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-fourth session, in 1995, to the General Assembly for consideration at its fiftieth session, in 1995.

85th plenary meeting
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48/99. Towards full integration of persons with disabilities into society: a continuing world programme of action

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 37/52 and 37/53 of 3 December 1982, 46/96 of 16 December 1991 and 47/88 of 16 December 1992, and recalling also Economic and Social Council decision 1992/276 of 30 July 1992 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/48 of 3 March 1992,³²

Noting the importance of developing and carrying out concrete long-term strategies for the full implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons⁴⁷ beyond the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, with the aim of achieving a society for all by the year 2010,

Welcoming the unreserved reaffirmation in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action⁶ of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities,

Reaffirming that the efforts of both the developing and the developed countries are indispensable in mobilizing the world's attention and resources to address the problems of persons with disabilities,

Aware of the major obstacles to the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, foremost among them an inadequate allocation of resources,

1. *Reaffirms* the continuing validity and value of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, which provides a firm and innovative framework for disability-related issues;

2. *Reiterates* the responsibility of Governments for removing or facilitating the removal of barriers and obstacles to the full integration of persons with disabilities into society, and supports their efforts in developing national policies to reach specific objectives;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to give higher priority and visibility to disability issues within the programme of work of the United Nations system by:

(a) Integrating disability issues into the policies, programmes and projects of the specialized agencies on a broader scale and with higher priority, and asking all the specialized agencies to report on their engagement in the disability field;

(b) Asking the United Nations Development Programme to review how a disability component can be incorporated into all its reconstruction programmes on a continuing basis;

(c) Urging the finalization of the ongoing work on the creation of a disability index based on the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities;⁶³

(d) Encouraging the activities of the United Nations Children's Fund in promoting prevention and early detection, public awareness and community-based rehabilitation in respect of childhood disabilities;

(e) Publishing a manual on the integration of disability issues into national planning and development projects;

(f) Continuing the work of collecting statistical data about disability matters and finalizing the development of a global disability indicator;

(g) Pursuing his efforts to establish a panel of persons with wide experience in the field of disability, including persons with disabilities, and with due regard to equitable geographical representation, to advise him on disability matters;

(h) Urging Governments to integrate, where possible, disability components into technical assistance and technical cooperation programmes, including the exchange of experience in the disability field under the auspices of the competent specialized agencies;

4. *Encourages* the consideration during major forthcoming events, including the International Conference on Population and Development, to be held in 1994, the International Year of the Family, to be observed in 1994, the Fourth World Confer-

* In decision 48/433 of 20 December 1993, the General Assembly decided to redesignate the International Year of Older Persons as the International Year of the Elderly.