

Reform and Rural Development,⁹⁸ and 44/78 of 8 December 1989.

Recalling also the importance attached to the problems of rural women in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,⁷⁶

Recalling further its resolution 47/174 of 22 December 1992, in which it welcomed the adoption of the Geneva Declaration for Rural Women⁹⁹ by the Summit on the Economic Advancement of Rural Women, held at Geneva in February 1992, and urged all States to work for the achievement of the goals endorsed in that Declaration,

Welcoming the growing awareness of Governments of the need for strategies and programmes to improve the situation of women in rural areas,

Recognizing that the economic and financial crises in many developing countries have severely affected the socio-economic status of women, especially in rural areas, and noting with deep concern the continuing rise in the number of rural women living in poverty,

Also recognizing the urgent need to take appropriate measures aimed at further improving the situation of women in rural areas,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁹⁴

2. *Invites* Member States to attach greater importance in their national development strategies to the improvement of the situation of rural women, paying special attention to both their practical and strategic needs, by, *inter alia*:

(a) Integrating the concerns of rural women into national development policies and programmes, in particular by placing a higher priority on budgetary allocations related to the interests of rural women;

(b) Strengthening national machineries and establishing institutional linkages among governmental bodies in various sectors and non-governmental organizations concerned with rural development;

(c) Increasing the participation of rural women in the decision-making process;

(d) Improving accessibility of rural women to productive resources;

(e) Investing in the human resources of rural women, particularly through health and literacy programmes;

3. *Requests* the international community, competent United Nations bodies and non-governmental organizations to promote the realization of programmes and projects aimed at the improvement of the situation of rural women;

4. *Invites* the International Conference on Population and Development, to be held in 1994, the World Summit on Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, both to be held in 1995, to give due consideration, in formulating respective strategies and actions, to the issue of improving the situation of rural women;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, in consultation with Member States and competent United Nations organizations, a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to submit it, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session.

85th plenary meeting
20 December 1993

48/110. Violence against women migrant workers

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Charter of the United Nations reaffirms faith in human rights and fundamental freedoms, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women,

Reaffirming the principles set forth in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 34/180 of 18 December 1979 and annexed thereto,

Welcoming the reaffirmation made in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,⁶ adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights, that gender-based violence and all forms of sexual harassment and exploitation are incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person and must be eliminated by legal measures and through national and international cooperation,¹⁰⁰

Noting that large numbers of women from developing countries 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 situations in their home countries, while acknowledging the primary duty of States to work for conditions that provide employment to their citizens,

Recognizing that it is the duty of sending countries to protect and promote the interests of their citizens who seek or receive employment in other countries, to provide them with appropriate training/education and to apprise them of their rights and obligations in the countries of employment,

Aware of the moral obligation of receiving or host countries to ensure the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons within their boundaries, including migrant workers, in particular women migrant workers, who are doubly vulnerable because of their gender and because they are foreigners,

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

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

Convinced of the need to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and to protect them from gender-based violence,

1. *Expresses grave concern* at the plight of women migrant workers who become victims of physical, mental and sexual harassment and abuse;

2. *Recognizes with appreciation* the efforts exerted by some receiving countries to alleviate the negative situation of women migrant workers;

3. *Welcomes* the recommendation to the General Assembly by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1993/10 of 27 July 1993 of the draft Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women;¹⁰¹

4. *Reaffirms* the provision in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action that the rights of women should form an integral part of United Nations human rights activities, including the promotion of all human rights instruments specifically relating to women;

5. *Calls upon* all countries, particularly the sending and receiving States, to cooperate in taking appropriate steps to ensure that the rights of women migrant workers are protected;

6. *Calls upon* the countries concerned to take appropriate measures to ensure that law-enforcement officials and the judiciary assist in guaranteeing the full protection of the rights of women migrant workers;

7. *Urges* both sending and host countries to help ensure that women migrant workers are protected from unscrupulous recruitment practices, if needed, by the adoption of legal measures;

8. *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;¹⁴

9. *Invites* trade unions to support the realization of the rights of women migrant workers by assisting them in organizing themselves so as to enable them better to assert their rights;

10. *Requests* treaty-monitoring bodies and calls upon non-governmental organizations concerned with violence against women to include, where appropriate, the situation of women migrant workers in their deliberations and findings and to supply relevant information to United Nations bodies and Governments;

11. *Calls upon* non-governmental organizations concerned to conduct, in cooperation with both the sending and the host countries, seminars and training programmes on human rights instruments, particularly those pertaining to migrant workers;

12. *Urges* all States, with the support of relevant non-governmental organizations, to adopt appropriate measures to provide support services to women migrant workers who have become traumatized as a consequence of violations of their rights by, *inter alia*, unscrupulous employers and/or recruiters, and to provide resources for their physical and psychological rehabilitation;

13. *Also urges* that the subject of violence against women migrant workers be included in the agenda of the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, to be held in Beijing in 1995;

14. *Calls upon* competent bodies and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, other intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to inform the

Secretary-General of the extent of the problem and to recommend further measures to implement the purposes of the present resolution;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account the relevant views of the Commission on the Status of Women in its discussion of the subject of violence against women at its thirty-eighth session, in March 1994.

85th plenary meeting
20 December 1993

48/111. 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 31/135 of 16 December 1976, in which it endorsed the establishment of an International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1998 (LX) of 12 May 1976, containing guidelines regarding the activities of the Institute,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council decision 1993/235 of 27 July 1993, in which the Council agreed to the recommendation of the Secretary-General to merge the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women, subject to a proper analysis of the legal, financial and administrative implications of the merger, and subject to consideration by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session,

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 1993/235,¹⁰²

Emphasizing that the ultimate goal of restructuring should be to strengthen the programmes for the advancement of women and to enhance the efficiency of the work of those organizations, in function, structure and cost-effectiveness,

Recognizing the importance of adequate preparation for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, to be held in 1995, under the guidance of the Conference secretariat, and the role therein of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

1. *Affirms* that both the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women should retain their comparative advantages in activities relating to the advancement of women;

2. *Urges* that the interaction between the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Secretariat, the Commission on the Status of Women and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women be