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MISSION: UN DECADE FOR WOMEN, VIENNA
February 21-22, 1983



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UN DECADE FOR WOMEN, Vienna 21 - 22 Feb. 1983

DRAFT REPORT

DRAFT REPORT OF THE FIRST INTERAGENCY MEETING ON
THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO
REVIEW AND APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF
THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN
(Vienna, 21-22 February, 1983)

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Introduction

1. The first Inter-Agency Meeting on the Preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women was convened in Vienna, 21-22 February 1983, in accordance with the decision taken by CCSQ (PROG) at its second regular session in New York on 11-14 October, 1982, and the decisions taken by the General Assembly in its resolutions 33/186, 36/74 and ECOSOC 82/26.
2. The agenda of the meeting is contained in Annex I below.
3. The representatives of the following organizations and agencies attended this meeting: CSDHA/DIESA; Statistical Office/DIESA; DIESA/OUSG; DPI/DESI; DPI/RVS; ECLA; FAO; IAEA; ILO; INSTRAW; UNDP (N.Y.); UNEP (Nairobi); UNFPA; UNHCR; UNICEF; UNIDO; UNOG; UNRWA; UNESCO; World Bank; WFP; and WHO.
4. The Assistant Secretary-General of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations made the opening address and welcomed the participants. In her statement, she cited the primary objective of the meeting was to reach agreement at a detailed level on a comprehensive programme within which a considerable number of elements of the United Nations system will undertake concrete actions within a carefully harmonized system-wide set of procedures to prepare for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women. She especially noted that an important first step would appear to be the identification of the types of information which the Secretariat must make available to the Conference:
 - (a) information on the current situation of women, trends in that situation since 1975, and the factors determining each;
 - (b) information on the most probable future trends in the situation of women (under various plausible assumptions);
 - (c) an evaluation of whether or not existing strategies have been appropriate, and the actions taken to carry them out have achieved some acceptable degree of success;

(d) an evaluation of whether such strategies of actions, if continued into a future as it is at present perceived, are likely to be successful, in terms of both the numbers and proportion of women affected within an acceptable period of time, and finally,

(e) to the extent that it is felt that current strategies and activities might not be able to cope with future changing circumstances, an identification of more appropriate approaches.

5. She subsequently summarized the proposals contained in the report of the Secretary-General (A/CONF.116/PC/7/Add.1) that these elements of information be conveyed by means of a limited number of basic documents (paras. 6; 8; 10; 11; and 12 of the Report). In particular, she referred to the sources of information and methodology being used for the preparation of the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development; the Review and Appraisal (Integrated Reporting System) by the United Nations system; and the Prospective Study to the Year 2000. She concluded by suggesting that this meeting attempt to reach, as far as possible, agreement on the concrete procedures to be followed, and that the report of the meeting be limited to the decisions reached, with appropriate summary explanation.

6. Thereafter, the Director of the Advancement of Women Branch, Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs was elected Chairperson of the meeting and a staff member of her Branch as Rapporteur. She subsequently outlined the topics to be considered by the meeting and suggested that a vigorous and well co-ordinated response on the part of the United Nations system would be needed to adequately prepare for the World Conference and to adequately serve the needs of Member States in this regard.

I. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MEETING

Recommendation 1

Preparations for the Questionnaire on Review and Appraisal

7. The first Interagency Meeting on the Preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women decided to: (a) introduce some changes in Parts I and II of the questionnaire, sharing the topics for Part II of the questionnaire between agencies and organizations as indicated in Annex II; (b) encourage close cooperation between the lead agency and the collaborating agencies and organizations in order to follow the timetable in Annex III; (c) ensure that the review and appraisal report would be exclusively based on the replies of Member States to the questionnaire.

Recommendation 2

Preparations for the Questionnaire on Review and Appraisal

8. The meeting recommended further that in view of the importance of preparing a concise questionnaire which would meet the requirements of the mandate to review and appraise the achievements of the Decade, a further technical working group meeting of lead agencies should be held if possible to finalize the draft. It is recommended that the working group meets in May 1983, and that the drafts from the participating lead agencies, with contributions from the co-operating organizations, be sent in mid-April 1983 to reach the Advancement of Women Branch (CSDHA) by the end of April.

Recommendation 3

World Survey on the
Role of Women in Development

9. The meeting recommended that the original version of the outline for the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development, as prepared by the Intra-Departmental Working Group (of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations Secretariat) and circulated by the Under Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs in June 1982, be adopted for implementation (see Annex IV for full text of this annotated outline of the World Survey).

Recommendation 4

Next Interagency Meeting

10. The meeting, stressing the crucial importance of co-ordination and collaboration of the United Nations system in the preparations for the 1985 World Conference, recommends that CCSQ (PROG) approve the convening of a second interagency meeting in conjunction with the 1984 Preparatory Body meeting. In addition, following the first meeting of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, acting as the Preparatory Body, the collaborating agencies would determine the need for technical and leading agencies' meetings to ensure efficient co-ordination and analysis for the review and appraisal and the World Survey.

II SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

A. Review and Appraisal (integrated reporting system)

11. A representative of the Advancement of Women Branch made an introductory statement on review and appraisal procedures outlined in documents BAW/IAM.1/83/2 and BAW/IAM.1/83/2 Addendum 1. This was followed by brief statements from representatives of the specialized agencies, organs and organizations responding to certain questions which had been raised by analyzing these documents and the various substantive and procedural points presented.

12. The representative of FAO stressed the importance of the questionnaire to provide an accurate and critical review and appraisal. She noted the necessity of quantitative information and statistical data for a relevant monitoring and analysis. She proposed that ways and means be considered to assist governments in strengthening the institutional/organizational capacities to adequately respond to the questionnaires and establish mechanisms for a more permanent evaluation of national programmes and international assistance to ensure that women receive positive and equal benefits. To combine limited resources and avoid overlap, she enquired as to possible collaboration between the review/appraisal and Survey with other programmes of the UN system such as the UN Statistical Office/INSTRAW meeting (April 1983 - New York) on statistical indicators regarding women and the Inter-Organizational Evaluation Study for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the UN Decade for Women (UNDP Government Council Decision 82/12). She gave importance to considering possible collaboration with bi-lateral donors in assessing women in development mandates and implementation of programmes.

13. The representative of the Statistical Office clarified that the questionnaire for the 1980-1984 review and appraisal does not lend itself to the collection of data for statistical series and that the Statistical Office wishes to avoid duplicating the regular reporting of statistics by countries to units in the United Nations system. In addition she noted that while the

proposed seminar to be convened jointly by the Statistical Office and INSTRAW in April 1983 in New York will be aimed at the improvement of statistics and indicators on the situation of women, it would be unrealistic to expect that it could affect the data supplied by countries in response to this questionnaire.

14. The representative of WHO inquired into the relationship of the April meeting of the Statistical Office and INSTRAW to the preparation of the questionnaire cited above and the representative of the Statistical Office answered that it would not be relevant.

15. The representative of UNFPA questioned the meaning of the second sentence in paragraph 14, page 5 of document BAW/IAM/1/83/2, and said that UNFPA maintained its substantive as well as funding support of activities in the population related fields.

16. In this regard, the representative of WHO confirmed that it would provide the substantive inputs in relation to health and nutrition.

17. The representative of DIESA/OUSG referred to the allocation of responsibilities for preparation of the questionnaire, and suggested that DIESA (which includes the Population Division) and UNFPA cooperate on formulating demographic questions.

18. The representative of WHO requested clarification on the definition of what was meant by "reproduction" in the above cited paragraph, first sentence, indicating that the issue involved not only fertility figures etc., but a range of problems confronting women regarding child rearing and the full load of women's work in all spheres (e.g. domestic economic production etc.).

19. The representative of UNEP emphasized the importance of environment in any discussion of the issues of women and development and related issues of resource utilization, industrialization, health benefits, food production and land and water use.

20. The representative of the ILO presented a number of activities which

her agency intended to undertake to prepare for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, and confirmed that the International Labour Organization would have the lead agency responsibility for the question of employment in this review and appraisal exercise, and hoped to co-operate closely with a number of specialized agencies, organs and organizations of the United Nations system in this regard, in particular on such issues as vocational training in industry etc. She particularly questioned the relationship of the consolidation role of the Advancement of Women Branch (re: Parts I and II of the questionnaire) and the responsibilities of the lead agency (for Part II of the questionnaire).

21. The representative of the Advancement of Women Branch emphasized that Part I was concerned with treating such inter-sectoral issues as planning and legal aspects, while Part II was concerned with sectoral or topical issues; and Part III with the comments of the regional commissions. He called for close cooperation with the lead agencies for all the parts of this work.

22. The representative of UNICEF requested that its name be added to those collaborating agencies or organizations under section E of the questionnaire concerned with questions concerning "Energy, water and the national environment"; and reiterated its interest in section J "Education and training", with respect to non-formal education.

23. The representative of UNESCO and FAO requested that copies of previous questionnaires and their results be distributed to all representatives at this meeting to provide a needed perspective on the continuity and gaps in this reporting system. She concluded that such data would facilitate the preparations for the 1980-1984 review and appraisal.

24. A representative of the Advancement of Women Branch, responding to a question from the representative of FAO on the types of questionnaires previously used, replied that the one prepared in 1977 was 30 pages and in 1979, 52 pages. The latter, while more detailed, engendered nearly 100 replies, many of which were most useful.

25. The representative of the World Bank noted that the role of the Advancement of Women Branch would be to co-ordinate the transmission of all of these parts of the questionnaire to Governments in a single exercise, rather than each agency or organization separately deluging Member States with diverse sectoral questionnaires.

26. The representative of INSTRAW drew attention to problems associated with both substantive and procedural aspects of previous rounds of questionnaires. She referred to the importance of having a short questionnaire, taking into consideration the burden of governments to reply to lengthy questionnaires. She supported the position of FAO that the question of how to assist the governments in reply to the questionnaire, in this respect, and she noted the importance of bilateral actions between governments and agencies. She appreciated the fact that the issue of the media was now considered as one of the separate sectorial topics since it was ignored by the previous questionnaire for the 1980 World Conference in Copenhagen. She concluded by reiterating that the forthcoming April seminar on Statistical indicators on women was not related to the discussion of the questionnaire, and that INSTRAW would however add its name in support of the question of statistical indicators, training, water for work on the questionnaire.

27. The representative of UNFPA emphasized that if each agency or organization were to draw up a list of questions for each sector of the report, the over-all questionnaire could contain hundreds of questions and consequently there was a great need for the Conference Secretariat to consolidate the questionnaire in co-operation with the relevant agencies and organizations concerned.

28. The representative of the DIESA/OUSG referring to the time table presented by the Conference Secretariat, drew attention to the target dates for preparation and submission of documents.

29. The representative of DPI supported the position of INSTRAW that the issue of "women and the media/communications" be listed as a separate sectoral theme for Part II of the questionnaire to give this issue more prominence. He also suggested the treatment of "science and technology" as a sectoral theme as proposed by the United Nations Conference on Science

and Technology for Development (Vienna:1979).

30. The representative of the UNHCR volunteered her organization to be one of the drafters of Part II of the questionnaire (concerning refugees and displaced women: lead organization), but asked what precisely would be expected of UNHCR and the collaborating agencies.

31. A representative of the Advancement of the Women Branch replied that each agency would decide on what questions to ask Governments and decide how to collaborate with other agencies.

32. The representative of UNRWA stated that under the terms of its mandate, UNRWA provided education, health and relief service direct to Palestine refugees registered with the Agency. UNRWA was thus, in these respects, to be looked upon as an organization carrying out semi-governmental activities and would consequently not be in a position to contribute to contribute to the review and appraisal of progress made by Governments. Nevertheless, given UNRWA's knowledge of the situation of Palestine women refugees, she concluded that it would be prepared to offer its co-operation.

33. The representative of UNESCO asked about: the criteria for monitoring and reporting for the agencies, and problems of potential duplication and time constraints. She highlighted briefly the activities that the various sectors* within UNESCO have undertaken relating to the advancement of women, and concluded that data collected and analysed by UNESCO on these activities could be useful to CSDHA for the review and appraisal exercise.

34. The representative of INSTRAW suggested that it would be useful for the agencies and organizations of the UN system to be engaged from the very beginning in the process of review and appraisal be it the preparation of the questionnaire or the analyses of governments' replies. She indicated that, in the past, several agencies and organizations had not agreed with the final review and appraisal report and therefore it would be useful for inter-agency consultations before the report is finalized, and to use to the maximum possible the expertise and knowledge of the specialised agencies in this review and appraisal process.

* Education; Social Science; Natural Sciences; Culture and Communications.

35. The representatives of both ILO and FAO suggested that a technical meeting be scheduled to finalize the questionnaire for the review and appraisal. They stressed the importance of a clear division of work and responsibilities among the lead and collaborating agencies.

36. The representative of UNIDO supported this position and inquired about the relationship of the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development to this review and appraisal exercise. In addition, the representative of ECLA also asked about the links between these two studies and the need for a better quality of sources and categories of analysis.

37. The representative of the Advancement of Women Branch replied that: both have specific mandates from the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. He further remarked that the Survey was of an economic orientation, while the review and appraisal was inter-sectoral. He concluded that the Survey was based on the replies of agencies, organs and organizations in the United Nations system, while the review and appraisal was based on the replies of Member States.

38. Subsequently, there was a discussion among a number of representatives of agencies, organs and organizations on the procedural issue of whether the questionnaire should contain (especially in Part II) general/open-ended or specific questions. The representative of DIESA/OUSG recalled that during a similar inter-agency debate in Geneva (1979), it was decided to have a few general questions for the 1980-1981 round of the review and appraisal questionnaire as so little time had elapsed since the Copenhagen Conference which has produced an enormous amount of data. She proposed that for the next questionnaire, if it were to be open-ended, each lead agency or organization should propose examples of measures, obstacles, future actions in each sector to illustrate the type of information expected.

39. The representative of FAO proposed that in Part II on sectoral and topical issues, the wording be changed to: A. Rural development (including food security and policies, agrarian reform, agricultural production, institutions and services) and that reference to services and industrialization in rural areas and small urban centres and rural housing and human settlements be deleted. She suggested that UNIDO serve as the lead agency for industrial-

ization in both the rural and urban areas and that HABITAT's lead agency responsibility also cover housing and human settlements in the rural and urban areas. UNIDO supported this amendment.

40. Annex II presents the division of work agreed to by the meeting for Part II: sectoral and topical issues. Besides the additions of names of the respective agencies, organs and organizations under each sector or topic, the meeting decided to re-name the section "Reproduction and Migration", "Demographic Factors".

41. Also, the representative of DPI/RVS proposed that a separate sectoral issue be listed in Part II entitled "Communications and the Media", and this was accepted by the meeting (with FAO, UNESCO, UNICEF and UNDP joining as collaborators). The representative of DPI/RVS suggested that Part I, section B (d) would therefore be restricted to the subject of the dissemination of information (e.g. research, data collection and analysis) and this also was accepted by the meeting.

42. The representative of INSTRAW suggested further that in part I, section B (c), which was entitled "Research, Data collection and Analysis" likewise be a separate topical section. She expressed objection to the idea of deleting the reference to statistic and indicators from the questionnaire but she would not object to removing this topic from part II to part I of the questionnaire. The meeting, however, subsequently discussed the pros and cons of keeping a separate topical section for "Basic Statistical Indicators" in Part II of the questionnaire.

43. The representative of the Statistical Office subsequently proposed that the topic of "Basic Statistical Indicators" be transferred from Part II, Section N of the questionnaire to Part I, Section B "Institutional arrangements for policy formulation, implementation and monitoring", sub items (c) "Statistics; indicators and data collection". See Annex II for the agreed outline of Parts I and II of this questionnaire.

44. In this regard, the representative from UNICEF stated that the sectoral approach outlined for the questionnaire may present a too segmented view of woman's life and fail to establish how the interrelationships of women's participation on a cross-sectoral basis and in these different sectors bear an impact upon the totality of a woman's life, thus reflecting the multi-dimensionality of her roles. The representative of WHO concurred with this statement.

44a. In addition, the representative of UNICEF cautioned against possible divergency within different agencies of the United Nations system between "topics of interest to the agency" and "topics directly related to women's concerns". Hence she emphasized the need to ensure that the areas of inquiry and specific questions forwarded by the agencies of the United Nations system for monitoring and appraisal purposes, be directed towards exploring governmental action on behalf of women's concerns as the major reference point.

45. The Director of the Advancement of Women Branch reiterated the importance of following as closely as possible the World Plan of Action and Programme of Action of the second half of the United Nations Decade for Women in the design of the questionnaire, and stressed the point that the final report would be based on the answers received from Member States responding to the points raised in the questionnaire.

46. In this regard, it was agreed that the Advancement of Women Branch (CSDHA) would be responsible for co-ordinating this review and appraisal exercise and for preparing the final draft of the questionnaire in consultation with agencies and organizations of the United Nations System participating in this effort, and subsequently for transmission of the questionnaire to Member States.

47. A representative of the Advancement of Women Branch presented the time-table for completion of the various phases of the review and appraisal exercise, and Annex III presents a table which outlines the agreed upon schedule.

48. Regarding Part III of the questionnaire, the representative of ECLA expressed the difficulty of ascertaining at this stage whether the questionnaire will address or not regional issues or concerns. The draft outline of the questionnaire presented at the meeting showed that most probably in its chapters or sections there will be questions on Parts I and II directed towards regional problems. She also stated that ECLA was already working in areas or topics which were included in Part I of the Draft Outline (attachment II of Document BAW/IAM.1/83/2), such as national planning, legislation, popular participation and employment, all considered as priority regional issues, but that the Commission was also concerned with the issue of young women, which form a large segment of the population and had special social, economic, political and cultural characteristics. The representative of ECLA concluded that since it is very possible that data and information referred to young women will be collected through Parts I and II of the questionnaire, the Commission might choose not to prepare a special Part III for the reason, thus avoiding overburdening the Governments.

49. The representative of WHO suggested that the questionnaire was not the only source of governmental information. She said that her agency had responsibility for the collection of relevant data from its Member-States which could be used as a supplement or complement to the data collected by the questionnaire.

50. A representative of CSDHA replied that there were three basic exercises which were being undertaken for the 1985 Conference and which lent themselves to inter-agency co-operation:

- (1) the Review and Appraisal report;
- (2) the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development
- (3) the Forward-looking Assessment on strategies for implementation.

51. She concluded that the review and appraisal exercise will be based on the governmental replies received in response to the questionnaire, and that interested agencies and organizations could use their own respective sources and expertise, and submit background papers to the 1985 Conference on these issues from their respective sectoral or topical perspective.

B. The World Survey on the Role
of Women in Development

52. A representative of the Advancement of Women's Branch (CSDHA) introduced item 3(b) of the agenda on the "World Survey on the Role of Women in Development", referring to General Assembly resolution 36/74 and document BAW/IAM.1/83/1 on this question. In particular, she noted that a preliminary outline for this Survey was revised substantially in New York by the DIESA Intradepartmental Working Group on Women in June, 1982 and after consultation with the representative of one of the co-sponsors of the General Assembly resolution 36/74.

53. Many representatives of the agencies and organizations participating in this First Inter-Agency Meeting on Preparations for the World Conference disagreed with these revision, especially regarding the deletion of Part C "ways and means of improving women's role" and Part I "potential impact of the improvement upon achievement of over-all development goals!" These re-

representatives agreed that such deletions would reduce the report to a descriptive rather than truly analytical survey and would not be in keeping with the mandate as set forth in General Assembly resolution 36/74.

54. In addition, these representatives also agreed that the original overview chapter be retained as presented in the initial annotated outline of the World Survey. This overview chapter, they agreed, should keep the original purpose as set forth in the initial annotated outline of the survey to "analyze interrelationships among key developmental issues with regard to women's current and future roles in development with a view to providing a basis for future action. For women's effective mobilization and integration in development ..." Annex IV presents the original mandate and annotated outline for this survey. The meeting agreed with these recommendations.

55. The representative of FAO stated that the survey provided an opportunity for the agencies and organizations to critically review and assess policies and programmes and recommend alternative strategies, as mandated by FAO Resolution 36/74 which states that "with the analysis, the survey should cover ways and means of improving women's role as agents and beneficiaries of development at the national, regional and international levels". She referred to the importance of a quantitative analysis of women's participation and benefits in international development assistance - in financial terms, number of women beneficiaries and sectoral distribution. In this respect, she referred to the quantitative assessment undertaken by UNDP as reported to the twenty-ninth session of the UNDP Governing Council in June 1982 (Programme Implementation - Integration of Women in Development DP/1982/16). She noted the catalytic projects and progress of the Voluntary Fund - UN Decade for Women, but proposed that approaches be developed to reorient major international development assistance to include efficient and equitable components for women. The representative of FAO enquired if the survey was intended to report on the employment of women in the UN system and women's participation in training and fellowship programmes.

56. The representative of the DIESA/OUSG noted the possibility of incorporating these concerns into the implementation strategies presented to the

1985 Conference.

57. The representative of INSTRAW emphasized the need for all concerned agencies and organizations in the United Nations system to support this Survey as it, in itself, would help to give the issue prominence in the debates of the General Assembly's Second Committee and in other policy-making organs of the specialized agencies and organizations where there had been a basic need to give this aspect of women's questions a higher profile vis a vis the range of development issues. She argued that the General Assembly resolution 36/74 provided a mandate for United Nations system co-operation in this regard, and stated that the survey itself need not be restricted to the period of the United Nations Decade for Women.

58. The representative of UNIDO emphasized the need in his organization for more economic resources to be allocated so that UNIDO could play a more significant and substantive role in this regard. Indeed, he said that one of the best uses of this meeting was to generate more internal allocations of resources in the agencies and organizations concerned with this issue.

59. The representative of the ILO presented a prepared statement to be taken into account when treating those aspects of the survey which concern the employment of women. She especially noted the inter-linkages that need to be established in any analysis on this subject, requiring research initiatives closely related to the economic and social situation of the country, particularly its economic and employment structure, substantive changes in industry, in the commodity sector, in national and international divisions of labour, the basic needs for women, and the technological factor, as well as the influence of the agrarian structures on women's land holdings could be identified.

60. A few representatives of specialized agencies and organizations agreed to write chapters in the survey which concerns their respective sectors or topics of interest, while others agreed to comment on chapters prepared by the Advancement of Women's Branch. In this context, the representative of INSTRAW proposed to include the subject of "self-reliance". Responding to some queries on this subject, the Director of the Advancement of Women Branch (CSDHA) pointed out that the question of self-reliance appeared in all chapters of the outline, and that the contribution of INSTRAW would be welcomed and used as appropriate.

61. The representative of FAO reported that the agency would serve as the lead agency in completing the chapter on the role of women in agriculture.

62. The representative of DIESA/OUSG reported that her Department was involved in internal discussions and with DTCD regarding the chapter concerned with the role of women in the use, conservation and development of energy resources.

63. The representatives of ECLA, ILO, UNICEF, INSTRAW, UNFPA and WHO also stressed the need for the survey to reflect, in all of its basic chapters, the issues concerned with women's work.

C. Statistics and indicators on the
situation of women

64. The representative of the Statistical Office made a brief statement introducing a document entitled "Proposal for preparation of a Pocketbook of Statistics and Indicators on the Situation of Women For the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Technical Note for Discussion". She cited the urgent need for a consolidated and co-ordinated approach to the compilation of statistics and indicators on women for the 1985 World Conference, and said that the aim of the proposal is: (1) to mobilize and co-ordinate the statistical resources and projections; (2) to ensure their relevance and to make them available as a basic reference and point of departure for the basic analytical studies and follow-up for the 1985 Conference; and (3) to minimize the statistical reporting burden on both national and international statistical services. She stated that new budgetary resources must be found if this proposal is to be implemented, and that the proposal was in a very preliminary stage. But she concluded that the Statistical Office of the United Nations (DIESA) hoped that it will generate enough interest at this inter-agency meeting to enable a more thorough-going technical review to be completed at the ACC Sub-Committee on Statistics, meeting in Paris, next June, and for a more formal review in the context of preparations for the 1985 Conference at the next meeting of the present inter-agency group.

* Prepared by the United Nations Statistical Office for the Branch for the Advancement of Women (CSDHA).

65. Several representatives, while supporting in principle this proposal, emphasized the dangers inherent in collecting and disseminating statistics on the status of women in economic activities. The representatives of UNICEF, UNESCO, FAO, INSTRAW and UNEP all suggested that there was a lack of reliable statistics in this regard and cautioned against publishing statistics which would only reinforce prejudices on the role of women in contemporary society.

66. It was, however, agreed to request the Statistical Office to circulate its Proposal to all of the specialized agencies, organs and organizations concerned with this issue in order to benefit from comments and consultations with their respective statistical offices.

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III OTHER BUSINESS: NEXT INTER-AGENCY MEETING ON PREPARATIONS
FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND APPRAISE THE ACHIEVE-
MENTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

67 The Director of the Advancement of Women Branch (CSDHA) made an introductory statement for agenda item 3 in which she mentioned the report of the Secretary-General containing proposals for the preparations of the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appriase the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women (document A/CONF.116/PC/7 and its addenda) had been distributed to all representatives at this inter-agency meeting for their information. She said that she would be pleased to answer any questions in this regard.

68. In addition, she brought to the attention of the meeting the need for a continuation, contact and exchange of information between all of the participating representatives from specialized agencies, and organizations attending this first meeting and the CSDHA during and after the forthecoming special session of the Commission on the Status of Women meeting as the Preparatory Body. It was subsequently agreed to hold an informal inter-agency meeting on February 28, 1983 during the Commission session and a Technical Working Group Meeting of Lead Agencies in May 1983. Following the first meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the Preparatory Body for the 1985 World Conference..., the collaborating agencies would determine the need for technical and leading agencies meetings to ensure efficient co-ordination and analysis for the review and appraisal and the world survey.

69. Furthermore, the Director of the Advancement of Women Branch (CSDHA) concluded that the date of the next inter-agency meeting of this group in Vienna should be set and its objectives determined in order to request the approval of the CCSQ (Prog). It was subsequently, after some discussion, agreed to request that the second inter-agency meeting of this group be convened in conjunction with the second session of the Commission on the Status of Women as the Preparatory Body in February - March, 1984.

ANNEX I

AGENDA AS ADOPTED

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Substantive Contributions of the United Nations system to the Conference
 - (a) Review and appraisal (integrated reporting system)
 - (b) World Survey on the role of women in development
 - (c) Statistics and Indicators on the situation of women
3. Other Matters Relating to the Preparations of the Conference

ANNEX II

Designation of lead agencies and organizations for preparation of
Parts I and II of the questionnaire for review and appraisal of the
achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women.

- PART I GENERAL DEVELOPMENTS (Responsibility of CSDHA/AWB) 1/
- A. Formulation and implementation of national policies and plans to improve the status of women.
- B. Institutional arrangements for policy formulation, implementation and monitoring (within the framework of existing national development plans).
 (a) National machinery
 (b) Role of Non-Governmental Organizations
 (c) Statistics, indicators and data collection 2/
- C. Research, analysis of dissemination of information 3/
- D. Legal status of women
 (a) National legislation
 (b) Implementation of International Instruments relating to the status of women
- E. Political participation, international cooperation and the strengthening of peace.
- F. General assessment of progress and achievements within the United Nations Decade for Women (1975-1985); significant achievement(s); national level impact of international/regional level programmes, e.g. TCDC; major gaps/lags; priorities, targets, action beyond the Decade).

1/ CSDHA/AWB will, as appropriate, further refine this part as necessary.

2/ The Statistical Office/DIESA will cooperate with CSDHA/AWB.

3/ INSTRAW will cooperate with CSDHA/AWB.

PART II SECTORAL AND TOPICAL ISSUES

<u>Sector or topic</u>	<u>lead agency or organization</u>	<u>collaborating agencies or organizations</u>
A. Rural development including food security and policies, agrarian reform, agricultural production, institutions and services	FAO	UNDP, HABITAT, WFP, WFC, IFAD, ILO, UNEP, INSTRAW, UNIDO
B. Industrialization	UNIDO	UNCTC, UNDP, ILO, UNEP, WHO
C. Services (including wholesale and retail trade and tourisme)	CSDHA/AWB	UNDP, ILO
D. Housing and Human Settlements	HABITAT	UNDP, WFP, FAO
E. Energy, water and the natural environment	DIESA/DTCD	UNEP, UNIDO, UNDP, WFP, FAO, INSTRAW, UNICEF
F. Science and technology	CSDHA/AWB	UNIDO, CSTD, WORLD BANK
G. Monetary factors	World Bank	IFAD ^{4/} , CSDHA/AWB
H. Trade	UNCTAD or CSDHA/AWB	
I. Health and nutrition	WHO	Pop. Div., UNDP, WFP, UNFPA, UNICEF, FAO, ILO, UNEP, UNIDO
J. Education and training	UNESCO	Centre for Human Rights, UNICEF, UNDP, WFP, ILO, FAO, UNFPA, UNEP, INSTRAW, WHO, UNIDO
K. Employment (including training)	ILO	UNDP, WFP, FAO, UNESCO, WHO, UNIDO
L. Demographic factors	Pop. Div.	UNFPA, ILO, WHO, FAO
M. Refugees and displaced women	UNHCR	ECA, UNESCO ^{5/} , ILO, UNRWA, WHO, WFP
N. Communications and themedia	DPI	UNESCO, UNICEF, UNDP, FAO

4/ Pending confirmation with IFAD

5/ Pending consultations with UNESCO Headquarters and respective Sectors.

ANNEX III

Timetable concerning review and appraisal on progress made in achieving the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women as agreed upon at the Inter-agency meeting 21-22 February 1983

1983

March - April

Finalize parts I and II of questionnaire in consultation with UN system.

May

Technical working group to finalize questionnaire

June

Consolidation of questionnaire by CSDHA/AWB

July - August

Process questionnaire and transmittal by AWB to Governments with deadline for replies by mid-February 1984.

November

BAW send reminder to Governments.

1984

March

BAW receives and transmits Government replies to UN system for analysis.

April - June

Analysis of replies and drafting of inputs by UN system.

July - September

Preparation of global summary by AWB on the basis of drafts by "lead" agencies and regional commissions.

October

Submission by AWB for clearance of draft report(s) on review and appraisal for submission in 1985 to Prep. Comm.



36/74 Comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development

Date: 4 December 1981
Adopted without a vote

Meeting: 84
Report: A/36/694/Add.11

The General Assembly:

Recalling its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

Recalling also its resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980, containing the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,

Recalling further the relevant provisions concerning the participation of women in development of the documents adopted at the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, 27/

Recalling its resolution 35/78 of 5 December 1981 on the effective mobilization and integration of women in development, in which it, inter alia, called for the preparation of a comprehensive and detailed outline for an interdisciplinary and multisectoral world survey on the role of women in over-all development,

Bearing in mind the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, in particular the special provisions relating to the integration of women in over-all development with a view to securing women's equal participation both as agents and as beneficiaries in all sectors and at all levels of the development process,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on a comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development, 28/

1. Emphasizes the need for a multisectoral and interdisciplinary survey on the role of women in development;
2. Recommends that the survey should analyse the role of women in relation to key developmental issues as envisaged in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, focusing in particular on trade, agriculture, industry, energy, money and finance, and science and technology;
3. Further recommends that, in its analysis, the survey should cover:
 - (a) The present role of women as active agents of development in each sector;
 - (b) An assessment of the benefits accruing to women as a result of their participation in development (that is, income, conditions of work, and decision-making);
 - (c) Ways and means of improving women's role as agents and beneficiaries of development at the national, regional and international levels; (d) The potential impact of such improvements on the achievement of over-all development goals;

27/ Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14 to 30 July 1980 (United Nations publication Sales No. E.80.IV.3 and corrigendum), chap.I.

28/ A/36/590.

4. Invites the Secretary-General, in preparing the survey, to give due attention to the problems and requirements of women in every region and to the contribution of women to the achievement of goals of self-reliance and to economic and technical co-operation among developing countries;
5. Calls upon the Secretary-General to include in the survey an overview analysing interrelationships among key developmental issues as regards women's current and future roles in development with a view to providing a basis for future action for women's effective mobilization and integration in development;
6. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare the survey in close collaboration and co-operation with appropriate agencies of the United Nations system and with contributions from all organs and organizations concerned of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions and the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, as well as national institutions having expertise on this subject;
7. Further requests the Secretary-General to submit a progress report on the preparation of the survey to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session and to submit the survey in its final form to the Assembly at its thirty-ninth session.

WORLD SURVEY ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT:
SELECTED ASPECTS OF WOMEN'S ROLE IN NATIONAL ECONOMIES

ANNOTATED OUTLINE

Preface

This will explain the mandate and purpose of the Survey and will briefly set out the determinants of its structure and coverage and the procedures adopted to achieve its preparation.

I. OVERVIEW

This will analyse interrelationships among key developmental issues with regard to women's current and future roles in development with a view to providing a basis for future action for women's effective mobilization and integration in development. For this purpose it will draw upon the analyses set out in each of the following six chapters.

II. THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE

The chapter will consist of the following sections:

A. The present role of women in agriculture

This section will provide a succinct but comprehensive review of the present role of women, organized region by region. It will summarize the most important changes caused by those current organizational and technological processes having a major impact. Processes which might be included are, for example, the expansion of agribusiness, the green revolution and increasing population pressure upon land and water resources.

B. Benefits accruing to women

This section will provide an assessment of the benefits accruing to women as a result of their participation in agriculture. It will give predominance to assessment of income, conditions of work and decision-making. It will conclude with a summary of the major implications of the extent to which women benefit - or fail to benefit - for those aspects of women's condition and status, such as health, reproductive behaviour, and educational, social and legal status, which in turn determine women's potential contribution to national economies as producers, reproducers of the labour force and consumers.

C. Ways and means of improving women's role

This section will examine ways and means of improving women's role as agents and beneficiaries of development at the national, regional and international levels. It will examine national strategies which appear to have had a generally beneficial effect. It will also discuss those individual sectoral or local measures which have been of value. The major obstacles to improvement will be identified.

D. Potential impact of improvement upon achievement of over-all development goals

As an introduction this section will summarize what is known of the most important of the implications of the nature of women's role in agriculture for national economies and for achievement of the goals of the International Development Strategy for the third United Nations Development Decade and other relevant international strategies. Examples of goals whose achievement may depend substantially upon women's effective role will be identified: such goals might include, for example, improved food production and distribution, achievement of more satisfactory relationships between population, water and land resources, conservation of the natural environment, reduced rural to urban migration, appropriate human settlements provision and an over-all balance in rural development.

The section will continue with an evaluation of the potential impact of significant improvement in women's role in agriculture. Particular attention will be given to an assessment of the likely gains in the contribution of women to the achievement of goals of self-reliance and to economic and technical co-operation among developing countries.

III. THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN INDUSTRY

The chapter will consist of the following sections:

A. The present role of women in industry

This section will provide a succinct but comprehensive review of the present role of women, organized region by region. It will summarize the most important changes caused by those current organizational and technological processes having a major impact. Processes which might be included are, for example, the redeployment of industries from developed to developing countries, expansion of export-oriented manufacturing employing significant numbers of women, de-industrialization of rural areas and changes in traditionally female industries such as textiles.

B. Benefits accruing to women

C. Ways and means of improving women's role

The content of these two sections will be analagous to that in the corresponding sections of Chapter II.

D. Potential impact of improvement upon achievement of over-all development goals

As an introduction this section will summarize what is known of the most important of the implications of the nature of women's role in industry for national economies and for achievement of the goals of the International Development Strategy for the third United Nations Development Decade and other relevant international strategies. Examples of goals whose achievement may depend substantially upon women's effective role will be identified: such goals might include, for example, achievement of better spatial distribution of industry, production of manufactured goods most needed to increase productivity, particularly in areas in which women's role is important and most effective use of endogenous resources, including women's knowledge and experience in small-scale industries.

The section will continue with an evaluation of the potential impact of significant improvement in women's role in industry. Particular attention will be given to an assessment of the likely gains in the contribution of women to the achievement of goals of self-reliance and to economic and technical co-operation among developing countries.

IV. THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN TRADE

The chapter will consist of the following sections:

A. The present role of women in trade

This section will provide a succinct but comprehensive review of the present role of women, organized region by region. It will summarize the most important changes caused by those current organizational and technological processes having a major impact. Processes which might be included are, for example, the expansion of large-scale enterprises, often associated with international agribusiness, and the significant shift of population from rural to urban areas.

B. Benefits accruing to women

C. Ways and means of improving women's role

The content of these two sections will be analogous to that in the corresponding sections of Chapter II.

D. Potential impact of improvement upon achievement of over-all development goals

As an introduction this section will summarize what is known of the most important of the implications of the nature of women's role in trade for national economies and for achievement of the goals of the International Development Strategy for the third United Nations Development Decade and

other relevant international strategies. Examples of goals whose achievement may depend substantially upon women's effective role will be identified: such goals might include, for example, the need to satisfy demand among rural residents and the urban poor for basic commodities and services and the need to provide employment under acceptable conditions for rural out-migrants, in particular women migrants themselves.

The section will continue with an evaluation of the potential impact of significant improvement in women's role in trade. Particular attention will be given to an assessment of the likely gains in the contribution of women to the achievement of goals of self-reliance and to economic and technical co-operation among developing countries.

V. THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE USE, CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF ENERGY RESOURCES

This chapter will consist of the following sections.

A. The present role of women in the use, conservation and development of energy resources

This section will provide a succinct but comprehensive review of the present role of women, organized region by region. It will summarize the most important changes caused by those current organizational and technological processes having a major impact. Processes which might be included are, for example, the significant rise in costs of non-renewable energy sources, especially when imported, the degradation of traditional energy sources such as fuel-wood, the availability of technology for small-scale energy resource utilisation.

B. Benefits accruing to women

C. Ways and means of improving women's role

The content of these two sections will be analogous to that in the corresponding sections of Chapter II.

D. Potential impact of improvement upon achievement of over-all development goals

As an introduction this section will summarize what is known of the most important of the implications of the nature of women's role in the use, conservation and development of energy resources for national economies and for achievement of the goals of the International Development Strategy for the third United Nations Development Decade and other relevant international strategies. Examples of goals whose achievement may depend substantially upon women's effective role will be identified: such goals might include, for example, achievement of greater productivity in economic activities in which women's role is substantial - as in agriculture and the household services sector, reversal of environmental degradation in part resulting from fuel collection in an increasingly hostile economic environment, and achievement of national energy planning which would take into account the fact that substantial proportions of current energy use is provided by women's manual labour which, with improvement in their role and condition must be replaced from other sources.

The section will continue with an evaluation of the potential impact of significant improvement in women's role in the use, conservation and development of energy resources. Particular attention will be given to an assessment of the likely gains in the contribution of women to the achievement of goals of self-reliance and to economic and technical co-operation among developing countries.

VI. THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN MONEY AND FINANCE

This chapter will consist of the following sections:

A. The present role of women in money and finance

This section will provide a succinct but comprehensive review of the present role of women, organized region by region. It will summarize the most important changes caused by those current organizational and technological processes having a major impact. Processes which might be included are the effects of inflation and associated remedial policies, the shift in financial procedures and institutions from traditional to more modern, urban types;

B. Benefits accruing to women

C. Ways and means of improving women's role

The content of these two sections will be analogous to that in the corresponding sections of Chapter II.

D. Potential impact of improvement upon achievement of over-all development goals

As an introduction this section will summarize what is known of the most important of the implications of the nature of women's role in respect to money and finance for national economies and for achievement of the goals of the International Development Strategy for the third United Nations Development Decade and other relevant international strategies. Examples of goals whose achievement may depend substantially upon women's effective role will be identified: such goals might include, for example, adoption of policies in this area which are not depressive upon the poorer sections of the population, including particularly women themselves, assurance of effective access to credit, particularly to women in agriculture, small-industries and trade.

The section will continue with an evaluation of the potential impact of significant improvement in women's role in money and finance. Particular attention will be given to an assessment of the likely gains in the contribution of women to the achievement of self-reliance and to economic and technical co-operation among developing countries.

VII THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

This chapter will consist of the following sections:

A. The present role of women in the development and application of science and technology

This section will provide a succinct but comprehensive review of the present role of women, organized region by region. It will summarize the most important changes caused by those current organizational and technological processes having a major impact. Processes which might be included are, for example, the continued adoption of exogenous technology inappropriate to the circumstances, particularly those of women, and the failure to include women in the development and application of science and technology, particularly utilisation of endogenous knowledge and decision-making in this area.

B. Benefits accruing to women

C. Ways and means of improving women's role

The content of these two sections will be analogous to that in the corresponding sections of Chapter II.

D. Potential impact of improvement upon achievement of over-all development goals

As an introduction this section will summarize what is known of the most important of the implications of the nature of women's role in the development and application of science and technology for national economies and for achievement of the goals of the International Development Strategy for the third United Nations Development Decade and other relevant international strategies. Examples of goals whose achievement may depend substantially upon women's effective role will be identified: such goals might include, for example, development from endogenous sources of more appropriate technology and the beneficial fusion of endogenous with exogenous science and technology where most appropriate to balanced individual lives, the retention of national values and the achievement of national self-reliance.

The section will continue with an evaluation of the potential impact of significant improvement in women's role in industry. Particular attention will be given to an assessment of the likely gains in the contribution of women to the achievement of goals of self-reliance and to economic and technical co-operation among developing countries.

Selected bibliography

This will be designed to indicate to the general reader the principal sources whereby further information on the major issues covered by the Survey may be obtained. It will not attempt to list all of the sources utilised in preparation of the Survey.

ANNEX V

WORLD SURVEY ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT - ALLOCATION
OF RESPONSIBILITY BASED ON DISCUSSIONS AT THE INTER-AGENCY MEETING*

Overview	CSDHA/AWB
I. The role of women in agriculture	FAO
II. The role of women in industry	UNIDO
III. The role of women in trade	CSDHA/AWB
IV. The role of women in the use, conservation and development of energy resources	DIESA/Energy Unit, New York
V. The role of women in money and finance	CSDHA/AWB
VI. The role of women in the development and application of science and technology	CSDHA/AWB and CSTD

Information on women and self-reliance will be dealt with by CSDHA in Cooperation with INSTRAW

* It was understood that other specialized agencies and organizations may wish to collaborate closely in the initial period of drafting parts of the Survey and that also, at an appropriate later stage, an opportunity would be arranged for wide circulation of drafts for the comments of all interested agencies and organizations.

ANNEX VI

INTERAGENCY MEETING VIENNA 21-22 FEBRUARY 1983

22 February 1983

NAME OF THE AGENCY	NAME OF THE REPRESENTATIVE
DIESA/Statistical Off.	Ms. Joann VANEK
DPI/RVS	Ms. Tina JORGENSEN-RUBBS
DPI	Mr. Miles STOBY
ECLA	Ms. Vivian M. MOTA
FAO	Ms. Nathalie HAHN
IAEA	Ms. Frances MAUTNER-MARKHOF
ILO	Ms. R. SMIRNOVA
INSTRAW	Ms. TALLAWY
UNDP (N.Y/)	Ms. Ulla OLIN
UNEP (Nairobi)	Ms. Letitia OBENG
UNFPA	Ms. Mehri HEKMATI
UNHCR	Ms. N. MAYADAS
UNICEF	Ms. Nadia YOUSEEF, Ms. Doris PHILLIPS
UNIDO	Mr. ANTONOPOULOS, M. N. GEHART, Mr. R. NORRIS
UNOG	Ms. DJERMAKOYE
UNRWA	Ms. Ms. Berit LINTON
THE WORLD BANK	Ms. Gloria SCOTT
WFP	Mr. Werner SCHLEIFFER
WHO	Ms. V. HAMMER, Ms. P.M. ELMINGER
UNESCO	Ms. Mehir ASHRAF, Ms. Maria Luisa NITTI (SS/SEA)

f.l.

January 26, 1983

Dear Mrs. Shahani:

I refer to Mr. Muller's Notification of January 12 (ACC/N/113) concerning the Inter-Agency Meeting on preparations for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise Achievements of the UN Decade for Women, to be held in Vienna on February 21 and 22, 1983.

I am pleased to inform you that The World Bank will be represented by Mrs. Gloria Scott, Adviser on Women in Development, Projects Advisory Staff.

I am also pleased to say that Mrs. Scott will attend the first session of the Commission on the Status of Women, acting as the preparatory body for the Conference, to be held immediately following the Inter-Agency Meeting, beginning on February 23.

Yours sincerely,

L. Pater Chatenay
External Relations Adviser
International Relations Department

Mrs. Leticia Shahani
Assistant Secretary-General
for Social Development and
Humanitarian Affairs
United Nations Office at Vienna
P.O. Box 500
A-1400 Vienna
Austria

Cleared in substance with & cc: Mrs. Scott ✓

Files with incoming Notes

MMcDonald



POSTAL ADDRESS—ADRESSE POSTALE UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. 10017
CABLE ADDRESS—ADRESSE TELEGRAPHIQUE: UNATIONS NEWYORK

REFERENCE: ACC/N/118

NOTIFICATION

Inter-agency meeting on the preparations for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women Vienna, 21-22 February 1983

The Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Programme Matters), at its first regular session of 1982, agreed that an inter-agency meeting to consider the preparations for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women should be held at Vienna early in 1983. The meeting will take place at the Vienna International Centre on 21 and 22 February 1983.

The proposed agenda for the meeting is as follows:

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Substantive contributions of the United Nations system to the World Conference:
 - (a) Review and appraisal (integrated reporting system)
 - (b) World Survey on the Role of Women in Development
3. Other matters related to the Conference

All communications concerning representation at the meeting should be sent to Mrs. Leticia Shahani, Assistant Secretary-General for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, Vienna International Centre, P.O. Box 500, A-1400 Vienna, Austria.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert G. Muller".

Robert G. Muller
Assistant Secretary-General
Office of Secretariat Services for
Economic and Social Matters

12 January 1983

ok

PROJECTS ADVISORY STAFF		DATE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mr. V. Rajagopalan	17/1
	Mr. M. Mould	Mr. C. Weiss
	Mr. P. Garg	Mr. M. Kamenetzky
	Mr. D. Stromborn	Mr. J. Lee
	Mr. R. Alexander	Mr. B. Baratz
	Mr. D. Conrad	Mr. R. Goodland
	Mr. M. Dickerson	Mr. R. Overby
	Mr. S. C. Hardy	Mr. J. Tixhon
	Mr. R. Srinivasan	
	Mr. A. Israel	
	Mr. H. Adler	Mrs. L. Hamilton
	Mr. G. Lamb	Miss Hidalgo-Gato
	Mr. F. Lethem	
	Mr. N. Raphaeli	
	Mr. J. Roumani	
	Mrs. G. Scott	

	APPROPRIATE DISPOSITION	NOTE AND RETURN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	APPROVAL	NOTE AND SEND ON
	CLEARANCE	PER OUR CONVERSATION
	COMMENT	PER YOUR REQUEST
	FOR ACTION	PREPARE REPLY
	INFORMATION	RECOMMENDATION
	INITIAL	SIGNATURE
	NOTE AND FILE	URGENT

REMARKS:

I should go for the preparatory inter-agency, and part of the commission meeting.



FROM: <i>Cilona Scott</i>	ROOM NO.:	EXT.:
------------------------------	-----------	-------

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

VIENNA INTERNATIONAL CENTRE

P.O. BOX 500, A-1400 VIENNA, AUSTRIA

TELEPHONE: 26 310 TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: UNATIONS VIENNA TELEX: 135612

REFERENCE: SD 3003/7

24 December 1982

Dear Sir/Madam,

First Interagency Meeting on the Preparations
for the World Conference to Review and Appraise
the Achievements of the United Nations Decade
for Women, Vienna 21 - 22 February 1983

You will shortly be receiving the invitation from OSSECS to the above meeting with the provisional agenda, I am pleased to send you herewith in advance the documentation prepared for the meeting:

- i) the Annotated Provisional Agenda
- ii) the United Nations Integrated Reporting System on the Status of Women (BAW/IAM/83/2)
- iii) Note on the World Survey for the Interagency Meeting on the preparations of the World Conference (BAW/IAM.1/83/1).

I would like to reconfirm that following informal requests of agencies, the dates of the meeting originally scheduled for 27/28 /1/83 are now set for 21 - 22 February 1983 immediately preceding the meeting of the Preparatory Body (23 February - 4 March 1983).

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chafika Sellami-Meslem'.

Chafika Sellami-Meslem
Director

Branch for the Advancement of Women
Officer-in-charge
Centre for Social Development
and Humanitarian Affairs

First Interagency Meeting on the Preparations
for the World Conference to Review and Appraise
the Achievements of the United Nations Decade
for Women, Vienna, 21 - 22 February 1983

Annotated Provisional Agenda

1. Adoption of the Agenda

At its second regular session in New York on 11-14 October 1982, the CCSQ (Prog) agreed that an interagency meeting to consider the preparations for the 1983 World Conference should be held in Vienna early in 1983. The present provisional agenda and the documentation listed therein reflects this decision and the decisions taken by the General Assembly resolutions 33/186, 36/74 and ECOSOC 82/26.

2. Substantive Contributions of the UN system to the Conference

(a) Review and appraisal (integrated reporting system)

In the context of the General Assembly resolution 33/186 on the rationalization of the reporting system and ECOSOC resolution 1980/38 on the continuation of the integrated reporting system, the Secretariat sent in September 1982 to specialized agencies and other relevant organizations a Note on proposed procedures for the third biennial round of reporting for the review and appraisal of progress made by governments in the implementation of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the second half of the United Nations Decade for Women.

The summary of comments and proposals in answer to the September Note and the Secretariats' revised recommended procedures are presented in document United Nations Integrated Reporting System on the Status of Women (BAW/IAM/83/2).

(b) World Survey on the role of women in development

The General Assembly resolution 36/74 decided on a comprehensive outline for the above mentioned survey and requested the Secretary-General to prepare the survey in close collaboration and co-operation of the United Nations system. The Secretariat prepared a draft outline which was circulated to specialized agencies and other United Nations organizations by the Under Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs in June 1982. Following the answers received the Secretariat has presented the summary of comments and suggestions, revised the procedure to carry out the survey and the outline of survey itself. These are presented in document: Note in the World Survey for the Interagency Meeting on the Preparation of the World Conference BAW/IAM.1/83./1

3. Other Matters Relating to the Preparations of the Conference

Under this item, could be discussed, if necessary, organizational questions of the United Nations system for the Preparations of the Conference taking into account the fact that the CCSQ (Prog) decided at its above mentioned meeting that there was no need to establish new mechanisms for interagency co-operation and co-ordination.

ENGLISH ONLY

First Interagency meeting on the
Preparation for the World Conference
to Review and Appraise the Achievements
of the United Nations Decade for
Women, Vienna 21-22 February 1983

United Nations Integrated Reporting System
on the Status of Women

Replies from Specialized Agencies and other
United Nations Organizations to the September
Note on proposed procedures for the third
biennial round of reporting for the review
and appraisal of progress made by Governments
in the implementation of the World Plan of
Action and the Programme of Action for the
second half of the United Nations Decade for
Women.

Branch for the Advancement of Women
Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs
Department of International Economic and Social Affairs

Vienna

A D D E N D U M

REPLIES FROM SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND OTHER UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATIONS

Replies from fifteen specialized agencies and other United Nations organizations were received up to 9 December 1982. The substantive sections of their replies are set out below. All replies were in English.

CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

8 October 1982

The general approach envisaged for this third round, with its emphasis on regional requirements and specific sectoral concerns should provide for an improved evaluation of progress achieved in implementing the objectives of the World Plan of Action and the Programme for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women.

Some of the suggested areas mentioned in Annex A of the note on proposed procedures for the third round of reporting include topics that the Centre for Human Rights deals with, in some way, within the framework of its activities.

I should like to refer, in particular, to items cited in Annex A Parts IC, ID and IIB.

For a better understanding of the task we are asked to perform, I would very much appreciate receiving some clarification on the contribution which is expected from the Centre for Human Rights with regard to these particular topics.

POPULATION DIVISION ^{1/}

10 October 1982

Population Division urges inclusion of reproduction and migration as topics for review. Data from fifth population inquiry will be available mid-1983, but no specific questions on status of women policies included

^{1/} Two communications were received, the first by cable.

therein, in light of integrated reporting system. The Division is willing to assist in drafting questions and providing substantive material.

12 October 1982

We are particularly interested in your plans because of the upcoming International Population Conference (IPC) scheduled for 1984 which will predate the 1985 Women's Conference by just one year.

In preparation for the IPC, a fifth Population Inquiry to Governments on Population Policies will be sent out shortly. In anticipation of your activities in this area, we have not included particular questions on status of women policies as they relate to population. Therefore, in your proposed sectoral areas to be covered for the Review and Appraisal of Progress Made by Governments we would propose adding a topic on reproduction with a view of emphasizing the important role that childbearing continues to play in most women's lives - a role that cannot be ignored when devising policies for women's integration into development. Another important area which is not explicitly treated in your outline is migration as it affects women, both women as migrants and women who become heads of households through their husbands' migration. This again is an extremely important topic to explore in the context of the sexual division of labour in the development process and the governments role therein. Finally, with respect to the topic on health and nutrition, we feel that the Population Division as the relevant substantive unit should be listed rather than UNFPA (which is primarily a funding agency).

We would be happy to contribute to the development of some questions for your inquiry in these areas. Given the momentum provided by the IPC in 1984, we feel you have a real opportunity to draw attention to some of these issues in designing realistic policies for women for the rest of this Century.

UNITED NATIONS CENTER ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS (UNCTC)^{1/}

8 December 1982

In the past the commission on TNCs from first to eighth session has set certain priorities and work programmes for UNCTC. These priorities

^{1/} Received as a late cable and not included in the summary of replies.

concern TNCs primarily in industrial and manufacturing sector. As a result the Centre has not developed programmes related to social and humanitarian aspects of TNCs. In response to your inter-agency meeting planned January 1983 we are still unable to respond until after new executive director takes up position 1 January 1983 as was discussed with Mrs. Shahani during her recent meeting in New York with Mr. Sahlgren. If future plans of UNCTC are expanded to include social and humanitarian activities will co-operate fully your programmes.

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

6 October 1982

We take this opportunity to inform you that our Unit is engaged in the preparation of the Third Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development. The Conference, besides evaluating the progress achieved in the region in regards to the Regional Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the Decade, will have as an agenda item the 1985 World Conference since it is the most appropriate forum for Latinamerican countries in which to express their views.

The Third Regional Conference will most probably take place next March 1983 in which case its deliberations on the regional preparatory work for the 1985 Conference will be presented to the Commission on the Status of Women at its 1984 session. Nevertheless, we are in the process of elaborating several studies under mandates received by CEPAL, which we believe will assist your Branch. These studies will be sent to you after each one is available.

Lately we have been working on two basic areas: first, upgrading national capability for the formulation and implementation of policies, programmes and projects on women in development, through training. As a result of this activity a book titled Women and Development: Guidelines for Programme and Project Planning (E/CEPAL/G.1200) is being distributed. Second, upgrading national and regional capability in information, documentation and communication, as a first step in the establishment of national and regional information centres. The documentation on this

activity will be sent shortly to you. On the other hand we have updated the available information on the status and roles of women in the region contained in document "América Latina: Análisis de Problemas Sociales Relativos a la Mujer en Diversos Sectores" (E/CEPAL/R.316).

Finally, we are studying the proposed calendar of activities included in the abovementioned Note on Proposed Procedures for the Third Biennial Round of Reporting in order to ascertain the possibilities of assisting with the work assigned to the regional commissions. Shortly we will send you our comments as well as a report on the activities of the Unit up to 15 September 1982.

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

5 October 1982

The "Note on Proposed Procedures ..." clearly sets out the respective responsibilities of the UN family and the role of Regional Commissions (Revised procedures: 3(c) and Role of United Nations System (c)). This is essentially the same as those we had for the 1980 mid-Decade conference, that is the preparation of a regional review and appraisal study to monitor and evaluate progress made in achieving the objectives of the decade plan, for presentation to a regional preparatory meeting prior to the world conference. The new element perhaps is the gathering of data on specific regional concerns. I would like to say here that Africa's concern will address itself to the question of apartheid and refugees.

In (Annex A) Part I we would like to suggest that the review of the Formulation and Implementation of National Policies and Plans to improve the Status of Women should not be carried out in isolation, but rather within the framework of existing national development plans. This way one will be able to gauge whether or not policies and plans concerning women are part and parcel of the development process of their countries or peripheral to them.

In Part II among the sectoral areas should be added Science and Technology. Trade should include both National and International Trade.

We are finalizing the time frame within which the ECA will be carrying out the exercise of review and appraisal.

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA ^{1/}

7 October 1982

Your approach toward one comprehensive reporting procedure, followed by progress report and draft final report would allow an up-to-date review of the situation of women during 1985 conference. Decentralization of information collection is very important for allowing most possible information and more accurate analysis of data. As indicated in ECWA comments on 1985 questionnaire, decentralization would require various modalities for data collection, thus governments will require direct technical assistance. Given existing resources women programme officers in regional commissions can assist in identifying experts/researchers/data collectors at national level and in guiding the data collection process. Please refer to ECWA's comments on content of 1980 questionnaire since they apply also to 1985 questionnaire.

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

16 September 1982

We have reviewed the various proposals with great interest and note that they seem to take into account the comments that were submitted in connexion with the preparation of the second round of reporting. This certainly applies to the comments made by UNDP. Consequently, we have no further comments at this point and look forward to inter-organizational consultations during the meeting of the Consultative Committee for Substantive Questions (Programme Matters) that will take place 11-14 October 1982 in New York.

WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

10 November 1982

(a) Reporting System

WFP supports the suggestion that the Branch for the Advancement of Women (UN/CSD/WA) be responsible for the overall coordination and harmoni-

^{1/} Received as cable: slightly edited.

zation of the review and appraisal process, as well as specifically for certain general aspects (page 2 of your letter). WFP would then contribute to the reporting procedures as outlined to the Centre in our previous communications (our cable WFP 5468 of 31 August 1982 and letter dated 27 August 1982, both to Mrs. Shahani). WFP would also agree to the UN/CSDHA proposal that under the heading "Role of the UN System" there would be "lead" agencies designated in each sectoral area, which would then consult with other organizations on work activities and concerns in that sector.

(b) Inter-Agency Task Force

Since so much of the work to be done for the Conference will require coordination and consultation among UN Organizations to avoid duplication, WFP supports Mrs. Shahani's proposal to hold meetings in Vienna of an Inter-Agency Task Force. Otherwise the Branch for the Advancement of Women would have to do all the coordinating and synthesizing of sectoral contributions and set the framework for the reports; and they can not possibly have the sectoral expertise or staff to handle this as the technical agencies would. According to the "Proposed Outline of Areas to be Covered" (Annex A), WFP is expected to contribute to the rural development sector (Part II, D), but there is some justification for WFP contributions in health and nutrition, education and training, employment, housing and human settlements, and energy as well. However, WFP will not be in a position to provide substantive information to the sectoral papers as outlined in Annex B: the Programme rather can only provide information on how food aid can be used to help women in development in these sectors. In other words, WFP could provide information to the "lead" agencies for incorporation into the sectoral reports.

OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES ^{1/}

19 November 1982

We agree fully with proposals in your Note on proposed revised procedures for integrated reporting system on status of women subject to following:

- (a) in annex a part ii add a separate item titled "refugee and displaced women"
- (b) in annex b in (h) insert within bracket "refugee and displaced women".

^{1/} received as cable; slightly edited

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR THE
ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN (INSTRAW)

25 October 1982

Any information within the reporting system provided by the Member States is very useful for the work of the Institute, especially at this initial stage of its activities. We, therefore, would be grateful if we could receive a copy of the governments' replies to the Questionnaire.

The Institute would like very much to have more detailed information on the status of both research and training activities concerning women carried out so far in various countries. It is of interest to know of any existing special women's courses or programmes in the various universities or colleges. Also, it is necessary to know if there are special research and training units, divisions or centres on women's issues in various countries. Thus we would appreciate it if you could include in the Questionnaire to be sent to governments reference to these particular issues.

According to the catalytic role of the Institute, it is necessary for its work to be aware of women's activities of the other United Nations bodies. INSTRAW would be particularly interested in having the views of these agencies with regard to the evaluation process of the various reports and the analysis of the governments' replies to the Questionnaire.

We would be ready to co-operate with you in this undertaking, particularly in the evaluation stage of any part of the governments' replies to your Questionnaire in which you may find it necessary for the Institute to take part.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE

24 September 1982

We absolutely agree with you that the comprehensive reporting procedure for the review and appraisal of the achievements of the UN Decade must be clearly stated to avoid over-burdening various governmental authorities for information. For this reason we are glad to note that the progress report

to be submitted to the Commission and its comments will constitute a basic document for the World Conference.

However, the proposed work schedule does not give enough time for the Agencies to prepare their contribution and we suggested that the deadline be revised.

In addition, we noted in point (b)(v) of Section 4, Role of the United Nations system, that you are expecting agencies to transmit to the Advancement of Women's Branch their sectoral report in all official languages of the UN. As you may know, there is an agreement whereby all documents prepared by agencies to be part of a World Conference documentation can be submitted in one single official language only.

We also think that the division of responsibilities between the Advancement of Women's Branch (AWB) and the UN system as a whole needs to be clearly defined in order to avoid later overlapping and perhaps confusion, as suggested in paragraph 3 of page 2, which aim might be achieved by greater decentralisation of information collection and analysis, taking into consideration specific reporting mandates of the regional commissions and the specialised agencies. Some overlapping cannot be avoided as each Agency will intend to cover its field as completely as possible. For example, we feel very strongly that vocational training should be dealt with in connection with employment, although it also has a very close relationship to education.

The basic approach proposed in the note accompanying your letter seems to be a good basis for collecting information for preparation, review and appraisal from so many diverse sources. From previous experience of this subject, i.e. preparations for the Copenhagen Conference in 1979/80, we might learn some lessons that would be useful for the Nairobi Conference. These lessons relate to two main points:

1. that a new integrated approach is needed to bring together diffused

elements of national policies in the economic, social, cultural, environmental and other levels, so that we can cover various sectoral interests of the United Nations System. A piecemeal approach might become incoherent, and incompatible with the Copenhagen Programme of Action and its decisions and resolutions, also at the regional level.

2. we agree that at the initial stage the different approaches should be harmonized within the UN system on the compiling, collating and tabulating of statistics of the existing data and information emanating from the various national sources to ensure even coverage. We have to clarify the position and the role of the UN regional organisations and the ILO regional offices* and the specialised agencies. This type of co-operation could possibly be discussed at a ad hoc interagency meeting.

Furthermore, we need to pay a great deal of attention to the analysis and activities of women themselves, specifically women's organisations which contribute to the identification of women's needs. In this respect, we need to focus on the social dimension; the contribution of women to the social spheres; to the creation of material goods and cultural values and the inadequate attention paid to them at the national policy level. Another example relates to the contradictions generated by the present scientific and technical progress and it is reflected in the adverse impact on female labour. In turn, these changes influence the quality of life itself. This problem, particularly, has positive and negative aspects, which need to be differentiated and distinguished from economic politics.

As regards the questionnaires for Part II, we think that it would be preferable for the Branch for the Advancement of Women to send them to governments along with Part I, since it is very important not to overburden the governments with questionnaires from various agencies.

* as well as other regional offices.

In this connection we intend to partly revise and update the ILO Questionnaire on the Employment section to take into consideration the fact that while women make a significant contribution to the economy and to the development of the society they are still treated as a reserve labour force. We are in a period of rapid and far-reaching transition which could present many opportunities for women.

Through the analysis, based on the response to the Questionnaire, we hope to provide a common balanced approach to women workers' problems to influence strategies with regard to equality of opportunity and treatment for women workers and the elimination of discrimination against them.

The aim of ILO's contribution to the third review and appraisal of degrees of women's employment will be to give comprehensive information on the situation of women in various aspects of employment from all regions, keeping in mind the future prospects up to the end of this century.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

7 October 1982

We welcome collaboration with you in preparing for the 1985 World Conference. However, we do not agree with the proposal that each of the specialized agencies assume responsibility for "the preparation and finalizing procedures" to monitor review, and appraise designated sections of Part II. This is due to limited resources and to our concern that governments will have excessive and overlapping requests if agencies approach them independently on different sectors. An overall analysis would be extremely difficult as well given inconsistencies in type of information collected and initial analysis procedures.

Instead we suggest that the Centre (CSDHA) act as the overall coordinator for Section II on the sectoral reports. This approach would enable a more centralized effort for the collection of the data for all the

sectoral areas. Our position on this will be further outlined at the CCSQ(Programme) in New York.

We have submitted extensive comments on the questionnaire and could also review a draft analysis of the governments' replies and provide further suggestions.

The main areas to be emphasized within Part II - Sectoral Areas - are, at present, the same for the 1980 Conference. We would hope that more attention could be given to rural development in 1985. As presented in Annex A, it appears to be of the same level of importance as tourism. This is certainly not the case. Where rural women are concerned, Rural Development seems of equal if not more importance than other main themes shown.

With regard to the idea that interagency machinery on women in development be established, it appears vital that sessions be held at least every six months prior to the Conference. We would also suggest that an inter-organizational women in development meeting be held prior to the UN Commission on the Status of Women, either in December of this year or in January 1983.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION ^{1/}

We agree to review and revise health issues of a draft questionnaire prepared by the Branch to be sent to the countries. We agree to analyze responses and prepare report for health aspects for the Conference.

WORLD BANK ^{1/}

22 November 1982

Regarding the review and appraisal itemised in Annex A Part I: as this is your responsibility and you are reporting on government's progress we presume we would only be required to respond to any specific enquiries you may make of us. Regarding Part II we note that we are assigned monetary factors and following further discussions with Mrs. Shahani we are con-

^{1/} Received as cable: slightly edited.

sidering whether we can undertake to write a paper on this. However, the suggested coverage in Annex B does not appear very relevant nor does the proposed approach of questionnaires to governments fit with our normal procedures. By the time of the interagency meeting we will be able to give a definite response. The interagency meeting will doubtless discuss the mechanisms for agency input to sectors other than those for which we have prime responsibility and firm up the time-table. Having been on the government receiving end of questionnaires the prospect of replying to a questionnaire on each of the eleven items in Part II in addition to the general development one from AWB is somewhat alarming.

First Interagency meeting on the
Preparations for the World Conference
to Review and Appraise the Achievements
of the United Nations Decade for
Women, Vienna 21-22 February 1983

ENGLISH ONLY

INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

Opening date and place of the meeting

1. The First Interagency meeting on the preparations for the World Conference to review and appraise the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women will be held at Vienna International Centre (VIC: "United Nations City"), Wagramer Strasse 5, Vienna XXII. The meeting will formally open on Monday, 21 February 1983 at 10.30 a.m. in the Conference Room II, seventh floor of Building C (Conference Building).

List of participants

2. A provisional list of participants will be issued on 21 February 1983. Only names communicated to the Secretariat by 17 February 1983 at the very latest, can be included in the provisional list of participants. Participants are therefore requested to communicate the names of their representatives before 17 February.

Registration of participants

3. Security regulations at the VIC dictate that all participants be registered in order to enter the Conference Room. Security officers on duty in Building C will direct participants to the registration desk in the Main Lobby which will be open from Monday, 21 February 1983.

Identification

4. Upon registration, members of agencies will be given identification badges bearing their name and organization. For security reasons, the display of such badges is necessary for admittance to the VIC.

Documents

5. During the session, documents may be collected from the documents distribution counter, seventh floor of Building C, where each organization will be provided with a distribution box for documents.

Secretariat

6. The Office of the Assistant Secretary General for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs is located in Room E.1254, extensions 4220/4221. The office of the Director of the Branch for the Advancement of Women is located in Room E.1274, extension 5284.

Reservations of hotel rooms

7. For hotel reservations please cable to UNATIONS VIENNA, telex: 135612. The Secretariat will book you hotel accomodation upon receipt of firm dates of arrival and departure. Please note that the participants will be responsible for any cancellation fees thereafter, except in case of cancellation by the United Nations itself.

Travel desk

8. Wagan-Lits/Cook and Cosmos operate travel offices (to the left on entering Building F from the Main Lobby in Building C) for the convenience of participants requiring assistance with such matters as travel, sightseeing, car rental and excursions.

Currency

9. Bank notes, travellers' cheques and letters of credit may be brought into Austria without restriction, but a few currencies may not be negotiable. Departing visitors may take with them the foreign currency and securities they brought into the country and up to 15.000 shillings in Austrian currency.

Banks

10. Bank facilities are available at the Creditanstalt-Bankverein on the first floor of Building C and the Z-Bank (Zentralsparkasse and Kommerzbank, Wien) on the entrance level of Building D.

Postal services

11. A post office on the first floor of Building C will provide all regular postal services.

Parking

12. Parking facilities for delegations are available in garage P1, level -1. Participants may receive a parking sticker valid for the duration of the meeting at the registration desk in the Main Lobby.

Access to Vienna International Centre

13. Access is also possible through the subway: Line U1, Station: Kaisermühle (V.I.C.)

Cloak room facilities

14. A cloak room is located on the entrance level in Building C.

ENGLISH ONLY

First Interagency meeting on the
Preparations for the World Conference
to Review and Appraise the Achievements
of the United Nations Decade for
Women, Vienna 21-22 February 1983

United Nations Integrated Reporting System
on the Status of Women

Revised recommended procedures for the third
biennial round of reporting on progress made
at the national level in implementation of
the World Plan of Action and Programme of Action
for the second half of the UN Decade for Women
(1982-1984).

Branch for the Advancement of Women
Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs
Department of International Economic and Social Affairs

Vienna

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. Early in September 1982, the Branch for the Advancement of Women of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs sent out for the review and comments of specialised agencies and other relevant organizations of the United Nations System, a Note on proposed procedures for the third biennial round of reporting for the review and appraisal of progress made by governments in the implementation of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the second half of the United Nations Decade for Women.^{1/}

2. The Note set out the legislative mandates for the biennial review and appraisal and the initial role taken by the Branch for the Advancement of Women in preparing for the third reporting round (to cover the period 1982-1983). Revised procedures for undertaking the third round of reporting were proposed including procedures for collaboration and the scope and content of the review and appraisal. That Note also included in one of the Annexes the proposed work schedule. It may be noted that the proposals were based upon suggestions made by a number of agencies and organizations to similar proposals made in 1981.

3. This report by the Secretariat provides in Chapter II, a summary analysis of the responses of the concerned agencies and other UN organizations to the proposals in the Note.^{2/} Based on these responses a proposal for future organization of work has been put forward in Chapter III for the consideration of the inter-agency meeting. Attachments I, II and III set out respectively the revised work schedules, suggested outline of areas to be covered in the reporting and the suggested coverage for the sectoral reports.

4. At its second regular session for 1982 the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Programme Matters) considered a Conference Room Paper (No. 6) prepared by the Branch in which a summary of proposed procedures was set out. The Consultative Committee agreed that the present interorganizational meeting be held and should come to a final agreement on procedures for the review and appraisal process within the framework of the integrated reporting system on the status of women. In their replies to the Note several respondents had also reiterated the need for inter-agency meetings to finalize procedures and organization of work among the UN system of organizations.

^{1/} Hereinafter referred to as "the Note". Copies of the Note and the accompanying circular letter as well as a list of those agencies and organizations to whom the Note was transmitted will be available to the Meeting.

^{2/} The Addendum to this report contains the text of all replies received.

II. SUMMARY OF COMMENTS AND PROPOSALS

A. Respondents:

5. A total of sixteen (16) replies were received before 8 December 1982 by the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs from various parts of the United Nations System viz. Centre for Human Rights, Population Division of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs (DIESA), Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA), African Training and Research Centre for Women/Economic Commission for Africa (ATRCW/ECA), Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)*, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)*, World Food Programme (WFP), International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), United Nations Social Defence Research Institute (UNSDRI)*, International Labour Organization (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), World Health Organization (WHO), World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF)*.

6. The Intra-departmental working group of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs (IDWG/DIESA), comprising representatives from its various divisions and sections, also held a meeting to discuss the Note. The minutes of that meeting were made available to the Branch for the Advancement of Women and their views and suggestions have been noted in this summary of views of the UN system.

7. The comments and suggestions made by the organizations related to two main areas:

- (a) the overall procedural approach with regard to data collection and analysis for the review and appraisal reports and, in this connection, the respective roles of the organizations.
- (b) the scope and content of the review and appraisal.

* No additional suggestions on the proposals were made in these replies.

B. Procedural approach

8. It was noted that most of the respondents had expressed their interest in collaborating in and contributing to the review and appraisal process.

9. Several respondents reiterated that the Branch for the Advancement of Women should be responsible for overall coordination and harmonization of the review and appraisal process, particularly as a focal point for information request and collection. Various reasons were given for this such as the need to avoid overlapping requests, confusing and overburdening governments for information independently requested by different parts of the United Nations System ^{1/} and, limited resources of agencies. ^{2/}

10. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) felt that "overall analysis would be extremely difficult given the inconsistencies in the type of information collected and the initial analysis procedures" if each agency were to assume responsibility for the preparation and finalization of procedures to monitor, review and appraise the designated sectoral area.

11. The International Labour Organization (ILO) also pointed out that the experience from the preparations for the 1980 Copenhagen Conference had shown that "a new integrated approach was needed to bring together diffused elements of national policies in the economic, social, cultural, environmental and other levels, so as to cover various sectoral interests of the United Nations System. A piecemeal approach might become incoherent, and incompatible with the Copenhagen Programme of Action and its decisions and resolutions, also at the regional level. At the initial stage the different approaches should be harmonized within the UN system on the

^{1/} Intra-departmental Working Group on Women/DIESA; ILO; FAO;

^{2/} FAO

compiling, collating and tabulating of statistics of the existing data and information emanating from the position and the role of the UN regional organisations and the regional offices and the specialised agencies."

12. The Inter-departmental Working Group of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs (IDWG/DIESA) was unanimous in their view that there should be one comprehensive questionnaire (prepared through sharing and coordination) and that the Branch for the Advancement of Women should be the focal point for sending out the request for information and receiving replies. It also felt that the sectoral reports falling within the purview of particular organisations should be prepared by them on the basis of replies (or portions thereof) received by the Branch for the Advancement of Women and transmitted to them.

Participation of organizations in the sectoral areas

13. The Centre for Human Rights endorsed the general approach envisaged for this third round, with its emphasis on regional requirements and specific sectoral concerns. It was felt that this should provide for an improved evaluation of progress achieved in implementing the objectives of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women. The Centre was interested in contributing to various items of the review and appraisal particularly on Part I on the Legal status of women, Political participation, international cooperation and the strengthening of peace as well as Part IIB on Education and Training.

14. The Population division stated that it would contribute to the development of questions on the topics of "reproduction and migration". It felt that "with respect to the topic of health and nutrition, the Population Division as the relevant substantive unit should be listed rather than UNFPA which is primarily a funding agency".

15. The World Food Programme (WFP) agreed that there should be "lead

agencies designated in each sectoral area, which would then consult with other organizations on work activities and concerns in that sector". It was ready to contribute to the rural development sector as was proposed in the Note and also to health and nutrition, education and training, employment, housing and human settlements and energy. Although it felt "it would not be in a position to provide substantive information to the sectoral papers as outlined in the Annex B (of the Note) it could provide information on how food aid could be used to help women in development in these sectors."

16. The International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) indicated its readiness to cooperate particularly in the evaluation stage of any part of the governments' replies to the questionnaire. The Institute "would be particularly interested in having the views of agencies with regard to the evaluation process of the various reports and the analysis of the governments' replies to the questionnaire."

17. The International Labour Organization (ILO) endorsed the proposal that the third biennial review and appraisal reports would be submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women for comment and that it would constitute a basic document for the World Conference. The Organization intended to partly revise and update the sectoral questionnaire on the Employment section which it had earlier prepared for the second biennial round "to take into consideration the fact that while women make a significant contribution to the economy and to the development of the society they are still treated as a reserve labour force". It however requested for more time for the preparation of its contribution and report.

18. FAO stated that it "had submitted extensive comments on the questionnaire and could also review a draft analysis of the governments' replies and provide further suggestions".

19. The World Health Organization (WHO) agreed to review and revise health issues of a draft questionnaire prepared by the Branch to be

sent to countries. The organization also agreed to analyze responses and prepare a report on the health aspects.

20. The World Bank replied that "it presumed it would be required to respond to any specific enquiries" made of the Bank in relation to Part I of the outline of areas to be covered in Annex A of the Note. The Bank was considering whether it could undertake to write a paper on the subject of monetary factors.

Participation of regional commissions

21. With regard to the review and appraisal report on the regional specific concerns, the ECWA agreed that decentralization of information collection was very important "to allow for the most possible information and more accurate analysis". However, it anticipated that with such a procedure, governments would require direct technical assistance. It was of the view that given the existing resources, women programme officers in regional commissions could assist in identifying experts/researchers/data collectors at national level and guiding the data collection process.

22. The ECA and ECLA both indicated that they would review the time schedule proposed in the Note in relation to their own plans for carrying out the regional review and appraisal. Among other activities, the ECLA was engaged in the preparation of the Third Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development to take place possibly in March 1983. The Conference, besides evaluating the progress achieved in the region in regards to the Regional Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the Decade, would have as an agenda item the 1985 World Conference since it is the most appropriate forum for Latin American countries in which to express their views. Its deliberations on the regional preparatory work for the 1985 Conference would be presented to the Commission on the Status of Women at its 1984 session.

23. The IDWG/DIESA suggested that the comprehensive questionnaire to be sent out by the BAW could incorporate a number of questions deemed

appropriate by the regional commissions secretariat to address the special circumstances obtaining in each region.

C. Scope and content of the review and appraisal

24. Many respondents concurred with the coverage of the review and appraisal, particularly its concern with sectoral areas and regional requirements. Specific suggestions were made on the proposed contents as noted below.

25. In the meeting of the IDWG/DIESA, the representatives of the Statistical Office were of the opinion that the questionnaire should not include requests for statistical data which the Office felt it should request, as appropriate. It also felt that the question of statistical indicators should not be included under "Research, data collection and analysis" in Part I or within the coverage of the sectoral areas in Part II.

26. The IDWG/DIESA also suggested the inclusion of science and technology (also suggested by the ATRCW/ECA), "communication and the media"^{1/}, and Population and migration^{2/}. In addition the Group suggested "including CTN in Industrialization"^{3/}.

27. The Population Division/DIESA felt the inclusion of reproduction "would emphasize the important role that childbearing continues to play in most women's lives - a role that cannot be ignored when devising policies for women's integration into development". "Migration" as it affects women, both women as migrants and women who become heads of households through their husbands' migration, was also "an extremely important topic to explore in the context of the sexual division of labour in the development process and the government's role therein."

^{1/} The BAW notes that this topic will be covered as provided for in the Note in Annex A Part IB under the aspect of "Dissemination of information".

^{2/} The Population Division of DIESA also proposed the similar topic of Reproduction and migration.

^{3/} The BAW had sent the Note and letter of transmittal also to the Centre on Transnational Corporations suggesting its participation as a collaborating agency in the topic "Industrialization". The omission was typographical.

28. The African Training and Research Centre for Women (ATRCW) of the Economic Commission for Africa pointed out that in relation to the gathering of data on specific regional concern, it would address itself to the question of apartheid and refugees. The ATRCW also suggested that in Annex A Part I, the review of the Formulation and Implementation of National Policies and Plans to improve the Status of Women should not be carried out in isolation, but rather within the framework of existing national development plans. This way it would be possible to gauge whether or not policies and plans concerning women were part and parcel of the development process of their countries or peripheral to them.

29. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) suggested the addition of a separate item, "refugee and displaced women" in Annex A Part II and also in Annex B(h) within the special groups mentioned in the brackets.

30. The International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) stated that any information within the reporting system provided by the Member States would be very useful for the work of the Institute, especially at this initial stage of its activities. It therefore wished to receive a copy of the governments' replies, the views of agencies with regard to the evaluation process of the various reports and the analysis of the governments' replies. The Institute desired more detailed information from the questionnaire on the status of both research and training activities concerning women so far carried out in various countries. It was interested in any existing special women's courses or programmes in the various universities or colleges, and in any special research and training units, divisions or centres on women's issues.

31. The International Labour Organization (ILO) emphasized the need "to pay a great deal of attention to the analysis and activities of women themselves, specifically women's organisations which contribute to the identification of women's needs". It added that in this respect, "it was necessary to focus on the social dimension; the contribution of women to the social spheres; to the creation of material goods and cultural values and the inadequate attention paid to them at the national policy level".

32. " Through the analysis, based on the response to the Questionnaire, ILO hoped to provide a common balanced approach to women workers' problems to influence strategies with regard to equality of opportunity and treatment for women workers and the elimination of discrimination against them. The aim of ILO's contribution to the third review and appraisal of degrees of women's employment would be to give comprehensive information on the situation of women in various aspects of employment from all regions, keeping in mind the future prospects up to the end of this century."

33. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) emphasized the need to pay greater attention to rural development in 1985. It was of the view that as far as rural women are concerned this topic should be reflected with equal if not greater importance than the other topics presented in the Sectoral Areas.

34. The World Bank noted that the suggested coverage in Annex B of the Note for the report on the subject of Monetary Factors did not appear relevant nor did the proposed approach of a questionnaire to governments fit with the normal procedure of the Bank. It viewed with alarm "the prospect of governments having to reply to a questionnaire on each of the eleven items in Part II on sectoral areas, in addition to Part I on general developments. "

III. REVISED RECOMMENDED PROCEDURES

35. The responses received reflected varying degrees of readiness and capacities to contribute to the review and appraisal process. In general, however, many respondents endorsed the position of the Branch for the Advancement of Women, Center for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs in its function of facilitating inter-organizational consultations and acting as the focal point for the UN system in regard to the review and appraisal process. In its coordinating and harmonizing role, the Branch could better minimize overlaps in the request for information from governments as well as assure some degree of uniformity in data collection and analysis.

36. In the same connection, it had been recommended that only one consolidated questionnaire be sent to governments to monitor, review and appraise their progress in implementing the World Plan and Programme of Action for second half of the United Nations Decade for Women. It was suggested that the BAW/CSDHA should be responsible for consolidating the questionnaire and issuing it to the governments.

37. Several organizations had also expressed the need for the relevant agencies/organizations to be actively involved in the sectoral and regional review and appraisal in order that the specific concerns in these sectors and regions could be more accurately reflected. Thus designated "lead" agencies could work closely with collaborating agencies on the sectoral concerns.

A. Proposed organization of work

38. In the light of these considerations, the respective roles of the UN system in the review and appraisal process have been adjusted and are as proposed below for finalization by the inter-agency meeting.

Branch for the Advancement of Women/Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs

- (i) Development and harmonization of overall review and appraisal procedures.

- (ii) Responsibility for the monitoring, review and appraisal of Part I and those topics in the sectoral areas in Part II for which no other agency will take the "lead" role. This will be done in consultation with relevant organizations of the United Nations system.
- (iii) Transmittal of questionnaire for Part I to relevant United Nations organizations for their comments, information and reference and for their own sectoral preparation and data collection.
- (iv) Consolidation ¹/of Parts I and II of the questionnaire (the latter to include all the submissions from other parts of the UN system) and transmittal to the interested UN system for comments and to the Regional Commissions for their preparation of supplementary questions of specific regional interest for Part III of the questionnaire.
- (v) Retrieval of Part III of questionnaire from the Regional Commissions.
- (vi) Final consolidation of questionnaire.
- (vii) Arrangement of translation, reproduction and transmission of questionnaire to governments together with the note verbale from the Secretary-General through the Permanent Missions in Vienna or New York as necessary. Copies will be sent to Regional Commissions.
- (viii) Checking procedure to ensure receipt of questionnaire by governments.
- (ix) Retrieval of replies to consolidated questionnaires from governments with assistance of regional commissions.
- (x) Transmittal of copies of the government replies to regional commissions and other United Nations organizations for use in their sectoral and regional analyses.
- (xi) Preparation of reports on general topics listed in Attachment II Part I: A-E.
- (xii) Overall responsibility (possibly with consultant assistance) for the preparation and submission of the global review and appraisal report to the Commission on the Status of Women in accordance with the requirements of editorial and documentation controls. It is proposed that the outline of this global overall and appraisal report will be as follows:

Overview - This will be an analysis based on general, regional and sectoral reports and other available information. Attention will be drawn to major global problems and trends.

Abstracts or summaries of main points from each of the regional and sectoral reports.

- (xiii) Arrangement for reproduction and submission of detailed regional

¹/"Consolidation" will involve any necessary editing and or reorganization of material to minimize overlaps and/or gaps in information requested and to improve uniformity in format if considered necessary.

and sectoral reports to the Commission on the Status of Women, and for the 1985 World Conference as required.

Specialized Agencies and other United Nations Organizations

- (i) Responsibility for preparation of questionnaire for monitoring, review and appraisal of designated sections of Part II in consultation with regional offices and/or other organizations with overlapping interests and concerns. The "lead" agencies will be responsible for initiating procedures for such consultation.
- (ii) Transmission of above by mid-March 1983 to the BAW/CSDHA and other related agencies and organizations of the UN system for reference and inclusion in consolidated questionnaire to be undertaken by the Branch.
- (iii) Preparation of designated sectoral review and appraisal report by "lead" organizations using government replies to questionnaire and information available from routine activities/documents e.g. yearbook, other government reports, etc.
- (iv) Transmission of detailed sectoral report by mid-September 1984 to the Branch for the Advancement of Women for submission to the Commission on the Status of Women and for preparation of the global overview by the Branch.
- (v) Preparation of summary of sectoral report highlighting major issues and submission to the Branch for preparation of global overview.
- (vi) Revision according to comments made by Commission and re-submission to BAW for processing and submission to the 1985 World Conference, as background document.
- (vii) Co-operation with BAW in preparation of global overview report on review and appraisal.

Regional Commissions

- (i) Preparation of supplementary questions for Part III of questionnaire by which to collect information of specific regional concerns for the third group of review and appraisal reports of progress made by governments.
- (ii) Transmission of Part III of questionnaire by mid-March 1983 to BAW/CSDHA for inclusion in consolidated questionnaire.
- (iii) Assist BAW/CSDHA in follow-up responses by Governments to questionnaire and assist all other agencies and organizations.
- (iv) Preparation of comprehensive regional review and appraisal reports including both general and sectoral aspects on the situation in countries in their region, preferably in close association with

regional offices of specialized agencies in accordance with recommendations of WCUNDW for reporting to several inter-governmental bodies and Secretariat units.^{1/} Use will also be made of other existing sources of information such as yearbooks, government reports, studies, etc.

- (v) Transmit copy of regional review and appraisal report by September 1984 (a) to BAW for preparation of global overview and submission to CSW, (b) to all United Nations organizations with responsibility for preparation of any sectoral reports as an additional information source.
- (vi) Revision according to comments made by the Commission on the Status of Women, if any, and re-submission to BAW for processing and submission to the World Conference.
- (vii) Co-operation with BAW in preparation of global overview report on review and appraisal.

B. Schedule of Procedures

39. A revised work schedule is now proposed to take into account (i) the need for preparing one consolidated questionnaire to be sent out by the BAW as proposed by organizations and (ii) the inability of some designated lead agencies to take the "initiating" role. The revised work schedule for consideration is at Attachment I.

40. Attention is drawn to the need for agencies and organizations to submit their sectoral contributions to the questionnaire by mid-March 1983 to the BAW in order that these could be incorporated into a consolidated questionnaire, sent back for comments, revised and sent out to Regional Commissions for their addition of supplementary questions of specific regional concern in Part III of the questionnaire. All Parts I, II and III will be consolidated into one comprehensive questionnaire and finalized by the Secretariat by the end of June 1983.

41. Drafting the sectoral and regional review and appraisal reports could start in June 1984 upon receipt of the government replies. The final replies should be submitted to the BAW at the latest by mid-September 1984. These will be used inter-alia by the Branch in the preparation of the global overview report for the 1985 World Conference. This report will have to be

^{1/} A/CONF.94.35, chapter 1, part A, paras. 281-282, 286(c)

completed and finalized by November in order to meet the requirements of editorial and documentation controls for review by the Preparatory Body for the World Conference when it meets in early 1985.

Possible flexibilities in the time schedule

42. It is realized that some regional commissions and possibly also some specialized agencies and other organizations might wish to have information at an earlier date to meet the requirements of their reporting systems to their own governing bodies. Ways of harmonizing possible conflicts in scheduling may be discussed at the inter-organizational meeting in early 1983. However, it is suggested that:

- (a) the dead-lines for receipt of all government replies might be brought forward to early 1984 - there would appear to be no serious need for information covering the last year before the Conference in order to effectively appraise progress during the Decade - but this would allow governments a lesser time for preparing their replies;
- (b) there might be no major difficulty in the adoption of different schedules by each region, provided that the differences were not great, as it does not appear essential to have uniformity in time period covered within a matter of less than six months;
- (c) where in some regions a significantly earlier date (say 1983) is felt to be necessary and where the regional commission intends to send a substantial request for information to governments, the commission concerned could undertake responsibility for transmitting to all "lead" agencies and collaborating organizations, the replies received through that request. However, the commission would need to subsequently transmit additional information covering the period to mid-1984 or whatever is necessary to meet the needs of the consolidated questionnaire. Information received from the regional commission's earlier questionnaire (in 1983), plus up-dating material provided by the regional commission by whatever means it finds appropriate, would be used by the "lead" agencies and organizations in the preparation of review and appraisal reports during 1984. The consolidated questionnaire would then not be sent to governments in that region if the full reporting requirements of that questionnaire could be met by the commission's request.

C. Scope of the Review and Appraisal

Period of coverage

43. The third biennial reporting round as part of the integrated reporting system on the status of women should cover the period 1982-1983. Additionally since the second biennial reporting round for 1980/81 was limited only to

progress made in the general aspects for the advancement of women, governments will be requested to report in the forthcoming reporting round on progress made in the sectoral areas for the period 1980-1983/84. This period will also apply for the reporting on the General Aspects for those governments which did not reply to the last round of reporting. The time frame for the routine biennial review and appraisal procedures for the period 1982-1983 has been thus extended in order to meet the needs of the 1985 World Conference. Allowing governments to return the completed questionnaire in May 1984 would allow them to provide information current up to the end of 1983 and even the first quarter of 1984. Thus, the most recent developments could be included for the review and appraisal.

Proposed outline of areas to be covered

44. The suggestions/additions of the various organizations on the content for the review and appraisal have been noted. A revised draft of Annex A of the Note presenting the outline of areas to be covered is for consideration of the inter-agency meeting at Attachment II.

45. Organizations should be aware that the development and issue of one consolidated questionnaire to take account of all three aspects viz, the general aspects, the sectoral areas and regional specific concerns could result in a somewhat lengthy questionnaire which could overwhelm governments. Thus it is urged that requests for information be limited only to priority and pressing issues covered within the framework of the Programme of Action for the second half of the Decade for Women. The Attachment III serves only as a guide for agencies in preparing their sectoral questions, wherever possible.

46. The Branch will consolidate Parts I, II and III of the questionnaire, undertaking any necessary editing to secure a desirable compatibility of format. However, there would appear to be no major reason why there should be complete uniformity among sections, as certain topics may lend themselves to an open-ended format, others to specific close-ended questions, etcetera.

TIME FRAME	UN SYSTEM AND GOVERNMENTS			
	Branch for Advancement of Women	Specialized Agencies and other United Nations Organizations	Regional Commissions	Governments
<u>1983</u>				
<u>PREPARATORY PHASE</u>				
<u>1st quarter</u>				
January	Prepare Part I questionnaire. Send Part I for comments/reference UN system.			
February	Prepare sections Part II Q. with UN system, consultant.	Comment on Part I Q and transmit comments to BAW (J,F). Prepare sections Part II Q (F).	Comment on Part I Q and transmit comments to BAW (J,F).	
March	Interorganizational Meetings to finalize procedures			First Session of Preparatory Body for 1985 World Conference (F,M)
<u>2nd quarter</u>				
April	Consolidate Parts I, II Q. (mid A). Transmit above to regional commissions and agencies (mid A).	Transmit Part II Q. to BAW (mid-M)		
May		Comment consolidated Parts I, II Q. and transmit BAW.(M)	Receive consolidated Parts I, II Q. Prepare Part III Q. and transmit BAW. (mid M)	
June	Final consolidation of Q. (J)			
<u>TRANSMISSION PHASE</u>				
<u>3rd quarter</u>				
July	Processing of Q. for transmission to governments.			
August	Send out consolidated Q. and monitor its receipt by governments.	Undertake technical activities in routine programmes and as special preparations for 1985 World Conference		Receive consolidated questionnaire. (S)
September				
<u>COMPLETION PHASE</u>				
<u>4th quarter</u>				
October				Preparation of replies (Oct. 1983-May 1984)
November				
December				
<u>1984</u>				
<u>1st quarter</u>				
January				
February				
March	Reminder Note for governments (M).			Commission on the Status of Women, 30th session
<u>2nd quarter</u>				
April		Initial planning and analysis of materials from existing sources and reports of previous reporting rounds for incorporation in main analysis and drafting report in 3rd quarter 1984. (A,M,J)		Finalize replies to Q. Transmit replies to BAW. (M)
May				
<u>RETRIEVAL PHASE</u>				
<u>3rd quarter</u>				
June	Receive and transmit government replies to UN system.			
<u>ANALYSIS PHASE</u>				
<u>4th quarter</u>				
July		Analysis of information from government replies and other sources including technical preparatory meetings and World survey findings for review and appraisal reports (J,J,A).		
August				
September	Finalize draft global general report and sections of sectoral report and transmit to UN system for reference in preparing their report.	Finalize draft sectoral reports and transmit to BAW (mid Sept.) and other parts of UN system as additional resource for their report.	Finalize draft regional comprehensive report and transmit to BAW (mid Sept.) and other parts of UN for their report.	
<u>4th quarter</u>				
October	Preparation of global summary review-appraisal reports.			
November	Arrange processing of all reports for submission to meeting of Preparatory Body for 1985 Conference.			
December				
<u>1985</u>				
January				Preparatory Body for 1985 World Conference review reports and comment. (F,M)
February				
March				
April	Revise global "general" and summary review as necessary.	Revise sectoral reports if necessary.	Revise/update regional reports.	
May				
June	Arrange processing and transmission of review and appraisal reports for submission 1985 World Conference.			
July				
August				1985 World Conference

OUTLINE OF AREAS TO BE COVERED BY THE MONITORING,
REVIEW AND APPRAISAL PROCEDURE

The areas identified below are those which will be covered by the consolidated United Nations system questionnaire to be sent to governments and which will be the subject of the set of review and appraisal reports. The responsible specialized agency or other United Nations organization is indicated, this identification being based upon current understanding of the extent to which various elements within the United Nations system wish or are able to collaborate within the overall procedure as indicated in their responses to the September Note circulated by the Branch for the Advancement of Women.

PART I GENERAL DEVELOPMENTS

(The Branch for the Advancement of Women is responsible in consultation with other concerned specialized agencies and organizations).

- A. Formulation and implementation of national policies and plans to improve the status of women.
- B. Institutional arrangements for policy formulation, implementation and monitoring (within the framework of existing national development plans).
 - (a) National machinery
 - (b) Role of Non-Governmental Organizations
 - (c) Research, data collection and analysis (including current activities, institutions)
 - (d) Dissemination of information (including the role and impact of communications and the media on the status of women and the participation of women in this area).
- C. Legal status of women
 - (a) National Legislation
 - (b) Implementation of International Instruments relating to the status of women.
- D. Political participation, international cooperation and the strengthening of peace.
- E. General assessment of progress and achievements within the United Nations Decade for Women (1975-1985); significant achievement(s); national level impact of international/regional level programmes, e.g. TCDC; major gaps/lags; priorities, targets, action beyond the Decade).

PART II SECTORAL AND TOPICAL ISSUES

<u>Sector or topic</u>	<u>lead agency or organi- zation</u>	<u>collaborating agencies or organizations</u>
A. Rural development (including agriculture, food systems, services and industrialization in rural areas and small urban centres and rural housing and human settlements)	FAO	UNDP, Habitat, WFP WFC, IFAD, ILO
B. Industrialization (except in rural areas and small urban centres)	UNIDO	UNCTC, UNDP, ILO
C. Services (including wholesale and retail trade and tourism)	BAW/consultant	UNDP, ILO
D. Housing and human settlements (except in rural areas and small urban centres)	Habitat	UNDP, WFP
E. Energy, water and the natural environment	BAW/DTCD	UNEP, UNDP, WFP, FAO
F. Science and technology	(see note below)**	
G. Monetary factors	BAW/consultant	World Bank
H. Trade	UNCTAD or BAW/ consultant	
I. Health and nutrition	WHO	Pop Div, UNDP, WFP UNFPA, UNICEF, FAO
J. Education and training	UNESCO	Centre for Human Rights, UNICEF, UNDP, WFP, ILO, FAO
K. Employment (including training)	ILO	UNDP, WFP, FAO, UNESCO
L. Reproduction and migration	Pop Div	UNFPA, ILO
M. Refugees and displaced women	UNHCR	ECA
N. Basic statistical indicators	Statistics Office	

PART III REGIONALLY SPECIFIC ISSUES

Separate parts will be prepared by each of the Regional Commission Secretariats.

Note:** The topic of science and technology could be dealt with as a separate topic or, as originally proposed in the Note, integrated within the review of each of the sectoral areas. The Branch for the Advancement of Women feels that the topic could be more comprehensively treated as part of each sectoral examination given its relevance to all aspects of women's relationships with society. Questions relating to education for women in the fields of science and technology could be included in the topic of education and training.

Statistical information will be sought, analysed and utilised in preparation of review and appraisal reports wherever appropriate. Statistical Office/DIESA will collaborate with all parts of the United Nations system in this regard.

NOTE ON SUGGESTED COVERAGE FOR SECTORAL REPORTS*

The sectoral review and appraisal reports will cover the national level measures and progress made in the respective development sectors within the framework of the issues and priorities of the World Plan of Action and Programme of Action for the second half of the Decade. It is suggested that the reports cover the following proposed areas of concern where relevant as well as any others of particular regional or sectoral significance:

(a) national policy and legislative measures specifically taken to improve the status of women in the specified sectors; impact on women of measures/plans implemented within the related sectors in the context of the third international development strategy; assessment of outcomes (success and shortfalls).

(b) state of ratification of related conventions in the respective sectors; obstacles faced.

(c) linkage with national machineries, policy and planning.

(d) national level programmes taken to increase the availability of relevant services, ensure the equal accessibility and use of these services by women; assessment of outcomes (success and failures).

(e) the access to, use and application of science and technology in the specified sectors to improve the status of w-men, e.g. use of new seeds, new production methods, scientific training for w-men, etc..

(f) level of participation of women vis-a-vis men in the policy making, planning and implementation levels in these sectors. Identification of any obstacles to progress; steps taken to improve their participation.

(g) special measures taken, if any, to identify the needs of special groups (i.e., young women, unemployed women, migrant women, disabled and ageing women, and women alone responsible for their families, refugee and displaced women); special provisions made for these groups in relation to their needs within these sectors, where relevant.

(h) identification of any significant disparities in regional trends or concerns associated with common geographical, socio-cultural and/or economic development status.

(i) most significant achievement or progress made in the sector during the period of the Decade 1975-1985; major obstacles limiting progress in the sector.

(j) priorities and continuing needs beyond the decade and looking towards the year 2000 AD.

* This note is meant only as a guide for use wherever appropriate, in order to facilitate some degree of uniformity in data collection, analysis and reporting across the sectors.

ENGLISH only

First Interagency Meeting on the Preparations
for the World Conference to Review and Appraise
the Achievements of the United Nations Decade
for Women, Vienna 21-22 February 1983

Note on the World Survey for the Interagency
Meeting on the Preparation of the
World Conference

Branch for the Advancement of Women
of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs
Department of International Economic and Social Affairs

VIENNA

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I - Introduction

1. This note first reviews the replies of the specialized agencies and other UN system organizations on the draft annotated outline of "the World Survey of the Role of Women in Development", in what concerns the comments and suggestions to that outline and forms of collaboration with the Branch for the Advancement of Women in preparing the World Survey. Second, on the basis of the replies received it presents a proposal for a revised outline of the survey as well as it suggests the organization of work and the timetable for preparation of the World Survey according to the revised outline.

II - Summary of Comments and Suggestions

A - Respondents

2. In June 1982 the Under Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs requested specialized agencies and other United Nations organizations to comment upon a draft annotated outline of the World Survey agreed earlier that month by the Interdepartmental Working Group on Women, and to comment also upon suggested procedures for collaboration in response to the request expressed in General Assembly resolution 36/74.

3. This chapter summarizes views of the following 24 organizations which replied by this date:

ECLA, UNEP, ENDP, WFP, UNHCR, UNRWA, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO World Bank, IMF, UPU, ITU, IMCO, WIPO, IFAD, UNITAR, UNFPA, INSTRAW, UNCTC, UNCSTD, UNICEF, ECA (ATRCW).

4. Out of 24 replies, 6 indicated that the subject of the Survey was outside their mandates and 18 indicated that their agencies were interested in collaboration. The forms of this collaboration were the following:

- (a) Offered extensive comments and suggestions on the substantive content and format of the Survey as well as on its methodological approach.
- (b) Intention to make available information, documents and studies prepared or in preparation within their work programmes.
- (c) Only one agency - UNHCR - volunteered to prepare a draft section for the survey though not necessarily

connected with the circulated outline.

B - Comments concerning procedures for collaboration

5. Of the 24 replies so far received, six agencies and organizations indicate that the Survey lies outside the scope of their activities and that consequently they will not contribute to its preparation (UNRWA, IMF, UPU, UTU, IMO, WIPO).

6. Of the 18 replies which indicate a willingness to collaborate the majority envisage this to consist only in the transmission to the Secretariat of relevant information, for the most part comprising existing documents prepared as part of their recent or current work programmes. These agencies and organizations are ECLA, WEP, ILO, UNDP, UNESCO, World Bank and UNITAR. The position of FAO appears to be similar, the reply of this agency stating: "We are presently undertaking or planning a number of activities which would contribute to the survey". The list which follows includes reports, case studies, surveys, guidelines and checklists as well as such activities as establishment of demonstration centres, projects on women and food systems and an expert consultation on reaching rural women. It is implied that FAO will send reports on these planned activities as part of its contribution. ATRCW (ECA) noted its willingness to contribute and co-operate with the Branch but does not indicate the nature of that contribution. It only transmitted relevant information for several sections of the outline contained in documents being prepared within their current work programme.

7. WHO, IFAD and UNCTC commented upon the structure and content of the annotated outline and made no reference to the nature of their contribution. UNFPA and INSTRAW also commented on the content of the annotated outline and noted their willingness to contribute but did not indicate the nature of that contribution. UNEP merely identified the chapter of the survey to which they were willing to contribute.

8. It might be emphasised that in none of the above cases is there any statement to the effect that the agency or organization proposes itself to prepare a section or sections of the survey.

9. Only one of the 18 replies included a specific offer of preparing a section of the Survey: this was the reply of UNHCR which felt it important that a separately identifiable section concerning women refugees appear within the Survey and offered to prepare such a section.

10. It may be concluded from this that the specialized agencies and other United Nations organizations expect that the Branch will prepare drafts of the greater proportion of the Survey on the basis of the comments they have made at this time and that they will comment in detail upon these drafts as they are circulated within the System.

11. In the CCSQ (PROG) meeting the Committee decided that there should be flexibility and the question of the preparation of the of the survey, in particular the responsibility for drafting of specific sections, could be decided through consultations with each agency and organization.

C - Suggestions concerning the substantive content of the Survey

1. Suggested additions

12. (a) Section on women and services Some agencies and organizations suggested that all aspects of women's involvement in the tertiary sector be included in the Survey.

13. ECLA drew attention to the "contribution women make to national economies through their work in the domestic unit" which was assigned "the main responsibility for the production and reproduction of the population". In particular regional differences in the nature of women's contribution through their work in the domestic unit.

14. UNDP suggested that throughout the chapter on trade (IV) "it would seem especially important to stress women's contribution, through their increasing participation in the trade of foodstuffs

and consumer goods, to the survival of the poor, that is, to the more efficient utilization of scarce resources through a highly competitive and specialized marketing system". Commenting on the chapter on the role of women in the use, conservation and development of energy resources, UNDP noted that "access to energy may be viewed as a basic service of special importance to women's work. Viewed from this perspective, the energy chapter points to the omission of any consideration of the importance of basic services in the survey. Without access to basic services, such as primary health care, education and training, water supply and sanitation facilities, energy, roads and transportation facilities, it is difficult to see how women's participation in development can become effective". UNDP also noted the omission of areas that are of crucial interest to women's role in development, such as the need to create non-farm rural employment opportunities and to pay increased attention to the provision of basic services, including the development of community-based delivery systems". WFP felt that in the chapter on the role of women in trade (IV) (as also in chapters II, III and V) "special mention should be made of the role of women in improving nutrition".

15. UNFPA felt that attention to population variables should be given in chapters other than II. Women's involvement in domestic work, including reproduction and child-care, was of substantial significance and additional recognition be given to the fact that the desired increase in the participation of women in non-traditional jobs outside the home is influenced by a number of social and economic factors which may enhance or hinder such a process such as the nature of home responsibilities, marital status, and the presence of young children in the family as well as their number.

16. Various studies have shown that the rate of women's participation in the labour force is related to the age and number of their children. The higher birth rate which increases the burden of family responsibilities, combined with the absence of household conveniences which lighten the work-load of women are therefore recognized as major factors discouraging women from seeking outside job opportunities. Similarly, educational attainment which is directly related to labour force participation may be interrupted by early pregnancies which result in withdrawal from school.

17. Consideration of the abovementioned issues may provide a clearer understanding of why it is difficult for women to benefit from expanding job opportunities without appropriate changes in the child and family-related aspects of their life .

18. INSTRAW suggested that the chapter on trade (IV) should include as additional issues, reference to women's role in formal trade

activities and in petty trade. In remarks on methodology INSTRAW noted that "Equally challenging is the inclusion of problems facing women in developed countries which could be tackled also by approaching problems in invisible sectors (such as household, some other services) and formal sectors of the economy. However, in view of the methodological difficulties, the most salient features should be highlighted".

19. WHO was particularly concerned that a number of important aspects of women's activities, mostly within or related to the tertiary sector, had been left out of the annotated outline which had been circulated.

20. UNICEF suggested the addition of the following areas: (a) women's work in the context of the household, (b) child adolescent labour and (c) women's marginality in the labour force in particular their participation in the informal sector. It suggests that a special section of the "Role of Women in Services Activities" should be added.

21. UNCTC suggests that chapter 4 relating to Trade and chapter 6 on Money and Finance should be merged and entitled "The Role of Women in the Services Sector". The tourism industry may also be included in this chapter as discussed in the EGM on women and IDS (6-10 October 1982) though omitted in the outline.

22. (b) Women refugees UNHCR offered to prepare a contribution on this matter. In the context of the proposed survey such a contribution would include:

- a brief analysis of the situation of women refugees;
- role of women refugees in their integration and development of their conditions in host countries, and
- role of women refugees in some of the areas listed in the annotated outline.

23. (c) Women decision-making in the United Nations system The Executive Director of UNITAR, drew attention to operative paragraph 3 of resolution 36/74, which recommended that the World Survey should cover, inter alia, "(c) Ways and Means of improving women's role as agents and beneficiaries of development at the national, regional and international levels; (d) The potential impact of such improvements on the achievement of overall development goals".

2. Comments and suggestions concerning existing sections

24. (a) Chapter on the role of women in agriculture (II) Comments on this chapter were received from UNDP, WFP and FAO. UNDP noted

"Without detailed knowledge of the discussion that led to the recommendations for subject matters to be dealt with by the Survey, it is difficult to judge the merits of the proposals. However, we wish to raise the point that agriculture is often no longer the predominant source of employment in rural areas. While men leave in search of alternative employment in the cities or in other countries, to an increasing extent women also leave the rural areas, leaving large segments of the population living in absolute poverty. To deal with these problems a diversified strategy of rural development, not limited to agriculture, will be needed and we find the suggested outline somewhat deficient in this respect. A subject matter of major importance that is not specifically identified and could be included here is the relationship between food production and nutrition and women's crucial role in both areas of activity."

25. FAO noted:

"The background documents related to women and rural development for the Expert Group Meeting on Women and the International Development Strategy (6-10 September 1982, Vienna) indicate a shift from technical consideration to an analysis of structural and political factors. As important as these policy issues are, it is suggested that considerably more substantive evidence must be presented about women's economic activities and contributions. The policy arguments need to be balanced by data about rural women's day to day life and the effects of modernization on this.

26. As stated at the February/March 1982 UN Commission on the Status of Women, it is suggested that the Survey should ideally include the following:

- The comparative roles of women and men in different types of agricultural production structures for both crops and livestock; women's access to and control of means of production (e.g. seeds, fertilizers, services) as related to their tasks; access to training in relation to tasks in all phases of production structure;
- Identification of labour and time allocation in agricultural production by sex; participation in decision-making as related to the specific tasks performed by women;

- Identification of socio-economic indicators reflecting the role and contribution of women in agriculture, i.e. female heads of households, work load;
- Inter-relationship between population pressure and land availability (land/man ratio) for women;
- Male migration in relation to labour supply and increase in work load for women, but not commensurate with increase in decision-making;
- The access of women to land, capital, technology in different land tenure systems."

27. WFP was particularly concerned with the question of food aid, point out:

"WFP food aid could be treated in the Survey as a tool for improving the status of women. By itself it is a cross sectoral instrument for promoting development and improving the nutritional status of women.

28. We feel that in the sections of the report of relevance to WFP - (including) Chapter II, The Role of Women in Agriculture (Sections C and D), special mention should be made of the role of women in improving nutrition, which is of special interest to WFP since food aid is a nutritional supplement, as well as being a means for improving agricultural production and nutrition habits through nutrition education.

29. The advantages of food aid in reaching women are as follows: (a) its direct nutritional benefits; (b) its capacity to redistribute incomes (food) toward the poorer sections of the population; (c) its appeal in bringing women together to collect food rations from a central distribution point which can serve as a base for the provision of important social services; (d) through a project approach to development assistance, WFP can deploy food aid in a variety of ways to stimulate new developmental activities for women; and (e) the food aid distribution system itself can generate new employment and organizational opportunities for women. A list of proposals for reorienting on-going WFP-supported activities is attached.

30. We believe that emphasis should be given in the report to the "lessons learned" over the decade by sector. In other words, what types of projects were successful and why? Were projects aimed specifically at women more successful than projects where sub-components included women's activities, such as forestry development projects with a fuel-wood lot or nursery components?

31. Close inter-agency cooperation would ensure the maximum benefit from the UN system's resources and maximize its impact on the beneficiaries."

32. (b) Chapter on the role of women in industry (III) Comments on this chapter were received from UNDP, UNCTC and WFP. UNDP made the following suggestions:

"In this chapter, particularly in section D, it would seem pertinent to stress the importance of small-scale industrial development, both from the point of view of development in general and from the point of view of women's participation in industrial development. As noted in Rural Women's Participation in Development: "Rural industries could supply basic needs goods suitable to local market conditions and provide opportunities for investing rural surpluses locally as well as means of satisfying and refining local entrepreneurial initiatives. In addition to rural industrial development, there is considerable scope for related activities, such as repair and maintenance, construction and productive development of the tertiary sector. Unless much more varied activities are established closer to where the rural population lives, it is difficult to see how the heavy rural-urban flow of migration can be contained, as is commonly desired" (para. 608). These matters are also stressed in the 'International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade'."

33. WFP felt that in this chapter, with particular reference to small-scale industries (Section C and D) "special mention should be made of the role of women in improving nutrition, which is of special interest to WFP since food aid is a nutritional supplement, as well as being a means for improving agricultural production and nutritional habits through nutrition education".

34. The UNCTC suggested a revised approach and format, methodologically based on statistical and other data supplemented by a questionnaire related to social resources and technical issues to selected national governments and enterprises. In the absence of statistical data availability some field survey and case studies may be necessary. The revised approach and format suggested would be as follows:

Overall Perspective of Involvement of Women in Industry

35. This introductory section will trace the general development of the industrial sector from a historical and growth perspective viewpoint and its absorption of women into this sector.

Current Integration of Women in the Industrial Section

36. This section will examine and analyse some of the problems, issues and obstacles surrounding the integration of women into this sector. They will be analysed from the social, economic and technical background as well as from

a developmental background. In this sense, comparisons will be made whenever possible of the same industries at different stages of maturity. Thus, in some instances, the more mature industries in the developed countries will be compared with the newer industries in developing countries in order to assess the varying degrees of integration, and the differences, if any, in the issues, obstacles and benefits. The level of employment and type of work that is currently accessible to women will also be examined. Linkages of skills to other industries will also be examined.

37. The main industries contemplated therein will include a range of the significant manufacturing industries which represent a cross section of the industrial sector as a whole. Such industries (both export oriented and for domestic consumption) may include electronics, textiles, manufacturing of household appliances, wood-based and furniture industries, pharmaceutical and chemical industries, metal industries and consumer goods in general.

Future Development and Impact on NIEO

38. This section will review and recommend, based on the findings in (B), the areas for development and identify more specifically some of the posts that may be desirable for women. In this regard, review should be made of the availability and orientation of education and training, including institutional training, academic training and on-the-job training. It will also be necessary to examine and recommend national and/or sectoral policies which will facilitate the role of women in industry. The issue of appropriate technology may also be referred to.

39. (c) Chapter on the role of women in trade (IV) (see also section 1(a) above). WFP felt that in this chapter, particularly in sections C and D, "special mention should be made of the role of women in improving nutrition, which is of special interest to WFP since food aid is a nutritional supplement, as well as being a means for improving agricultural production and nutritional habits through nutrition education".

40. The UNCTC suggested that this chapter should be merged with chapter 6 on Money and Finance. Tourism industry may also be included in this chapter as discussed at the EGM on Women and the IDS during 6-10 September 1982, although omitted in this annotated outline.

41. (d) Chapter on the role of women in the use, conservation and development of energy resources (V) WFP felt that in this chapter, particularly in

sections C and D "special mention should be made of the role of women in improving nutrition, which is of special interest to WFP since food aid is a nutritional supplement, as well as being a means for improving agricultural production and nutritional habits through nutrition education".

42. The UNCTC noted that the energy sector should not be confined to primitive energy sources in the rural sector and consideration should be given to modern energy sectors and the integration of women into these industries such as in petroleum, electricity, nuclear, solar energy, coal and other energy industries.

43. (e) Chapter on the role of women in money and finance (VI) UNCTC noted that again the emphasis of this chapter appears to be more rural and it is suggested that due emphasis be given to more important areas of money and finance such as banking, financial institutions, including national development banks as well as regional financial institutions.

44. (f) Chapter on the role of women in the development and application of science and technology (VII) WHO noted that this section did not seem to leave room for discussion of health science and technology.

45. UNCTC noted that it is uncertain with regard to chapter 7, how this topic can be developed and it has already been discussed at the aforementioned meeting that science and technology cannot or will not be adapted particularly to suit women. Therefore, it may be more appropriate to consider the role of women in the development of R and D in this chapter. In which event the areas of national science and technology institutions and the various national science and technology policies should be examined to ensure that women will fully participate in the development and application of science and technology. Further, the degree, type and level of training should be dealt with here through in-depth analysis.

46. To facilitate research, technology transfer issues should concentrate specifically on the areas covered by the annotated outline.

47. UNCSTD suggested to extend the evaluation of the "potential impact of a significant improvement" in women's role in industry, to cover also the

48. "potential impact of a significant improvement' in women's role in research and development and in science and technology policies and planning bodies.

D - Methodological suggestions

49. (a) Proper reflection of regional differences A number of specialized agencies and other organizations noted the importance of this matter. ECLA, noting that "The outline... covers key developmental issues as set forth in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade: Agriculture, Trade, Industry, Money and Finance, Energy, and Science and Technology" suggested that "It is very important for the Survey to reflect regional differences in each of those areas as well as the contribution women make to national economies through their work in the domestic unit."

50. (b) Other methodological issues ECLA suggested that:

"Since the domestic units are assigned the main responsibility for the production and reproduction of the population, it is particularly relevant for a worldwide study on the role of women in development to undertake the task of establishing the relationships between the social and economic changes of countries and regions and the ways in which the production-reproduction of individuals is socially organized. We strongly believe such a relationship will contribute to a better understanding of the participation of women in development."

51. UNITAR noted that INSTRAW and itself "are considering the establishment under joint auspices, of an independent international committee on alternative development with the participation of women. The purpose of this committee is to formulate a broad conceptual framework for analyzing contemporary patterns of international economic, social and cultural relationships incorporating women's experience, perspectives and priorities. The Committee is also envisaged to review and analyze how greater recognition in remunerable terms of women's role in society can effect the prospect of generating a more pragmatic development approach. The Committee's focus on the most recent international initiatives - particularly the NIEO and the IDS - will complement the World Survey's detailed account of women's role in selected aspects of national economies.

52. WHO commented that "In general, if the outline were to remain as it is, there are health impact statements which should be made in all sections. The outline, as it is, would lead to repetitious text, without allowing for adequate discussion of the interrelationships of all the sections.

53. UNCTC noted that this outline appeared to have been written without much specific focus on methodology at the national or regional level or amount of data that will be available in support of such an undertaking. It would be of greater benefit if the outline could, for example, when examining

each topic, region by region, indicate in each case the countries that would be looked at in this connection or the regional information that can be expected to find. It is suggested that countries where statistics are likely to be available should be identified. In most developed countries such statistics should be available, whilst only a few developing countries would have the relevant data. In looking at the various sectors, it would be of interest to compare development in industrialized countries as opposed to developing countries and see how progress has been made in the integration of women in the various sectors by comparing the more matured industries from the sectoral viewpoint with those which are still in the process of development. Emphasis could also be given to identify problems and issues in order to find solutions for them in the future and also to ensure the extension and continuation of maximum benefits.

III - Revised Recommended Procedures

A. Proposed work

54. In its resolution 36/74 adopted in 4 December 1981, on the "Comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development" the General Assembly emphasized the need for a multi-sectoral and inter-disciplinary survey on the role of women in development. The resolution also requested the Secretary-General to prepare the survey in close collaboration with the UN system and national institutions with expertise on this subject. At its 37th session, the General Assembly (on 24 November - A/C/37/L.34) adopted a further resolution recommending that the survey be submitted to 1985 World Conference.

55. In line with the above, an annotated outline was prepared by the Branch for the Advancement of Women reflecting the recommendations of resolution 36/74 and was endorsed by the Intra-departmental Working Group on Women in June 1982 in New York.

56. In order to ensure the most effective collaboration and co-operation within the UN system in the preparation of the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development, pursuant paragraph 6 of the General Assembly resolution 36/74, the Under Secretary-General for International Economics and Social Affairs in 28 June 1982 requested all interested specialized agencies and other UN organizations to consider the proposed annotated outline of the survey.

and to indicate the areas in which they might contribute and the nature of the proposed collaboration. They were asked also for their views and suggestions on the specific issues to be dealt with in each of the survey's chapters.

57. The replies ⁽¹⁾ to the letter of the Under Secretary-General for International Economics and Social Affairs requesting specialized agencies and UN organization to indicate their contributions to the annotated outline of the survey are summarized in chapter II.

The main feature of those replies are the following:

- (a) Extensive comments and suggestions on the substantive content and format of the survey as well as on the methodological approach of the survey. If all were to be included in the survey these comments and suggestions would substantially expand the outline of the survey.
- (b) Intention to make available to the Branch for the Advancement of Women information, documents and studies prepared or in preparation by those agencies and UN organization within their work programmes as useful background information for the survey.
- (c) Only one agency - UNHCR - offered to prepare a draft section for the survey on Women Refugees, not an area covered in the circulated annotated outline of the survey.

(1) to present date these replies are 24

58. The annotated outline of the survey is an ambitious undertaking. A research study of this magnitude would require a large amount of resources. In addition the suggestions received from the agencies and UN organizations if they were to be included they would expand even more the areas of coverage of the survey, making it difficult for the Secretariat to take them into consideration unless those agencies would be prepared to contribute with drafting. Furthermore, the outline was prepared on the assumption that the relevant agencies would contribute to the drafting of some specialized sections.

59. The limited resources allocated for the survey, the diversity of expertise required to prepare highly specialized sections of the survey which is not sufficiently presently available in the Secretariat and the difficulty of the specialized agencies to contribute to the drafting of the specialized areas of the survey, have oriented the BAW to envisage a shorter and simpler survey. This would be a more realistic approach which is based on the expected resource availability of the Secretariat (time, finance, manpower, etc.).

60. The revised outline of the survey proposed to replace the annotated outline is attached in Annex II . The emphasis is now based on factual analytical evidence rather than opinionative, evaluative and judgemental. A factual picture of recent, past and present situation of women in different spheres of socio-economic life by region will be given based on quantitative and

qualitative available data. It is envisaged that the time period under coverage be at least 10 years. These data will be analysed within the objective to highlight progress made in the advancement of women in absolute terms and in relation to men and the benefits accruing to women.

61. As a result the revised outline starts with an overview chapter in which statistical data on issues such as demography, education and employment are gathered and analysed. The overview will also analyse inter-relationships among key development issues with regard to women's current and future roles in development.

62. The chapters of the annotated outline on specific economic sectors and areas are maintained. However, their sections on "Ways and Means of improving women's role" and on "Potential impact of improvement upon achievement of overall development goals" were deleted from the revised outline. The reasons for deletion are that these sections would have corresponded to specialized agency inputs in the form of draft which are not forthcoming. On the otherhand, the present limited resources for the survey do not enable the Secretariat to fully replace and compensate for the reduced external input. However, this would have the advantage of concentrating the survey on descriptive and analytical aspects based as much as possible on statistical data. Policy questions as well as evaluation based

on existing insufficient methodological approaches, are not included in the revised outline of the survey.

63. In the following paragraphs a suggestion for procedure to be followed by the Secretariat and agencies/organizations in the preparation of the survey according to the revised outline is sketched. Also a tentative timetable is given.

B - Proposed Organization of Work

64. The Secretariat will be responsible for the first drafting of all chapters of the survey. However, it will rely on published and unpublished material expected to be supplied, following requests of the Secretariat by agencies/organizations. For instance statistical data for the overview chapter is expected to be supplied by the UNSO, UN Population Division and agencies in particular UNESCO, ILO, FAO, regional commissions, etc. Also relevant information, documents, and studies prepared by agencies/organizations will be welcome for the preparation of the sectoral chapters. On the basis of this information and with the assistance of consultancy services the Secretariat will prepare the first draft of the survey. However, if any agency/organization will be prepared to draft any sectoral chapter or part of it in collaboration with the Secretariat, according to the revised outline, it still fits within this procedural approach. It is a matter of mutual consultations and harmonization of that chapter with the rest of the survey.

65. Once the first draft is completed under the responsibility of

the Secretariat, it will be circulated by the agencies/organizations for comments and reviewing. On the basis of this additional material the Secretariat will revise the draft which next will be sent for editing.

66. A tentative timetable for the preparation of the survey according to the revised outline is given in Annex I.

Annex I

Schedule of Actions Required by UN Systems of Organizations

Schedule of Actions Required by UN Systems of Organizations

Time Frame	Actions	
	Branch for the Advancement of Women	Specialized Agencies and Other UN Organizations Including Regional Commissions
<u>1983</u>		
January	Analysis of the statistical information to be requested	
February	Prepare note on revised outline for the preparation body meeting	Transmit to the BAW how and when they supply requested information
	Interagency meeting in which the revised outline will be discussed	
February - March		
	Preparatory body meeting	
April - May		Send to BAW first round of information
June - December	Analysis of information received, research, request of more information, initial drafting and consultancy services	
<u>1984</u>		
January March	Continuation of drafting and consultancy services	
April		Receive first draft of survey for comments
June-July	Receive comments on first draft survey	
July-August	Preparation of a summary of survey for the report to the 39th session of the General Assembly	
September	Report for the General Assembly	
September-December	Redrafting, editing of survey	Consultations with BAW on redrafting of survey
<u>1985</u>		
January-April	Official editing, translation, processing and printing	
May	Publication and distribution to countries	

Annex II

15 December 1982

Revised Outline of the World Survey on the
Role of Women in Development

Revised Outline of the World Survey on the
Role of Women in Development

Preface

1. Will explain the mandate and purpose of the survey. Its structure and coverage will be described as well as the procedures adopted and contributions received in its preparation.

Introduction and Summary

2. It will briefly describe the content of the survey and summarize the main features and findings. A brief description of the methodological approach adopted may also be included.

I - OVERVIEW

3. Based on statistical data, whenever available and on qualitative information, a factual picture of the recent, past and present situation and the role of women in different areas of socio-economic life by region will be given. The main issues to be dealt with are:

(a) Demographic which will give a perspective of the populational magnitudes involved. Demographic data on total and female population. Age structure of female population, fertility rates and population growth rates. Dependency ratios. Total and female potential labour force supply.

(b) Education The quality of female population and labour force will be gathered here. Educational enrolments of total and female students by level and type of education (formal schooling, on the job training, adult education extension services, continuous education, etc.). Curricula of graduates: arts, science, social sciences, technology, etc.

(c) Employment Formal employment of wage and salary earners, self-employed income earners and unpaid labour would be reviewed here for total and female labour. Some of these broad categories are likely to be concentrated in different industrial sectors and areas.

Self-employed in agriculture, trade and commerce and some services, Wage and salary earners in manufacturing, banking and other services and unpaid labour is particularly related to household labour. Statistical data on employment of total and female labour by main sectors, according to the UN ISIC classification and by occupation according to the ILO classification will be gathered and analysed.

II - THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE

A. The present role of women in agriculture

4. This section will provide a succinct but comprehensive review of the present role of women, organized region by region. It will summarize the most important changes caused by those current organizational and technological processes having a major impact. Processes which might be included are, for example, the expansion of agribusiness, the green revolution and increasing population pressure upon land and water resources.

B. Benefits accruing to women

5. This section will provide an assessment of the benefits accruing to women as a result of their participation in agriculture. It will give predominance to assessment of income, conditions of work and decision-making. It will conclude with a summary of the major implications of the extent to which women benefit - or fail to benefit - for those aspects of women's condition and status, such as health, reproductive behaviour and educational, social and legal status, which in turn determine women's potential contribution to national economies as producers, reproducers of the labour force and consumers.

III - THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN INDUSTRY

A. The present role of women in industry

6. This section will provide a succinct but comprehensive review of the present role of women, organized region by region. It will summarize the most important changes caused by those current organizational and technological processes having a major impact. Processes which might be included are, for example, the redeployment of industries from developed to developing countries, expansion of export-oriented manufacturing employing significant numbers of women, de-industrialization of rural areas and changes in traditionally female industries such as textiles.

B. Benefits accruing to women

7. The content of this section will be analogous to that in the corresponding section of Chapter II.

IV - THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN TRADE

A. The present role of women in trade

8. This section will provide a succinct but comprehensive review of the present role of women, organized region by region. It will summarize the most important changes caused by those current organizational and technological processes having a major impact. Processes which might be included are, for example, the expansion of large-scale enterprises, often associated with international agribusiness, and the significant shift of population from rural to urban areas.

B. Benefits accruing to women

9. The content of this section will be analagous to that in the corresponding section of Chapter II.

V - THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE USE, CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF ENERGY RESOURCES

A. The present role of women in the use, conservation and development of energy resources

10. This section will provide a succinct but comprehensive review of the present role of women, organized region by region. It will summarize the most important changes caused by those current organizational and technological processes having a major impact. Processes which might be included are, for example, the significant rise in costs of non-renewable energy sources, especially when imported, the degradation of traditional energy sources such as fuel-wood, the availability of technology for small-scale energy resource utilization.

B. Benefits accruing to women

11. The content of this section will be analagous to that in the corresponding section of Chapter II.

VI - THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN MONEY AND FINANCE

A. The present role of women in money and finance

12. This section will provide a succinct but comprehensive review of the present role of women, organized region by region. It will summarize the most important changes caused by those current organizational and technological processes having a major impact.

Processes which might be included are the effects of inflation and associated remedial policies, the shift in financial procedures and institutions from traditional to more modern, urban types.

B. Benefits accruing to women

13. The content of this section will be analagous to that in the corresponding section of Chapter II.

VII - THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

A. The present role of women in the development and application of science and technology

14. This section will provide a succinct but comprehensive review of the present role of women, organized region by region. It will summarize the most important changes caused by those current organizational and technological processes having a major impact. Processes which might be included are, for example, the continued adoption of exogenous technology inappropriate to the circumstances, particularly those of women, and the failure to include women in the development and application of science and technology, particularly utilisation of endogenous knowledge and decision-making in this area.

B. Benefits accruing to women

15. The content of this section will be analagous to that in the corresponding section of Chapter II.

Selected Bibliography

16. This will be designed to indicate to the general reader the principal sources whereby further information on the major issues covered by the Survey may be obtained. It will not attempt to list all of the sources utilized in preparation of the Survey.

ADDENDUM

Texts of Replies of Organizations

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE

27 July 1982

World survey on the role of women in development

Referring to your letter dated 28 June 1982, we have taken note of the outline of the above survey. As it was agreed before, we shall be pleased to send you in due time any available ILO reports and studies relevant to items: II. The role of women in agriculture; III. The role of women in industry; VII. The role of women in the development and application of science and technology. We hope that this material will be useful for the consultant who is going to prepare this survey.

Please let us know when you would like to receive these documents and in which language.

- Effects of agricultural development on the status of women, WEP 10-4-04-24-1-159-5
- Participación de la mujer en el empleo y el desarrollo rural en America Latina y el Caribe, WEP 10-4-04-24-1-86
- Développement capitaliste et perception des femmes dans la société arabo-musulmane WEP 10-4-04-690
- Rural women in a resettlement project: the case of Libya, WEP 10-4-04-24-1-159-4
- Technological change and rural women, WEP 2-22/WP.46
- Technology and rural women in Africa, WEP 2-22/WP.61
- Rural development planning and the sexual division of labour, a case study of a Moslem Hausa village, WEP 10/WP.10
- Women in agriculture: peasant production ... WEP 10/WP.13
- Population, employment and development in the Arab region: Scope and prospects, WEP Working Paper No. 11
- Rural women of Thailand: from peasant girls ... WEP 10/Wp.14)
- Economic role and status of women: ... beedi... WEP 10/WP.15
- Housewives produce for the world market ... WEP 18/WP.16
- Position of women workers ... Sri Lanka, WEP 10/WP.18
- Preliminary study of women rubber estate workers ... WEP 10/WP.19
- Survival strategies ... WEP 10/WP.17
- Agricultural modernisation and Third World women ... WEP 10/WP.21
- A conceptual framework for the analysis ... technological change, WEP/WP.31
- Technologies for rural women's activities, Sierra Leone, WEP/WP.86
- Rural women ... Ghana, WEP/WP.87

- Eleventh Conference of American States Members of the International L.O., Medellin, 1979: Report III (Conditions of Work, Vocational Training ...)

- Asian Regional Conference, Fifth Session, 1980: Report III (Problems of rural workers in Asia and the Pacific)

- ILO/W.1/1982 (Engl. and French - Bibliography)

- ILO/W.3/1982 (Extra-Budgetary Financed Projects in Favour of Women)

attached

Follow-up of the World Employment Conference: Basic Needs (65th Session, 1979: Report VII)

to be added

- Training and Women (attached)

- Le rôle économique et social des femmes face à la technologie, CONDI/T/1979/15
- Le travail de la femme et le développement des pays, CONDI/T/1980/2
- Report to the Government of Fiji on Vocational Training and Home Industries, Training for Women, Project findings and recommendations, FIJ/75/013, 1977
- Rapport au Gouvernement de la République algérienne démocratique et populaire sur le Développement de la formation professionnelle des femmes - résultats du projet et recommandations en découlant, ALG/77/007, 1978
- Training of Women for Entry into Non-Traditional Occupations (Intern. Seminar on Opening up to Women of Vocational Training and Jobs traditionally occupied by Men, Frankfurt, Nov. 1980)

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION

30 July 1982

I write with reference to the draft annotated outline of a world survey on the role of women in development, transmitted for our consideration in accordance with General Assembly resolution 36/74 by letter dated 28 June 1982 from Mr. S.U. Yolgh, Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs.

The draft has been considered with great interest in the Secretariat. However, it does not appear that there is any contribution which IMO can appropriately make to any of the six major areas of discussion to be included in the scope of the world survey. We are, therefore, not in a position to make any observations or suggestions on the draft outline at this stage.

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

9 August 1982

I have for reply a letter (ref. SO 540) to the Managing Director related to General Assembly resolution 36/74. I have no specific comments to offer on section VI which might involve the area of competence of the Fund, but would welcome an opportunity to review a more complete draft later.

10 August 1982

We refer to Mr. Yolah's letter SO 540 dated 28 June 1982 pertaining to the General Assembly resolution referred to above and requesting our comments.

Concerning UNDP's contribution to the survey, we would like to refer to our Evaluation Study No. 3, Rural Women's Participation in Development, which contains material of immediate relevance to the proposed world survey. For ease of reference we attach a copy of our study although the Centre has received many copies in the past.

On the specific subjects to be dealt with by the survey we have the following comments:

1) Chapter on agriculture

Without detailed knowledge of the discussion that led to the recommendations for subject matters to be dealt with by the survey, it is difficult to judge the merits of the proposals. However, we wish to raise the point that agriculture is often no longer the predominant source of employment in rural areas. While men leave in search of alternative employment in the cities or in other countries, to an increasing extent women also leave the rural areas, leaving large segments of the population living in absolute poverty. To deal with these problems a diversified strategy of rural development, not limited to agriculture, will be needed and we find the suggested outline somewhat deficient in this respect. A subject matter of major importance that is not specifically identified and could be included here is the relationship between food production and nutrition and women's crucial role in both areas of activity.

2) Chapter on industry

In this chapter, particularly in section D, it would seem pertinent to stress the importance of small-scale industrial development, both from the point of view of development in general and from the point of view of women's participation in industrial development. As noted in Rural Women's Participation in Development: "Rural industries could supply basic needs goods suitable to local market conditions and provide opportunities for investing rural surpluses locally as well as means of satisfying and refining local entrepreneurial initiatives. In addition to rural industrial development, there is considerable scope for related activities, such as repair and maintenance, construction and productive development of the tertiary sector. Unless much more varied activities are established closer to where the rural population lives, it is difficult to see how the heavy rural-urban flow of migration can be contained, as is commonly desired". (para. 608). These matters are also stressed in the "International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade."

3) Chapter on trade

Throughout this chapter it would seem especially important to stress women's contribution, through their increasing participation in the trade of foodstuffs and consumer goods, to the survival of the poor, that is, to the more efficient utilization of scarce resources through a highly competitive and specialized marketing system.

4) Chapter on energy

Access to energy may be viewed as a basic service of special importance to women's work. Viewed from this perspective, the energy chapter points to the omission of any consideration of the importance of basic services in the survey. Without access to basic services, such as primary health care, education and training, water supply and sanitation facilities, energy, roads and transportation facilities, it is difficult to see how women's participation in development can become effective.

To conclude these brief observations, it seems that the suggested outline is somewhat deficient in that it omits a number of areas that are of crucial interest to women's role in development, such as the need to create non-farm rural employment opportunities and to pay increased attention to the provision of basic services including the development of community-based delivery systems. If the progress report on the work of the survey that will be presented to the General Assembly this year made proposals for the remedy of these matters, the value of the survey would be enhanced.

We hope that you will find these comments and observations useful.

UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES

11 August 1982

Referring to Under-Secretary-General Yolah's letter of 28 June 1982 with the attached annotated outline on the above mentioned subject, we are pleased to provide the following comments for your consideration:

The proposed outline is very well structured and covers the areas suggested in General Assembly resolution 36/74 on a comprehensive review.

We note with satisfaction that in Chapter II which deals with the role of women in agriculture, "population pressure" and reproductive behaviour have been included among those factors which are associated with women's status as well as the process of agricultural development. However, this attention to population variables does not seem to continue in the remaining chapters. We, therefore, would like to suggest that, if possible, in the design of the survey additional recognition be given to the fact that the desired increase in the participation of women in non-traditional jobs outside the home is influenced by a number of social and economic factors which may enhance or hinder such a process. Among those factors associated with women's participation are the nature of home responsibilities, marital status, and the presence of young children in the family as well as their number.

Various studies have shown that the rate of women's participation in the labour force is related to the age and number of their children. The higher birth rate which increases the burden of family responsibilities, combined with the absence of household conveniences which lighten the workload of women are therefore recognized as major factors discouraging women from seeking outside job opportunities. Similarly, educational attainment which is directly related to labour force participation may be interrupted by early pregnancies which result in withdrawal from school.

Consideration of the above mentioned issues may provide a clearer understanding of why it is difficult for women to benefit from expanding job opportunities without appropriate changes in the child and family-related aspects of their life.

We hope the above comments will be useful in finalizing the outline of the survey. Additionally, we would like to express UNFPA's willingness and interest in participating in the preparation of the survey under consideration.

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

12 August 1982

REYOUR LET REF S0540 AND REQUEST UNEP CONTRIBUTION CAN BE MADE
CHAPTER V THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE USE OF CONSERVATION AND
DEVELOPMENT OF ENERGY RESOURCES. (UNITERRA NAIROBI)

COL 1244-08 S0540 V

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

13 August 1982

Thank you for your letter (Ref. SO 540) of June 28, 1982, with which you sent UN resolution 36/74 on a Comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development.

We read with interest the said resolution as well as the proposed annotated outline for the survey and have no comments to offer at this stage.

17 August 1982

With reference to Shuaib U. Yolah's letter of 28 June and following my letter to you of 27 July, I am sending you, under separate cover, the promised material. The documents are in English with the exception of those available only in French.

-- Please find attached photocopies of our dispatch lists. As our unit does not keep stock of all the documents sent, it may be possible that one or some of them are not included because no longer available.

- Convention No. 110
 - Convention No. 129
 - ~~Et~~ Recommendation No. 110
 - "environnement africain" (initiative de groupe et stérilisation administrative, les teinturières de Bargny)
 - Development and mounting famine: a role for women (ILR)
 - Women's work as viewed in present-day Algerian society (ILR)
 - The economic slowdown and women's employment opportunities (ILR)
 - The plight of rural women: alternatives for action (ILR)
 - Handicrafts: a source of employment for women in developing rural economies (ILR)
 - Rural women and the basic-needs approach to development (ILR)
 - Programme: Rural women
 - Rural women - unequal partners in development
 - Women in rural development - the People's Republic of China
 - Women and rural development, some critical issues
 - Women, technology and the development process, ILO/W.3/1978
 - ... African women in development, ILO/W.3/1977
 - Women women in Asia today, ILO/W.5/1982/Rev.1
 - Women in industry in developing countries, ILO/W.6/1978
 - Women's participation in the economic activity of the world, ILO/W.3/
- A ajouter:
- ~~Women workers and the development process, ILO/W.7/1979~~ out of stock

UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

18 August 1982

Par sa lettre SO 540 datée du 28 juin 1982 qui nous est parvenue le 21 juillet 1982, M. Shuaib U. Yolah a attiré notre attention sur la résolution 36/74 relative au plan d'ensemble pour une étude mondiale sur le rôle des femmes dans le développement.

Après avoir pris connaissance de cette communication, notre Bureau vous informe qu'au stade actuel il n'a pas de commentaires à formuler à ce sujet, étant donné la nature des activités de l'Union postale universelle et compte tenu du fait que l'étude en question comporte une analyse axée en particulier sur le commerce, l'agriculture, l'industrie, l'énergie, l'argent et les finances et la science et la technique.

Cependant, notre Bureau prendra connaissance avec intérêt, le moment venu, du rapport y relatif du Secrétaire général à l'Assemblée générale.

18 August 1982

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) received the letter dated 28 June 1982 from Under-Secretary-General Shuaib U. Yolah, United Nations Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, transmitting the annotated outline for the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development: Selected Aspects of Women's Role in National Economies, along with General Assembly resolution 36/74, Comprehensive Outline of a World Survey on the Role of Women in Development, (4 December 1981-A/36/694/Add.11).

UNITAR is pleased to co-operate with the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, particularly with its Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs (CSDHA), in the preparation of this important survey.

Complimentary copies of our Institute's recent publication, Scientific-Technological Change and the Role of Women in Development were forwarded to M. Kubota, Assistant Director, Branch for the Advancement of Women, CSDHA, on 12 November 1981. This critique by women of male-generated and -dominated technologies grows out of a consciousness of women's positions as essential, yet unsalaried participants in production processes. The authors document the ways in which women suffer from technological development in industrialized and developing countries and assess how technological developments perpetuate inequities between nations, regions, classes and the sexes. They discuss the implementation of modern technology in agriculture and its effects on rural women, look at the position of women in basic and applied sciences and in science policy-making, and analyze the place of women in selected technology-based industries.

This UNITAR book is viewed as a contribution of our Institute to the preparation of chapters II, III, and VII of the World Survey, on the role of women in agriculture, industry and the development and application of science and technology, respectively. The listing of this publication in the Selected Bibliography of the World Survey would be greatly appreciated by the Institute.

Moreover, UNITAR and INSTRAW are considering the establishment, under joint auspices, of an independent international committee on alternative development with the participation of women. The purpose of this committee is to formulate a broad conceptual framework for analyzing contemporary patterns of international economic, social and cultural relationships incorporating women's experience, perspectives and priorities. The Committee is also envisaged to review and analyze how greater recognition in remunerable terms of women's role in society can effect the prospect of generating a more pragmatic development approach. The Committee's focus on the most recent international initiatives - particularly the NIEO and the IDS - will complement the World Survey's detailed account of women's role in selected aspects of national economies.

Looking forward to continued co-operation toward the full equality of women in economic, political and social development,

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR
THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

20 August 1982

With reference to the invitation extended to INSTRAW to participate in the expert group meeting on Women and the International Development Strategy, to be convened in Vienna in September 1982, please find enclosed herewith our comment on the annotated outline of the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development.

As to your request for a brief paper on women's role in services, it will be sent shortly after under separate cover.

I hope you will take into consideration the fact that we have received the invitation a little late and it did not ask for our comment on the World Survey.

1. Although the Annotated Outline follows rather faithfully the Comprehensive Outline as adopted by the General Assembly resolution 36/74, some general remarks could be made with regard to the overall structure of the Annotated Outline:

a. Section I - Overview should contain expressed reference to the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, in particular the special provisions relating to the integration of women in over-all development, since the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development should inter alia provide the basis for the mid-decade assessment of the implementation of the Third Development Decade.

b. Every section of the Outline refers to the principle of developing countries' self-reliance, which is understandable, since the Survey should concentrate on the position of women at national levels.

It would be more coherent, however, if the principle of self-reliance, particularly the collective self-reliance (i.e., economic and technical cooperation among developing countries) as referred to in

operative paragraph 4 of the General Assembly resolution 36/74, had been dealt with in a more consolidated manner. Therefore, it is suggested that a separate, final chapter of the Survey could be devoted to those issues.

It should be noted that developing countries devoted particular attention to their mutual cooperation at many regional meetings, particularly regional preparatory conferences held on the eve of the Mid-Decade Conference in Copenhagen. The assessment of the achieved results and main guidelines to be followed in the future could be most useful.

2. In Section II, The Role of Women in Agriculture, some areas that might be included for examination are:

Section A - the present role of women in agriculture.

a. The assessment of women's role in subsistence agricultural production which remains mainly invisible in national accounts and/or data;

b. The replacement of subsistence agricultural production by cash crop or export production and its effect on women's workload and decrease of their economic benefit due to the increase in price of imported food;

c. Change in land ownership because of new legislation accompanying land reform, land reclamation and green revolution;

d. Migration from rural areas; either the migration of male members of the family or women themselves;

e. Women's access to markets, agricultural credits and participation in agricultural cooperatives.

Section C - Ways and means of improving women's role in agriculture.

The strategies and measures should be clearly outlined, such as, for example, vocational training for rural women, which is essential for women in order to cope with new technology which is brought in either by agricultural mechanization or agribusiness; enhancing the traditional patterns of organization (e.g., Mexican ejido), etc.

Section D - Potential impact of improvement upon achievement of over-all development goals. If women's requirements in agriculture are taken into consideration, it is necessary to incorporate development goals to be attained: food security and the reduction in balance of payments deficit through decrease in import of food and foodstuffs.

3. Section III - The Role of Women in Industry

a. Reference to technology-related problems might be appropriate whenever the issue of redeployment of industries is tackled. In this respect women's training and re-training is most important to increase their skills so as to avoid loss of employment opportunities with the introduction of new industries.

b. The impact of activities related to transnational corporations should be analyzed, in particular with regard to women's employment:

c. The role of women in endogenous small industries and artisan works in order to protect those activities so that they should not disappear with modernization, since they are an important source of women's employment and increased income.

4. The Role of Women in Trade

Additional issues to be incorporated might be:

- a. Women's contribution to the production of main export commodities;
- b. Policy of protectionism and trade barriers and their impact on women;
- c. Women's role in formal trade activities;
- d. Women's role in petty trade.

Sections B and C. More specific annotations should be given, such as which portion of export earnings is used for women's benefit, as compared to their contribution in production, etc.

5. The Role of Women in the Use, Conservation and Development of Energy Resources

Women's role as users and providers of conventional and renewable sources of energy should be delineated so as to devise adequate measures in both spheres, such as rural electrification, the use of renewable sources of energy, etc. Possible topics might include:

- a. Census of household fuel shortages, such as decreasing supplies of traditional fuels, access to fuel supplies, destruction or depletion of supplies;
- b. Effects of shortages (alternative sources of energy, commercial fuels) or reduction of energy use;
- c. Impact of household fuel scarcities on women's work and family existence;
- d. Implications for policy intervention.

6. The Role of Women in Money and Finance

This section needs more careful delineation in terms of identifying the main issues, such as:

- a. Salient features of investment policy and the role of women in decision-making processes;
- b. Access of women to credit schemes, particularly those granted under concessionary conditions;
- c. Effects of inflation and monetary instability on family budgets;
- d. Employment of women in the sector of money and finance; their frequency in the top managerial and decision-making positions.

7. The Role of Women in Development and Application of Science and Technology

The most important features of particular components of the science and technology process should be delineated; e.g., those referring to "hard" technology (equipment) and "soft" technology (management, information, scientific systems, education, etc.). According to the classification adopted, the role of women should be highlighted, both as producers and users of scientific and technological achievements relevant to the development of particular sectors of national economy. Accompanying problems such as safety at work should also be included.

/...

8. Methodological Remarks

The most important task still to be resolved refers to the establishment of a firm methodological framework in view of the fact that women are not a homogeneous group and, therefore, the necessity arises of adopting some broader groupings for the sake of analysis.

A regional approach seems to be adequate, although the analysis should be concentrated on examples at the national level, in view of the expressed differences among countries in each region.

When considering the role of women in development, it may be stressed that it should be envisaged not only as the contribution to the transformation of the expressed dichotomy between traditional and modern sectors of production which prevails in the majority of developing countries. Cultures and countries should be carefully considered, as well as social mobility, social structures, etc.

Equally challenging is the inclusion of problems facing women in developed countries which could be tackled also by approaching problems in invisible sectors (such as household, some services) and formal sectors of the economy. However, in view of the methodological difficulties, the most salient features should be highlighted.

Finally, as refers to the basic research techniques, practical objectives have to be defined more closely, as well as methods and use of source material, time frame of research and final presentation of research results. It would enable INSTRAW to plan for its participation.

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES
IN THE NEAR EAST

20 August 1982

I refer to Mr Yolah's letter of 28 June concerning General Assembly resolution 36/74, which requests a "Comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development".

Given the decision to deal "primarily with selected aspects of the role of women in national economies", the survey falls outside the scope of UNRWA's mandate. I regret, therefore, that we are unable to offer a contribution to the study which would be relevant or helpful on this occasion.

25 August 1982

I refer to Mr. Yolah's letter of June 28, 1982 concerning General Assembly resolution 36/74 on a "Comprehensive Outline of a World Survey on the Role of Women in Development". He asked for Bank documents on the annotated outline of the survey as well as an indication of possible Bank collaboration with the study.

The proposed survey is comprehensive; relevant World Bank experience on which the survey could draw is concentrated in the agriculture, industry, and forestry sectors. The main issues which women face in the implementation of Bank-assisted projects and the Bank's approach to dealing with these issues are summarized in the following papers prepared by the Bank's Adviser on women in development and which are attached.

- 1) Women in Agriculture: Review of Some Sector Reports
- 2) Note on Some Activities of The World Bank Related to Women in Industry
- 3) Forestry Projects and Women.

"Project Design Issues" (copy attached) also covers a number of concerns relating to women at the earliest stages of the project cycle, including implications for technology choice; however, no similar experience in the role of women in relation to trade or money and finance has been undertaken.

Following your review of these papers, the Bank's Adviser on Women in Development, Mrs. Gloria Scott, would be pleased to follow up on any relevant gaps in the material which you might identify, and to comment on the consolidated outline, if requested.

UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

26 August 1982

I refer to memo No. SO 540 of 28 June 1982 from Mr. Shuaib U. Yolah on the subject of "World Survey on the Role of Women in Development: Selected Aspects of Women's Role in National Economies". We have studied the annotated outline and find that it covers all significant areas where women's role should be promoted, both as agents and beneficiaries of development.

However, perhaps because the survey is focussed on analysing the role of women in key developmental issues, it does not mention or touch on the role and situation of women refugees. You are aware that of the nearly 10 million refugees in the world about 60% are women and girls. The High Commissioner, in his efforts to find durable solutions for refugees, attaches great importance to developing the potentials of women refugees, assisting them towards self-support and involving them in the decision-making process relating to administration of camps and other matters affecting their lives and well-being. In the light of this and in view of the unabating problem of refugees we believe that an analysis of or reference to the situation, and role of women refugees in the development of their own conditions which may directly or indirectly contribute to the economies of their host or adopted countries deserves coverage by the proposed survey.

UNHCR submitted a paper titled "The Situation of Women Refugees the World Over" at the Copenhagen Conference which indicated the particular vulnerability of women refugees and suggested some ways for solving their problems and further studies. In the context of the proposed survey UNHCR can prepare a contribution which would include:

- a. a brief analysis of the situation of women refugees;
- b. role of women refugees in their integration and development of their conditions in host countries, and
- c. role of women refugees in some of the areas listed in the annotated outline.

The UNHCR contribution can appear as a separate item in the survey report or as part of Chapter I, the Overview. A reference should in any case be made in this chapter to the women refugees and their role in development with an indication of the fact that attainment of self-reliance by them will ultimately lessen the burden on host countries and the international community.

If you find the above proposal acceptable or would like to suggest other ways of giving coverage to women refugees we would be happy to prepare the contribution according to your suggestion.

26 August 1982

I refer to my letter of 18 August 1982 and to the letter dated 28 June 1982 by which Mr. Shuaib U. Yolah, Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs, forwarded a copy of General Assembly resolution 36/74 and of the Annotated Outline of the "World Survey on the Role of Women in Development: Selected Aspects of Women's Role in National Economies", asking that views and suggestions on specific issues should be forwarded to you.

You will recall that in operative paragraph 3, the General Assembly recommends that the world survey should cover, inter alia "(c) Ways and Means of improving women's role as agents and beneficiaries of development at the national, regional and international levels; (d) The potential impact of such improvements on the achievement of over-all development goals."

I realize that the World Survey that is being prepared is limited to selected aspects of women's role in national economies. However, I should like to bring to your attention the fact that at the UNITAR Colloquium on Women and Decision-making in the United Nations, it was noted that it was important that women should be included in decision-making positions in the United Nations, particularly in decision-making positions related to development, because women in such positions could have an influence on international programming and allocation of funds for the country level that would be responsive to women's needs and concerns. I wonder whether this will be dealt with in the "overview" section, or whether you think it would be worth adding a section entitled "The role of women at the international level as agents of development at the national level".

There are several UNITAR publications that are relevant in this respect, namely The Situation of Women in the United Nations (UNITAR Research Report No. 18), "The Situation of Women in the United Nations - Revisited" in Women and the UN (UNITAR News, Vol. 7, No. 1), and Volumes I and II of The United Nations and Decision-making: the role of women (E.78.XV.CR/10 and CR/11). The essay on "Women and decision-making in the United Nations at the regional and country level) in Vol. II of the last named publication is of particular relevance. Ms. Kubota has copies of all these publications.

UNITAR is in the process of publishing a book on Creative Women in Changing Societies resulting from the UNITAR Oslo Seminar on this subject. This volume, too, will be of interest in connection with the compilation of the World Survey, from the viewpoint of women's role as agents of development at the national level in various ways and in various fields. I shall see that a copy is sent to you as soon as possible.

WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

27 August 1982

As requested by Mr. Yolah in his letter of 28 June 1982, I am providing you with a number of comments and suggestions concerning the "Comprehensive outline of a world survey on the rôle of women in development" called for by General Assembly resolution 36/74.

WFP will be happy to collaborate on ways and means of improving women's rôle as agents and beneficiaries of development in its various aspects (trade, agriculture, industry, energy, etc); and at the same time wishes to point out that WFP food aid could be treated in the survey as a tool for improving the status of women. By itself it is a cross sectoral instrument for promoting development and improving the nutritional status of women. Therefore, although WFP would not be in a position to contribute substantive material to the survey, it could provide information on how food aid is effective (or not, depending on the case) in improving women's status.

We feel that in the sections of the report of relevance to WFP - Chapter II, The Role of Women in Agriculture (Sections C and D), Chapter II, The Role of Women in Industry, with particular reference to small-scale industries (Sections C and D); Chapter IV, The Role of Women in Trade (Sections C and D); Chapter V, The Role of Women in the Use, Conservation and Development of Energy Resources (Sections C and D) - , special mention should be made of the rôle of women in improving nutrition, which is of special interest to WFP since food aid is a nutritional supplement, as well as being a means for improving agricultural production and nutrition habits through nutrition education.

... In this connexion we are attaching a copy of the Manual on women prepared for the 1980 Conference (WFP/CFA: 9/6) which may serve as a source of material on ways to assist women to better their economic and social positions.

The advantages of food aid in reaching women are as follows: (a) its direct nutritional benefits; (b) its capacity to redistribute incomes (food) toward the poorer sections of the population; (c) its appeal in bringing women together to collect food rations from a central distribution point which can serve as a base for the provision of important social services; (d) through a project approach to development assistance, WFP can deploy food aid in a variety of ways to stimulate new developmental activities for women; and (e) the food aid distribution system itself can generate new employment and organizational opportunities for women. A list of proposals for reorienting on-going WFP-supported activities is attached.

...
We believe that emphasis should be given in the report to the "lessons learned" over the decade by sector. In other words, what types of projects were successful and why? Where projects aimed specifically at women were more successful than projects where sub-components included women's activities, such as forestry development projects with a fuel-wood lot or nursery components?

Close inter-agency cooperation would ensure the maximum benefit from the UN system's resources and maximize its impact on the beneficiaries.

I trust that these observations may prove useful to you in preparing the survey.

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UN/CTAD 9/6
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ANNEX

PROPOSALS FOR REORIENTING ONGOING WFP-SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

CLASSIFICATION OF WFP-SUPPORTED ACTIVITY	Measures to improve direct access of girls and women	Measures to improve long-term benefits
(a) Feeding of mothers and pre-school children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Women are primary beneficiaries, though eligibility restricted to pregnant/nursing - Reach the poor through active recruitment and mobile units 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emphasize production of local foods - Incorporate a longer training component - Work through women's groups for organization building
(b) Feeding in educational/training institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Food aid as an inducement to correct sexual imbalances in schools and vocational programmes, e.g. to build girls' schools, hostels, child-care in training programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emphasize education/training with goal of employment - Support district training centres for intermediate level staff serving rural areas; also short-term training for village women
(c) Self-help community development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote female participation in decisions re. what to do - Promote participation as workers with training at same level as men (carpentry, masonry, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emphasize construction of facilities with long-term benefits for women (water supplies, grain storage and processing crèches, hostels, women's markets)
(d) Large-scale agricultural production crops, fishery, animals/dairy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recognize women's current productive role in raising food, animals, processing fish, etc. - Provide training for women in all aspects of agricultural production and equipment; access to credit; co-operatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Build organizational capacity so women gain greater returns to their labour - Control over technology - Emphasize crop production with potential spinoff to rural industries (food processing, etc.)
(e) Public works (food-for-work) roads, soils irrigation, forestry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integration of women in all projects, either mixed, or in specialized women's teams (e.g. tree nurseries, road finishing, sodding, etc.) - Transport and child-care facilities, flexible hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emphasize training/employment after food-for-work ends depending on local labour demands, e.g. small-scale agricultural cooperatives, construction maintenance teams, other income generating possibilities
(f) Land settlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Full participation in planning committees - Equal beneficiaries of land, supplies, training, other inputs (credit, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emphasize expansion of women's economic and social roles in new community - Long-range prospects for earning income, mobilizing for action

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

31 August 1982

I refer to Mr Yolah's letter of 28 June 1982 concerning the comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development, as well as to my cable of 26 August 1982.

We have studied this outline with great interest and have discussed it at a recent meeting of the WHO regional Focal Points for Women, Health and Development. We have some basic objections to the proposed outline and would like to offer the following specific suggestions for its revision:

1. As it is presently worded, the basic conceptual framework and assumptions on which the outline is based focus on a narrow male-biased concept of economic development. It emphasizes materialistic and cash-based economic production and undervalues the services and roles of women's work in economic terms, as well as the social goals of development. The outline limits itself to "formal" sector analysis, without looking at women's work/production roles in their fullest sense.
2. The place of health within the development assumptions is limited to a "social benefit" and it is implied that health is a consumer sector. This does not recognize the importance of investments in health as part of the development process, the economic values of women's paid and unpaid roles and services as health care providers, nor the cost/savings of the unpaid services provided by women (i.e. the current pattern of services in most industrial or industrializing countries rely on women's unpaid work).

Women's health roles and services cover the span of sectors described, such as food production, processing, etc. (nutrition), provision of water and energy sources, and health care services.
3. Women's reproductive role is also narrowly conceived, being classified under "benefits accruing to women", rather than in its relationship to production.
4. The section on science and technology does not seem to leave room for discussion of health science and technology.
5. In general, if the outline were to remain as it is, there are health impact statements which should be made in all sections.
6. The outline, as it is, would lead to repetitious text, without allowing for adequate discussion of the interrelationships of all the sections.

At the meeting of the WHO Focal Points, it was also suggested that an inter-agency meeting be convened by CSDHA/BAW to discuss and revise the outline on the basis of the comments received. It was felt that such a meeting could prevent a great deal of distorted and unproductive work by the UN system.

We hope that these comments can be taken into account when preparing the final text of the outline.

INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

6 September 1982

I acknowledge with thanks Mr. Yola's letter, reference 540, of 28 June 1982 inviting comments on the annotated outline for the above-mentioned survey and have pleasure in providing the following remarks :

The framework of the outline has clear sectoral orientation, i.e. the role of women in agriculture, industry, trade, energy, etc., which might, however, lead to unnecessary confusion. For instance, women in developing countries - particularly in Africa - are engaged in crop production and, at the same time, its processing and marketing. A functional framework, involving subjects such as the role of women in human development (education, health, nutrition), food production, etc., and including such topical factors as predicaments confronting women-headed households because of male migration, could prove useful. In this connection, we note that issues such as migration are missing from the proposed outline, as are subjects related to the effect of existing social structures on the place and role of women in development.

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INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

6 September 1982

With reference to the letter from Mr. S.U. Yolah, Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs, of 28th June 1982 and the annotated outline of the proposed "survey on the role of women in development in national economies" which is under preparation as an input for the "World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women : Equality, Development and Peace", the ITU has no particular suggestions concerning the proposed survey. Unfortunately neither are we in a position to provide a specific contribution to your work.

However, we look forward to receiving a copy of the survey, when finally prepared.

8 September 1982

With reference to letter SO 540 of 28 June 1982 from Mr. S. U. Yoloh, Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs, transmitting General Assembly resolution 36/174, as well as the "Comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development", I am pleased to send you the following observations on this outline.

The resolution calls for the analysis of the role of women in trade, agriculture, industry, energy, money and finance. We feel, however, that the contribution of media and its influence on women's development should also have been mentioned in the outline.

You will find attached three reports on the "Access of Women to Specialized and Scientific Education and Training and to Corresponding Careers", undertaken in cooperation with Unesco by three countries, namely: Czechoslovakia, France and Venezuela. These studies are relevant to the chapter on Women in the Development and Application of Science and Technology.

Three reports of meetings on vocational and technical education held in 1980 (Bonn, Frankfurt and Tokyo), which you might find useful, are also attached.

With regards to chapters V and VII of the proposed outline, we would suggest that special emphasis be put on the following issues:

Chapter V : Identification of technological processes involving significant rise in costs of non-renewable energy sources; degradation of traditional energy sources and reversal of environment degradation; availability of technology for small-scale energy resources utilization; evaluation of the potential impact of significant improvement in women's role in the use, conservation and development of energy resources.

Chapter VII : We would like to see women considered in the development and application of science and technology, particularly for the use of endogenous knowledge and decisions making in this area; development of more appropriate technology from endogenous sources and the beneficial fusion of endogenous with exogenous science and technology.

The annotated outline indicates various concerns and aspects to be identified and analysed. However, the most important items of the survey seem to be based on conventional economic indicators. For example, the contribution of women to the informal sector such as the household sector is not considered at all within the traditional framework of the national economy. It is suggested that the survey be related also to the informal sector of the national economy.

During the twenty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women in Vienna, a working session with the Agencies and the United Nations Secretariat was held on the above subject. The Secretariat stressed the need to put clear limits on the fields of investigation. It will not therefore be possible to propose additional items concerning Unesco's fields of interest, which could be linked to the concept of development.

Nevertheless, for greater efficiency, it may be possible to add at the end of the survey a chapter analyzing the obstacles and tracing the relationship between the status of women and development. This crucial chapter would thus deal with the reasons for the very low participation of women in the redistribution of the national product.

In this chapter, the problems of education, communication and decision-making could be introduced. It also could stress the lack of data on women and the inadequacy of the statistics which do exist.

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

9 September 1982

Reference is made to Mr. Yolah's communication of June 28 to the Executive Secretary, Ref. SO 540, (which arrived on 20 July) regarding General Assembly resolution 36/74 on a "Comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development".

The outline enclosed in Mr. Yolah's communication covers key developmental issues as set forth in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade: Agriculture, Trade, Industry, Money and Finance, Energy and Science and Technology. It is very important for the survey to reflect regional differences in each of those areas as well as the contribution women make to national economies through their work in the domestic unit.

Since the domestic units are assigned the main responsibility for the production and reproduction of the population, it is particularly relevant for a worldwide study on the role of women in development to undertake the task of establishing the relationships between the social and economic changes of countries and regions and the ways in which the production-reproduction of individuals is socially organized. We strongly believe such a relationship will contribute to a better understanding of the participation of women in development.

In regards to our contribution to the survey we are gathering pertinent documentation on some of the areas to be covered, and will be sent shortly to you.

14 September 1982

I. FAO's Possible Contribution

Within the mandate of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (WCARRD), FAO's contribution will emphasize women in agricultural and rural production. We are presently undertaking or planning a number of activities which would contribute to the survey. These include:

A. Report to the 1983 Committee on Agriculture

This document is entitled Follow-up to WCARRD: The Role of Women in Agricultural Production. The purpose is to highlight the crucial link between recognition of the role of women development goals - namely growth with equity, sustained reduction of poverty and malnutrition, increased food security and people's participation. The general conclusions from this report are:

- (i) Support to women in agriculture is not a separate issue, but an integral part of solving the problem of world hunger; rural women are an appropriate concern of units throughout FAO if the goals of the organization are to be reached.
- (ii) Special efforts are needed to institutionalize standing concerns with rural women in the design and implementation of agricultural projects as a priority for the end of the UN Decade on Women.

B. Series of Women in Development Case Studies - FAO Projects

This is an analysis of a selected number of FAO projects as to factors which do or do not contribute to women's participation. The review assesses factors related to successful women's projects - what works, what doesn't and why. The projects reviewed include rural poultry, sheep and goat production, irrigated agriculture on settlement schemes and integrated rural development.

C. Women and Food Systems and Programmes

A number of activities are planned within this new programme including surveys and project activities within selected countries.

D. Demonstration Centres for African Women Farmers

As a direct follow-up to the 1980 World Conference on the UN Decade for Women, FAO is planning the strengthening and/or establishment of demonstration centres for African women farmers. The training will encompass technical assistance for women's household and agricultural responsibilities and will focus on food production efforts, particularly for the most disadvantaged rural women.

E. 1983 FAO Expert Consultation on Reaching Rural Women

A selected number of policy-level governmental and non-governmental technical officers and organizations will be invited to attend this Expert Consultation. The agenda will focus on substantive issues particularly related to women as agricultural producers. The results of this meeting, as well as the background papers, will provide results which could be utilized in the survey.

F. Guidelines and Checklists on Women in Rural Development

Under the auspices of the ACC Task Force on Rural Development, FAO is analysing guidelines and checklists on women in rural development issued by all UN Agencies and Organizations. The results of this analysis, which will be available in November 1982, indicate the development and use of guidelines and checklists and the implications in designing and evaluating programmes effectively involving rural women.

II. Suggestions regarding the Proposed Outline

The background documents related to women and rural development for the Expert Group Meeting on Women and the International Development Strategy (6-10 September 1982, Vienna) indicate a shift from technical consideration to an analysis of structural and political factors. As important as these policy issues are, it is suggested that considerably more substantive evidence must be presented about women's economic activities and contributions. The policy arguments need to be balanced by data about rural women's day to day life and the effects of modernization on this.

As stated at the February/March 1982 UN Commission on the Status of Women, it is suggested that the survey should ideally include the following:

- The comparative roles of women and men in different types of agricultural production structures for both crops and livestock; women's access to and control of means of production (e.g. seeds, fertilizers, services) as related to their tasks; access to training in relation to tasks in all phases of the production structure;
- Identification of labour and time allocation in agricultural production by sex; participation in decision-making as related to the specific tasks performed by women;
- Identification of socio-economic indicators reflecting the role and contribution of women in agriculture, i.e. female heads of households, work load;
- Inter-relationship between population pressure and land availability (land/man ratio) for women;
- Male migration in relation to labour supply and increase in work load for women, but not commensurate with increase in decision-making;
- The access of women to land, capital, technology in different land tenure systems.

UNITED NATIONS - ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR AFRICA (ATRCW)

22 September 1982

In reply to the letter of Mr Yolah, Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs of 28 June 1982 regarding the "comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development", I am sending you my comments on the proposed outline indicating the areas in which the African Training and Research Centre for Women would be prepared to contribute.

With regard to Section II on the Role of Women in Agriculture, ATRCW is presently setting up an innovative study on the role of women in agriculture, which it hopes to finish by the end of 1983, the results of which would be made available to CSDHA. The study involves a comparative study of women in three agricultural situations, one where the women are practicing agriculture with traditional inputs (Central African Republic), a second where a large-scale development project has had adverse impact on women's agriculture (Senegal), and a third, where the impact of modern well-designed inputs into women's agricultural activities is assessed (Gambia). This study would have useful data for parts A-D of the Section II outline. ATRCW has also completed a study on the role of women in agriculture in Nigeria (Women and Agriculture in Nigeria), a copy of which is attached which should be useful for Section II-A. With regard to II-C involving examination of national strategies which appear to have had a generally beneficial effect, the case of Kenya is suggested, particularly in light of the selection of Kenya as the probable venue for the 1985 Conference. Also with regard to II-C, ways and means of improving women's role, ATRCW wishes to suggest that the issue of retraining both men and women agricultural extension agents be dealt with; this is an important issue in the Africa Region because present curricula have meant that men farmers receive agricultural information from extension agents, while women farmers receive largely home economics inputs from female extension agents.

With regard to Section III, the Role of Women in Industry, ATRCW has presently requested funding, which it expects to receive, for a study of the role of women in the Industrial Development Decade in Africa (IDDA),

a project of the Economic Commission for Africa. The study will involve an analysis of how women are incorporated into present programmes for the IDDA, and what skills women will need for full participation in the Decade. It will propose an action programme and guidelines for the full integration of women into IDDA objectives. The result of the study will be a report to member States, to be first presented to the Spring 1983 meeting of the Africa Regional Coordinating Committee (ARCC). ATRCW would be happy to share the results of the study with CSDHA. ATRCW has also undertaken and published a study of Women Textile Workers in Ethiopia, a copy of which is enclosed.

With respect to Section IV, The Role of Women in Trade, ATRCW is proposing to undertake a study on this subject in Africa with the International Trade Centre, with concentration on the following issues: contribution of women's trade activities to national gross development product, analysis of activities in terms of their ability to generate employment and savings, study of ways in which women's trade activities could be made more effective, study of the major commodities handled by women. It is anticipated that the results of this study will be presented to the 1984 Regional Preparatory Meeting to the World Conference. ATRCW has also completed a study of the problems of market women in Ghana, the role of women in self-employment (largely trade) in Mali, Ivory Coast and Senegal, and has held a seminar on women and the food trade in West Africa. A copy of the Mali, Ivory Coast and Senegal study is enclosed; copies of the other two are presently under publication and will be forwarded to CSDHA as soon as they are ready. ATRCW has also undertaken a study entitled Women and the Fishing Industry in Liberia which attempts to quantify the contribution of women's activities in the fish trade in Liberia. Regrettably that study is out of print; however, CSDHA should already have a copy of the study in its library. Alternately, a microfiche copy could be obtained from CAMP, Northwestern University Library, Evanston, Illinois 60018, USA for US\$2.00.

With relevance to Section V, The Role of Women in the Use, Conservation and Development of Energy Resources, ATRCW has available the report of its "Seminaire sur le developpement du bois de feu et de l'energie pour la femme africaine en milieu rural", which was held in Bamako, Mali (copy enclosed). A report has also been made of the evaluation mission undertaken after this seminar; as soon as it is printed, a copy will be forwarded to CSDHA. ATRCW also intends to hold a similar seminar on fuel and energy for women in the East and Southern Africa Subregion in April 1983. The report of that meeting will also be made available to CSDHA.

Of interest to Section VI, The Role of Women in Money and Finance, ATRCW has completed a study of a guaranteed credit mechanism for women in Cameroon, the Congo and Gabon; as soon as that study is completed, ATRCW

will forward a copy to CSDHA. With regard to Section VII, The Role of Women in the Development and Application of Science and Technology, ATRCW is forwarding a copy of its publication Appropriate Technology and African Women. It is currently preparing for publication a study on women and Palm Oil Processing in several West African Countries. In 1976 it presented a paper on the Role of Women in the Utilization of Science and Technology to the Regional UNCSTD Conference held in Cairo. While that paper is now out of print, copies are also available from CAMP at the above-listed address.

I hope that this information is useful to you. ATRCW remains ready to cooperate in any way within its means in the undertaking of the world survey on the role of women in development. Best wishes.

26 September 1982

I am replying to a letter from Mr. Yolah dated June 28, 1982, regarding the World survey on selected aspects of the role of women in national economies. I understand that the findings of this study will constitute an input to the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women.

I have reviewed the annotated outline of the survey in detail and wish to suggest the addition of some specific areas of enquiry that are of central concern to UNICEF, and which I would hope could be incorporated into the questionnaire. These areas are:

1. Woman's Work in the Context of the Household.

Specifically:

- a. The interface between mothering responsibilities and work roles.
- b. The impact of woman's work upon other women in the household (particularly younger daughters).

2. Child/Adolescent Labor

Specifically:

- a. Reliance of women on child labor.
- b. Extent of child prostitution.
- c. Economic activities of the female adolescent.

3. Woman's Marginality in Labor Force.

Specifically:

- a. Critical appraisal of the relationship of women to the informal sector of the economy.
- b. The interdependency between the informal sector and the formal sector, and the extent to which women are "used" to meet the needs of this interdependency.

I might add that in its present form the annotated outline of the survey does not capture the totality of economic activities which women are engaged in. I am particularly concerned that the categorization by sector as it now stands will bury the critical importance of women's involvement in informal sector activities, and fail to highlight the marginal status of women workers in many countries. Urban women workers, in particular, cannot be accounted for unless a conceptualization between formal and informal sector activities is built into the enquiry. If this proves to be too complex, then a special section of "The Role of Women in Service Activities" should be added.

For rural women, I would suggest the following: that a clear distinction be made between type of agricultural work, i.e. subsistence, plantation work, farm wage labor, etc., and that additional enquiry be made of the non-agricultural activities that women engage in. An additional fruitful area of enquiry might be the access of rural women to productive resources, i.e. land, labor, credit, technology, etc.

I believe that this world survey is an exciting enterprise. It should yield systematic and comparative data that will be extremely useful for future research and planning.

If you wish me to elaborate further on any of the suggestions for inclusion mentioned above, I will be very happy to do so.

11 October 1982

Comments by UNCTC on Annotated Outline
of World Survey on the Role of Women in Development

1. The subject matter dealt with in the annotated outline on the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development was discussed at the meeting held in Vienna from 6 to 10 October in which UNCTC participated. Issues and comments were raised at that meeting by UNCTC, however, some of these will be reiterated and fresh comments made on the annotated outline as follows:

2. From a pragmatic viewpoint, if the annotated outline is to serve as a basis for research, more detail will be required in each chapter in order to highlight the treatment of the subject matter. For example, in chapter 3 relating to Industry, a few of the dominant manufacturing industries should be reviewed irrespective of whether there are export oriented or otherwise, in order to compare the type of work and level of expertise in those industries that are being held by women. It is also important that the manufacturing industrial sector should be looked at in order to examine women's role and their current level and effectiveness and how they will be integrated into other industries, which for the time being employ a minority of women.

A suggested revised approach and format, by way of example is as follows:

A. Overall Perspective of Involvement of Women In Industry

This introductory section will trace the general development of the industrial sector from a historical and growth perspective viewpoint and its absorption of women into this sector.

B. Current Integration of Women in the Industrial Sector

This section will examine and analyse some of the problems, issues and obstacles surrounding the integration of women into this sector. They will be analysed from the social, economic and technical background as well as from a developmental

background. In this sense, comparisons will be made whenever possible of the same industries at different stages of maturity. Thus, in some instances, the more mature industries in the developed countries will be compared with the newer industries in developing countries in order to assess the varying degrees of integration, and the differences, if any, in the issues, obstacles and benefits. The level of employment and type of work that is currently accessible to women will also be examined. Linkages of skills to other industries will also be examined.

The main industries contemplated therein will include a range of the significant manufacturing industries which represent a cross section of the industrial sector as a whole. Such industries (both export oriented and for domestic consumption) may include electronics, textiles, manufacturing of household appliances, wood-based and furniture industries, pharmaceutical and chemical industries, metal industries and consumer goods in general.

C. Future Development and Impact on NIEO

This section will review and recommend, based on the findings in (B), the areas for development and identify more specifically some of the posts that may be desirable for women. In this regard, review should be made of the availability and orientation of education, and training, including institutional training, academic training and on-the-job training. It will also be necessary to examine and recommend national and/or sectoral policies which will facilitate the role of women in industry. The issue of appropriate technology may also be referred to.

/...

Methodology

The data pertaining to this entire part will be based on available data from developed countries and from statistics which may be available from a number of developing countries where statistical gathering is fairly comprehensive. In each case, they will be supplemented by a questionnaire related to social, economic and technical issues, to selected national governments and enterprises. In the absence of the availability of such statistics, some field survey and case studies may be necessary. (Indications for extra funds may be included here).

3. With regard to chapter 5, the energy sector should not be confined to primitive energy sources in the rural sector and consideration should be given to modern energy sectors and the integration of women into these industries such as in petroleum, electricity, nuclear, solar energy, coal and other energy industries.

4. With respect to chapter 6, again the emphasis of this chapter appears to be more rural and it is suggested that due emphasis be given to more important areas of money and finance such as banking, financial institutions, including national development banks as well as regional financial institutions.

It is also suggested that chapter 4 relating to Trade and chapter 6 on Money and Finance, should be merged and retitled "The Role of Women in the Services Sector." The tourism industry may also be included in this chapter as it was discussed at the meeting of 6 to 10 October, 1982 although it is omitted in this annotated outline.

5. It is uncertain with regard to chapter 7, how this topic can be developed and it has already been discussed at the aforementioned meeting that science and technology cannot or will not be adapted particularly to

/...

suit women. Therefore, it may be more appropriate to consider the role of women in the development of R and D in this chapter. In which event the areas of national science and technology institutions and the various national science and technology policies should be examined to ensure that women will fully participate in the development and application of science and technology. Further, the degree, type and level of training should be dealt with here through in-depth analysis.

To facilitate research, technology transfer issues should concentrate specifically on the areas covered by the annotated outline.

6. Overall, this outline appeared to have been written without much specific focus on methodology at the national or regional level or amount of data that will be available in support of such an undertaking. It would be of greater benefit if the outline could, for example, when examining each topic, region by region, indicate in each case the countries that would be looked at in this connection or the regional information that can be expected to find. It is suggested that countries where statistics are likely to be available should be identified. In most developed countries such statistics should be available, whilst only a few developing countries would have the relevant data. In looking at the various sectors, it would be of interest to compare development in industrialized countries as opposed to developing countries and see how progress has been made in the integration of women in the various sectors by comparing the more matured industries from the sectoral viewpoint with those which are still in the process of development. Emphasis could also be given to identify problems and issues in order to find solutions for them in the future and also to ensure the extension and continuation of maximum benefits.

UNITED NATIONS CENTRE FOR SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

15 October 1982

1. In connexion with item 7 (U.N. Decade for Women) discussed at the current session of CCSQ (Prog.), this Centre has the following suggestions to make:

A. World Survey on the Role of Women in Development, Chapter VII of annotated outline (Science and Technology)

2. Part VII.D, second para., of the annotated outline proposes evaluating the "potential impact of a significant improvement" in women's role in industry. We suggest extending that evaluation to cover also the "potential impact of a significant improvement" in women's role in research and development and in science and technology policies and planning bodies.

3. We share the preference expressed by CCSQ regarding the modalities of preparing the Survey. That is to say, the first draft would be prepared by the Branch for the Advancement of Women, taking into account material provided by various parts of the U.N. system, who will, however, be given an opportunity to comment on the draft.

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3 TO: Ms. SELLAMI MESLEM, DIRECTOR
 4 UNATIONS, VIENNA, AUSTRIA
 5 REGRET MISUNDERSTANDING RE. NEED FOR RESPONSE TO YOURS OF 2
 6 SEPT. REGARDING THE REVIEW AND APPRAISAL ITEMISED IN ANNEX A
 7 PART I AS THIS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY AND YOU ARE REPORTING
 8 ON GOVT. PROGRESS WE PRESUME WE WOULD ONLY BE REQUIRED TO RES-
 9 POND TO ANY SPECIFIC ENQUIRIES YOU MAY MAKE OF US. REGARDING
 10 PART II WE NOTE THAT WE ARE ASSIGNED MONERATY FACTORS, AND
 11 FOLLOWING FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH MS. SHAHANI WE ARE CONSI-
 12 DERING WHETHER WE CAN UNDERTAKE TO WRITE A PAPER ON THIS.
 13 HOWEVER, THE SUGGESTED COVERAGE IN ANNEX B DOES NOT APPEAR
 14 VERY RELEVANT NOR DOES THE PROPOSED APPROACH OF QUESTIONNAIRES
 15 TO GOVERNMENTS FIT WITH OUR NORMAL PROCEDURES. BY THE TIME
 16 OF THE INTERAGENCY MEETING WE WILL BE ABLE TO GIVE A DEFINITE
 17 RESPONSE. THE INTERAGENCY MEETING WILL DOUBTLESS DISCUSS THE
 18 MECHANISMS FOR AGENCY INPUT TO SECTORS OTHER THAN THOSE FOR
 19 WHICH WE HAVE PRIME RESPONSIBILITY AND FIRM UP THE TIME-TABLE.
 20 HAVING BEEN ON THE GOVT. RECEIVING END OF QUESTIONNAIRES THE
 21 PROSPECT OF REPLYING TO A QUESTIONNAIRE ON EACH OF THE ELEVEN
 22 ITEMS IN PART II IN ADDITION TO THE GENERAL DEVELOPMENT ONE
 FROM BAW IS SOMEWHAT ALARMING. REGARDS. G.L. SCOTT

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CLASS OF SERVICE: Telex		TELEX NO.:	DATE: 11/22/82
SUBJECT: Women in Development		DRAFTED BY: G.L. Scott	
CLEARANCES AND COPY DISTRIBUTION: cc: Mr. C.B. Boucher, IRD		AUTHORIZED BY (Name and Signature): G.L. Scott <i>[Signature]</i>	
		DEPARTMENT: PAS-DR (321-05)	
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CUTIVE DIRECTOR , UNEP/ MR. G L RAO, HABITAT/ SECRETARY GENERAL,

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CHIEF, SOCIAL SERVICES SECTION, HICOMREF/ CHIEF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

DIVISION, ESCAP/ MS. MARY CAHILL, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE

EXECUTIVE OFFICER, UNCTC.

REOURLET 2 SEPTEMBER 1982 ON INTEGRATED REPORTING SYSTEM ON THE

STATUS OF WOMEN. GRATEFUL YOUR IMMEDIATE RESPONSE FOR INCLUSION

UN SECRETARIAT REPORT TO INTER-AGENCY MEETING PLANNED

JANUARY 1983. REGARDS (SELLAMI MESLEM DIRECTOR, UNATIONS VIENNA)

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CUTIVE DIRECTOR, UNEP/ MR. G L RAO, HABITAT/ SECRETARY GENERAL,
OMTOUR/ MRS. MARY R HOLLNSTEINER, UNICEF NY/ MS. N S MAYADAS,
CHIEF, SOCIAL SERVICES SECTION, HICOMREF/ CHIEF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION, ESCAP/ MS. MARY CAHILL, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE
EXECUTIVE OFFICER, UNCTC.

REOURLET 2 SEPTEMBER 1982 ON INTEGRATED REPORTING SYSTEM ON THE
STATUS OF WOMEN. GRATEFUL YOUR IMMEDIATE RESPONSE FOR INCLUSION
UN SECRETARIAT REPORT TO INTER-AGENCY MEETING PLANNED
JANUARY 1983. REGARDS (SELLAMI MESLEM DIRECTOR, UNATIONS VIENNA)
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Proposed Outline of Areas to be Covered for the Review and
Appraisal of Progress made by Governments

PART I (Branch for the Advancement of Women)

GENERAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

- A. Formulation and Implementation of National Policies and Plans to improve the Status of Women.
- B. Institutional Arrangements for Policy Formulation, Implementation and Monitoring.
- National machinery
Role of Non-Governmental organizations
Research, data collection and analysis
Dissemination of information
- C. Legal Status of Women
- National Legislation
International Instruments Relating to the Status of Women
- D. Political Participation, international cooperation and the strengthening of Peace.
- E. General Assessment of achievements within the United Nations Decade for Women: (significant achievement(s) ; national level impact of international/regional level programmes, e.g. TCDC; major gaps/lags; priorities, targets, action beyond the Decade).

PART II

SECTORAL AREAS

- A. Health and Nutrition (WHO with UNICEF, FAO, UNFPA)
- B. Education and Training (UNESCO with UNICEF, ILO, FAO)
- C. Employment and related economic sectors (ILO with UNESCO, FAO)
- D. Relationship with other national development sectors
- Rural development (including food and agriculture) (FAO with ILO, WFP, WFC, IFI)
 - Industrialization (UNIDO with ILO, FAO)
 - Housing and Human Settlements (HABITAT)
 - Monetary factors (IMF and World Bank)
 - International trade (UNCTAD)
 - Energy (DPCD, DIESA)
 - Tourism (WTO)
- E. Basic statistical indicators (Statistics Office)

PART III

REGIONAL SPECIFIC CONCERNS

(vii) Co-operation with AWB in preparation of global overview report on review and appraisal (if requested by preparatory body for Conference).

(c) Role of Regional Commissions

- (i) Preparation and finalization of questionnaires or other means by which to collect information of specific regional concerns for the third group of review and appraisal reports of progress made by governments.
- (ii) Transmission of final procedures and means for review and appraisal of the set of reports to AWB/CSDHA and other relevant agencies and organizations of the UN system for information and reference.
- (iii) Transmission of questionnaires to governments and/or implementation of other procedures for information collection and analysis.
- (iv) Assist AWB/CSDHA in follow-up responses by Governments to questionnaire and assist all other agencies and organizations.
- (v) Preparation of review and appraisal reports on the situation in countries in their region, preferably in close association with regional offices of specialized agencies in accordance with recommendations of WCUNDW for reporting to several inter-governmental bodies and Secretariat units.^{1/}
- (vi) Transmit copy of regional review and appraisal report (a) to AWB for preparation of global overview and submission to CSW, (b) to all United Nations organizations with responsibility for preparation of any sectoral reports as an additional information source.
- (vii) Revision according to comments made by the Commission on the Status of Women, if any, translation and re-submission to AWB for processing and submission to the World Conference.
- (viii) Co-operation with AWB in preparation of global overview report on review and appraisal (if requested by preparatory body for Conference).

^{1/} A/CONF.94.35, chapter 1, part A, paras. 281-282, 286(c)

NOTE ON SUGGESTED COVERAGE FOR SECTORAL REPORTS

The sectoral review and appraisal reports will cover the national level measures and progress made by Governments in the respective development sectors within the framework of the issues and priorities of the World Plan of Action and Programme of Action for the second half of the Decade. It is suggested that the reports cover the following proposed areas of concern where relevant as well as any others of particular regional or sectoral significance:

(a) national policy and legislative measures specifically taken to improve the status of women in the specified sectors; impact on women of measures/plans implemented within the related sectors in the context of the third international development strategy; assessment of outcomes (success and shortfalls).

(b) state of ratification of related conventions in the respective sectors; obstacles faced.

(c) linkage with national machineries, policy and planning.

(d) national level programmes taken to increase the availability of relevant services, ensure the equal accessibility and use of these services by women; assessment of outcomes (success and failures).

(e) the access to, use and application of science and technology in the specified sectors to improve the status of women, e.g. use of new seeds, new production methods, scientific training for women, etc..

(f) selected statistical indicators on the status of women in these sectors.

(g) level of participation of women vis-a-vis men in the policy making, planning and implementation levels in these sectors. Identification of any obstacles to progress; steps taken to improve their participation.

(h) special measures taken, if any, to identify the needs of special groups (i.e., young women, unemployed women, migrant women, disabled and ageing women, and women alone responsible for their families); special provisions made for these groups in relation to their needs within these sectors, where relevant.

(i) identification of any significant disparities in regional trends or concerns associated with common geographical, socio-cultural and/or economic development status.

(j) priorities and continuing needs beyond the Decade and looking towards the year 2000 AD.

PC. 1-

Communism in States of Q

Feb/Mar '83

UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL



A/CONF.116/PC/INF.2
22 February 1983

ORIGINAL: ARABIC/CHINESE/
ENGLISH/FRENCH/
RUSSIAN/SPANISH

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY
FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO
REVIEW AND APPRAISE THE
ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE UNITED
NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN
First session
Vienna, 23 February-4 March 1983

أعضاء

成員
MEMBERSHIP

MEMBRES

ЧЛЕНЫ

MIEMBROS

List of Participants

PROVISIONAL

ملحوظة : يرجى من الوفود التي تريد إدخال أية تصحيحات على القائمة التالية أن ترسلها . كتابة . إلى أمين اللجنة .
الغرفة رقم CO-417 . مبنى الأمانة العامة .

注意：请各代表团把对以下名单的更正用书面送交秘书处大楼第 CO-417 室的委员会
会秘书。

NOTE: Delegations are requested to send their corrections to the following list in writing to the Secretary of the Committee, room CO-417.

NOTE: Les délégations sont priées d'envoyer leurs corrections à la présente liste, par écrit, au Secrétaire de la Commission, bureau CO-417.

ПРИМЕЧАНИЕ: Делегациям предлагается послать свои исправления к настоящему списку в письменной форме секретарю Комитета, комната CO-417.

NOTA: Se ruega a las delegaciones se sirvan enviar sus correcciones a la siguiente lista, por escrito, al Secretario de la Comisión, oficina CO-417.

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主席

Chairman

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Presidente

نائب الرئيس

副主席

Vice-Chairmen

Vice-Présidents

Заместители Председателя

Vicepresidentes

المقرر

报告员

Rapporteur

Докладчик

Relator

<p>البلد 国家 COUNTRY PAYS СТРАНА PAIS</p>	<p>الممثل 代表 REPRESENTATIVE REPRÉSENTANT ПРЕДСТАВИТЕЛЬ REPRESENTANTE</p>	<p>الممثلون المناوبون 候补代表 ALTERNATES SUPPLÉANTS ЗАМЕСТИТЕЛИ SUPLENTES</p>	<p>المشارون 顾问 ADVISERS CONSEILLERS СОВЕТНИКИ CONSEJEROS</p>
<p>AUSTRALIA</p>	<p>Ms. Kathleen Joan <u>Taperell</u></p>		
<p>CANADA</p>	<p>Ms. Maureen <u>O'Neil</u></p>	<p>Ms. Louise <u>Holmes</u> Mr. J.R. <u>Crowe</u></p>	<p>Ms. Freda <u>Paltiel</u></p>
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<p>CUBA</p>	<p>Sra. Olga Finlay <u>Saavedra</u></p>	<p>Sr. Jorge <u>Morales Pedraza</u> Sra. <u>Liliam Roch</u></p>	
<p>CZECHOSLOVAKIA</p>	<p>Mrs. Dagmar <u>Molková</u></p>	<p>Mr. Václav <u>Kodis</u></p>	<p>Mr. Miloslav <u>Jelínek</u></p>
<p>EGYPT</p>	<p>Mrs. Faridah Abou <u>El Fetouh</u></p>	<p>Mr. Hamed <u>Ali</u></p>	
<p>FRANCE</p>	<p>Mme Cécile <u>Goldet</u></p>	<p>Mme Geneviève <u>Olivry</u></p>	<p>Mme Danièle <u>Bahisson</u> Mme Edith <u>Nowak</u></p>
<p>GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC</p>	<p>Ms. Helga <u>Hoerz</u></p>	<p>Mr. Heinz <u>Duehring</u></p>	<p>Mr. Siegfried <u>Nitzsche</u></p>

<p>البلد 国家 COUNTRY PAYS СТРАНА PAIS</p>	<p>الممثل 代表 REPRESENTATIVE REPRÉSENTANT ПРЕДСТАВИТЕЛЬ REPRESENTANTE</p>	<p>الممثلون المناوبون 候补代表 ALTERNATES SUPPLÉANTS ЗАМЕСТИТЕЛИ SUPLENTES</p>	<p>المستشارون 顾问 ADVISERS CONSEILLERS СОВЕТНИКИ CONSEJEROS</p>
<p>GUATEMALA</p>			
<p>HONDURAS</p>	<p>Sra. Martha Luz <u>Mejía López</u></p>		
<p>INDIA</p>	<p>Mrs. Prabha <u>Rao</u></p>	<p>Mr. V.P. <u>Marwah</u> Mr. S. <u>Menon</u> Mr. Ranjit <u>Rae</u></p>	
<p>INDONESIA</p>	<p>Mrs. Ardadi <u>Sudirdjo</u></p>		
<p>ITALY</p>	<p>Ms. Paola <u>Gajotti</u></p>	<p>Mr. Manfredo <u>Incisa</u> <u>di Camerana</u> Miss <u>Fiammetta</u> <u>Milesi Ferretti</u></p>	<p>Mr. Lamberto <u>Zannier</u> Miss Sofia <u>Del Curto</u> Miss <u>Vincenza</u> <u>Lomonaco</u></p>
<p>JAPAN</p>			
<p>KENYA</p>	<p>Mr. J. <u>Muliro</u></p>	<p>Mrs. Esther Ondipo <u>Jonathan Wandeka</u> Mrs. Rose <u>Arungu-Olende</u></p>	
<p>LESOTHO</p>			

<p>البلد 国家 COUNTRY PAYS СТРАНА PAIS</p>	<p>الممثل 代表 REPRESENTATIVE REPRÉSENTANT ПРЕДСТАВИТЕЛЬ REPRESENTANTE</p>	<p>الممثلون المناوبون 候补代表 ALTERNATES SUPPLÉANTS ЗАМЕСТИТЕЛИ SUPLENTES</p>	<p>المشارون 顾问 ADVISERS CONSEILLERS СОВЕТНИКИ CONSEJEROS</p>
LIBERIA			
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NIGERIA	Miss O. O. <u>Obafemi</u>	Mr. E. E. <u>Onobu</u>	
NORWAY	Ms. Grethe <u>Vaerno</u>		
PAKISTAN	Mrs. Attiya <u>Inayatullah</u>	Mrs. Salima <u>Ahmed</u> Mr. Aziz Ahmad <u>Khan</u>	
PHILIPPINES	Mrs. Rosario G. <u>Manalo</u>		
SIERRA LEONE	Mrs Rosaline O. <u>Forde</u>		
SPAIN	Sr. Enrique <u>Suárez de Puga</u>	Sra. Maria Dolores <u>Diez Guetiérrez</u>	

<p>البلد 国家 COUNTRY PAYS СТРАНА PAIS</p>	<p>الممثل 代表 REPRESENTATIVE REPRÉSENTANT ПРЕДСТАВИТЕЛЬ REPRESENTANTE</p>	<p>المثلون المناوبون 候补代表 ALTERNATES SUPPLÉANTS ЗАМЕСТИТЕЛИ SUPLENTE</p>	<p>المستشارون 顾问 ADVISERS CONSEILLERS СОБЕШНИКИ CONSEJEROS</p>
SUDAN			
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO			
UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC	V.I. <u>Siyoloy</u>	I.D. <u>Shevchenko</u> N.P. <u>Makarevich</u>	
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS			
UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	Ms. <u>Gardner of Parkes</u>	Mr. M.J. <u>Wilmshurst</u> Mr. T. <u>Spens</u> Mr. C.J. <u>Ingham</u> Mr. W. O'Hara Mr. S. <u>Pease</u>	
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	Ms. <u>Nancy Clark Reynolds</u>	Ms. Constance B. <u>Hilliard</u>	Ms. Lenore <u>Cole-Alexander</u>
VENEZUELA			
ZAIRE	Mme. Bolie <u>Monkwa</u>	Mme. Luanghy <u>riangaza</u> M. Mutombo <u>Tshitambwe</u>	

STATES MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS REPRESENTED BY OBSERVERS
ETATS MEMBRES DES NATIONS UNIES REPRESENTES PAR DES OBSERVATEURS
ESTADOS MIEMBROS DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS REPRESENTADOS POR OBSERVADORES

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AUSTRIA	Mrs. Johanna <u>Dohnal</u> Mr. Udo <u>Ehrlich-Adam</u> Mrs. Dorothea <u>Gaudart</u> Mrs. Rosemarie <u>Dorrer</u> Mrs. Burgfriede <u>Luchinetti</u> Mrs. Ingrid <u>Nikolay-Leitner</u> Mrs. Birgit <u>Stimmer</u> Mrs. Ida <u>Jordanits</u>
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GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF	Ms. Ellen <u>Wolf</u> Mr. Wolfgang <u>Hoffman</u> Mr. Manfred <u>Gerwinat</u>
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GUINEA	M. Sekou <u>Top</u>
IRELAND	Ms. Deirdre <u>Carroll</u> Mr. Richard <u>Gray</u>
ISRAEL	Mr. Yissakhar <u>Ben-Yaacov</u> Mr. Uri M. <u>Gordon</u> Mrs. Yehudit <u>Hübner</u> Mr. Uri <u>Prozor</u>
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NEW ZEALAND	Ms. Helen M. <u>Fawthorpe</u>
PORTUGAL	Mr. Joao <u>Ramos Pinto</u>

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SWEDEN	Mrs. Ylva <u>Ericsson</u> Mrs. Agneta <u>Dreber</u>

الدول غير الأعضاء

非会员国

NON-MEMBER STATES

ETATS NON-MEMBRES

ГОСУДАРСТВА-НЕЧЛЕНЫ

ESTADOS NO MIEMBROS

HOLY SEE	Msgr. Mario <u>Peressin</u> Mrs. Johanna <u>von Lütgendorf</u>
SWITZERLAND	M. Grégoire <u>de Kalbermatten</u>

UNITED NATIONS

Economic Commission for Latin America
(ECLA)

Ms. Vivian M. Mota

Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

Mrs. Darian Tesha

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Ms. Nadia Youseef

Office of the United Nations High
Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Mrs. N. Mayadas

United Nations Development Programme
(UNDP)

Ms. Ulla Olin

International Research and Training
Institute for the Advancement of
Women (INSTRAW)

Mrs. Tallaw

SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (ILO)

Mrs. R. Smirnova

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF
THE UNITED NATIONS (FAO)

Ms. Natalie Hahn

WORLD BANK

Mrs. Gloria Scott

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)

Ms. P.M. Elmiger

观察员出席会议的其他政府间组织

INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED BY OBSERVERS
 ORGANISATIONS INTERGOUVERNEMENTALES REPRESENTÉES PAR DES OBSERVATEURS
 MEHTAPASITTEJLCOBEEHEE OPTAEMGALDI, HEPICOTABEHEHE HANOWATEHEM
 ORGANIZACIONES INTERGUBERNAMENTALES REPRESENTADAS POR OBSERVADORES

	代表 REPRESENTATIVE REPRÉSENTANT HPEHOTASHTEHE REPRESENTANTE	替补代表 ALTERNATES SUPPLÉANTS SANEOTATEHEH SUPLENTES	顾问 ADVISERS CONSEILLERS COBETHHEH CONSEJEROS
CIM Organization of American States	Ms. <u>Isolda Heredia de Salvatierra</u>		
Commonwealth Secretariat	Ms. <u>Dorienne Wilson-Smillie</u>	Ms. <u>Mary Sinclair</u>	
European Economic Community	Mme. <u>H. Wolf</u>	Mme. <u>O. Quintin</u> Mme. <u>M.C. Saut</u>	Mme. <u>G. Chiniard</u> Mme. <u>M.J. Raetsen</u>
International Centre for Public Enterprises in Developing Countries	Mrs. <u>Gorana Sipic</u>		

NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS
MOUVEMENTS DE LIBERATION NATIONALE
MOVIMIENTOS DE LIBERACION NACIONAL

African National Congress
of South Africa

Ms. Masekala

Pan Africanist Congress of
Azania

Ms. Nomyo Booi

非政府组织

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
ORGANISATIONS NON-GOUVERNEMENTALES
ORGANIZACIONES NO-GUBERNAMENTALES
~~НЕПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВЕННЫЕ ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ~~

NAME OF ORGANIZATION	NAME OF PARTICIPANTS
<u>CATEGORY I</u>	
International Alliance of Women	Mrs. Kay <u>Fraleigh</u> Ms. Olive <u>Bloomer</u> Brigitte <u>Rross</u> Irmard <u>Rimondini</u> Inge <u>Heyl</u>
International Federation of Business and Professional Women	Mrs. Hilda <u>Trew</u> Mrs. Esther <u>Hymmer</u> Mrs. Edda <u>Egger</u> Mrs. Suzanne <u>Zurcher</u> Mrs. Paulette <u>Hutchinson</u>
International Planned Parenthood Federation	Mr. E. <u>Jandl-Jager</u> Mr. M. <u>Springer-Kremser</u> Mrs. J. <u>Sheffield</u> Mrs. J. <u>Swingler</u>
Women's International Democratic Federation	Ms. Freda Brown <u>Kalmyk</u> Brigitte <u>Kubish</u>
<u>CATEGORY II</u>	
All India Women's Conference	Mrs. Padma <u>Venkararaman</u>
Bahá'í International Community	Mrs. Mahshid <u>Fatic</u> Mrs. Ottilie <u>Käefer</u> Mr. Roland <u>Philipp</u> Mrs. Joyce <u>Booman</u>
Caritas Internationalist Rome	Ms. Loretta <u>Peschi</u>
International Federation for Home Economics	Ms. Monica <u>Tupay</u>
International Federation of University Women	Mr. Adelheid <u>Schimak</u> Trijntje <u>Faber</u>
Soroptimist International	Ms. Erika <u>Danzinger</u> Ms. Sonia <u>Heptonstall</u>

非政府组织

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
ORGANISATIONS NON-GOUVERNEMENTALES
ORGANIZACIONES NO-GUBERNAMENTALES
ENTPABNTENLOTBEHEME ORPAEWIGANEM

NAME OF ORGANIZATION	NAME OF PARTICIPANTS
World Young Women's Christian Association	Ms. Ellen <u>Kimmell McDonnell</u> Ms. Anne <u>Cels</u>
Women's International Zionist Organization	Mrs. Edith <u>Landesmann</u>
World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations	Mrs. Helga <u>Eisner</u> Mrs. Elisabeth <u>Wurz</u> Ms. Helène <u>Esterhazy</u>
ZONTA International	Mrs. Ursula <u>Schied</u> Ms. Christine <u>Bilas</u> Ms. Mathilda <u>Farmer</u>
<u>ROSTER</u>	
European Union of Women	Ms. Erika <u>Wolf</u>
International Abolitionist Federation	Mrs. Anima <u>Basak</u>
Medical Women's International Association	Ms. Anjuta <u>Lötsch</u> Ms. Helga <u>Thieme</u>



UNITED NATIONS

JOURNAL

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW
AND APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

FIRST SESSION

Wednesday, 23 February 1983

No.1

Schedule of meetings for
Wednesday, 23 February 1983

- | | | |
|-------------|--|-------------------|
| 10.00 a.m. | <u>Informal meeting</u> (Members of the Commission only)
<u>1st meeting</u> | <u>Board Room</u> |
| 10.30. a.m. | Election of officers [1]
Adoption of the agenda [2]
(A/CONF.116/PC/1 and Corr.1; A/CONF.116/PC/L.1)
Preparations for the Conference [3] | |
| 3.00 p.m. | <u>2nd meeting</u>
Preparations for the Conference [3]
(a) Issues and themes
(b) Provisional agenda and documentation for
the Conference
(A/CONF.116/PC/2 and Corr.1, 3 and Corr.1, 4 and Corr.1,
5 and Corr.1, 6 and Corr.1, 7 and Corr.1 and Add.1-2;
A/CONF.116/PC/NGO/1*) | <u>Board Room</u> |

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Information for participants

Information for participants is available under the symbol A/CONF.116/PC/INF.1.

2. Offices of the Chairman, Rapporteur and Secretariat

A list with the numbers of the offices and telephones during the session will be issued separately.

3. Catering services

The catering services, which are administered by UNDIDO through a managing agent, EUREST GmbH, operate the following facilities in building F, on the entrance level, and will be pleased to serve participants in the current session during the following hours:

Cafeteria:	Breakfast	8.30 a.m. - 10.30 p.m.
	Lunch	11.30 a.m. - 2.30 p.m.
Coffee bar:		8.30 a.m. - 4.30 p.m.
Restaurant:		11.30 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.
Bar:		11.30 a.m. - 3.00 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. - 8.00 p.m.

During the current session, a buffet adjacent to the Delegates Lounge (outside the Board Room) will be in operation daily as long as meetings are being held.

In addition to the above services, private luncheons and receptions can be arranged at the EUREST catering operations office, room F-184C, extension 4870.

4. Delegates' Aide

A Delegates' Aide is located on the fourth floor of building C. In addition to giving information about the session, the Aide will take messages for participants and arrange for them to be paged when necessary, especially for incoming telephone calls.

5. Commissary privileges

Commissary passes will be issued upon completion of registration formalities to the following participants:

- (i) the Head of a Government delegation;
- (ii) staff members of specialized agencies in the Professional category;
- (iii) all United Nations staff members assigned to the Commission session from duty stations other than Vienna.

FIRST AID

Emergency medical attention is available from the clinic operated by the Joint Medical Service, building F, floor 7 (extensions 2222 through 2225). The clinic is open from 8.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. For emergency assistance at other times, please apply to the security officer on duty in the main lobby, building C.



UNITED NATIONS

JOURNAL

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW
AND APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

FIRST SESSION

Thursday, 24 February 1983

No.2

Schedule of meetings for
Thursday, 24 February 1983

10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.	<u>3rd meeting</u>	<u>Board Room</u>
3.00 p.m.- 6.00 p.m.	<u>4th meeting</u>	<u>Board Room</u>

Preparations for the Conference [3]

- (a) Issues and themes
- (b) Provisional agenda and documentation for the Conference
(A/CONF.116/PC/2 and Corr.1, 3 and Corr.1,,
4 and Corr.1 and Add.1, 5 and Corr.1, 6 and
Corr.1, 7 and Corr.1 and Add.1-2; A/CONF.116/PC/NG01*)

Commission on the Status of Women,
Acting as the Preparatory Body for
the World Conference to Review and
Appraise the Achievements of the
United Nations Decade for Women
First session
Vienna

JOURNAL SUMMARY

Wednesday, 23 February 1983

1st meeting

Election of officers [1]

As a result of informal consultations, the Commission decided that the Bureau of the twenty-ninth regular session should serve as the Bureau of the first session of the Commission Acting as the Preparatory Body for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women.

Thus Ms. O.O. Obafemi (Nigeria) was elected Chairperson and Ms. Dagmar Molková (Czechoslovakia) as Vice-Chairperson.

Since the term of office of Finland as a member of the Commission had expired, Ms. Grethe Vaerne (Norway) was elected Vice-Chairperson to replace the Vice-Chairperson from Finland. Also, since Ms. P. Patil (India) was not present, Ms. Prabha Rao (India) was elected Vice-Chairperson.

Adoption of the agenda [2]

The Commission adopted its provisional agenda (A/CONF.116/PC/1 and Corr.1) after revising it, upon a proposal made by the representative of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, by incorporating item 4 of the provisional agenda entitled "Publicity for the Conference" into item 3 entitled "Preparations for the Conference", as sub-item 3 (e).

2nd meeting

Adoption of the agenda [2]

The Commission approved a note by the Secretariat regarding the organization of work for the session (A/CONF.116/PC/L.1) after revising the item mentioned under "Tuesday, 1 March (a.m. and p.m.)" in paragraph 4 to conform to its decision to revise the agenda.

It was decided that the list of speakers on item 3 (a) and (b) would be closed on Thursday, 24 February, at 11.00 a.m.

On a proposal made by the Chairperson, the Commission agreed that a Drafting group composed of two delegations from each regional group would be established in order to formulate their recommendations to the plenary meetings on item 3 of the agenda. The Chairperson requested the regional groups to

communicate to the Secretary of the Commission by 1.00 p.m., Thursday, 24 February, the names of those delegations designated by them to participate in the Drafting Group.

Preparations for the Conference [3]

- (a) Issues and themes
- (b) Provisional agenda and documentation for the Conference

The Director of the Advancement for Women Branch made an introductory statement on sub-items (a) and (b).

Statements were made by the representatives of India and Australia.

The representative of the Economic Commission for Latin America made a statement.

A statement was made by the representative of the European Economic Community, on behalf of members of the Community members of the Commission.

A statement was also made by the observer for the Women's International Democratic Federation, a non-governmental organization, category I, in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

* * *

Announcements

The Western European and Other States Group will meet daily at 9.30 a.m. in Room VII (7th floor). From 28 February to 4 March they will meet in Room IV (7th floor).

- - -

Delegations and other participants intending to make statements should bring at least 100 copies of their statements to the meeting when they wish to have those statements distributed to all participants.



UNITED NATIONS

JOURNAL

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW
AND APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

FIRST SESSION

Friday, 25 February 1983

No. 3

Schedule of meetings for
Friday, 25 February 1983

10.00 a.m.-
1.00 p.m.

5th meeting

Board Room

Preparations for the Conference [3]

- (a) Issues and themes
- (b) Provisional agenda and documentation for the Conference

(A/CONF.116/PC/2 and Corr.1, 3 and Corr.1, 4 and Corr.1, 5 and Corr.1, 6 and Corr.1 and Add.1, 7 and Corr.1 and Add.1-2; A/CONF.116/PC/NGO/1*, A/CONF.116/PC/NGO/2).

3.00 p.m.-
6.00 p.m.

6th meeting

Board Room

Preparations for the Conference [3]

- (c) Rules of procedure
- (d) Preparatory meetings and activities

(A/CONF.116/PC/2 and Corr.1, 3 and Corr.1, 4 and Corr.1, 5 and Corr.1, 6 and Corr.1 and Add.1, 7 and Corr.1 and Add.1-2; A/CONF.116/PC/NGO/1, A/CONF.116/PC/NGO/2).

Commission on the Status of Women,
Acting as the Preparatory Body for
the World Conference to Review and
Appraise the Achievements of the
United Nations Decade for Women
First session
Vienna

JOURNAL SUMMARY

Thursday, 24 February 1983

3rd meeting

Preparations for the Conference [3]

- (a) Issues and themes
- (b) Provisional agenda and documentation for the Conference

The Commission resumed its consideration of sub-items (a) and (b) and heard statements by the representatives of Egypt, Japan, the United States of America, the German Democratic Republic, Pakistan, China and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The observers for the Federal Republic of Germany, Portugal and Guinea made statements.

The representative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization made a statement.

A statement was also made by the observer for the Inter-American Commission of Women.

4th meeting

The Commission resumed its consideration of sub-items (a) and (b) and heard statements by the representatives of Kenya, Norway, France, Czechoslovakia and Mexico.

The representative of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific made a statement.

Statements were made by the representatives of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women.

The representatives of the International Labour Organisation, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Bank made statements.

Statements were also made by the observers for the International Alliance of Women, a non-governmental organization in category I, in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council; the International Confederation of Free

Trade Unions, a non-governmental organization in category I, in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council; and the World Peace Council, a non-governmental organization on the Roster, in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

The Secretary of the Commission made a statement on financial implications.

Statements were made by the representatives of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United States of America and France.

* * *

Correction to Journal No.2

Under the Journal summary for the second meeting, under the heading "Preparations for the Conference [3]", the reference to the statement made by the representative of the European Economic Community should read as follows:

"A statement was made by the representative of the European Economic Community".



NATIONS UNIES

JOURNAL

COMMISSION DE LA CONDITION DE LA FEMME
CONSTITUEE EN ORGANE PREPARATOIRE DE LA CONFERENCE MONDIALE
CHARGEE D'EXAMINER ET D'EVALUER LES RESULTATS DE
LA DECENNIE DES NATIONS UNIES POUR LA FEMME

PREMIERE SESSION

Lundi 28 février 1983

No 4

Programme des séances
du lundi 28 février 1983

10 heures - 13 heures

Septième séance

Salle du Conseil

15 heures - 18 heures

Huitième séance

Salle du Conseil

Préparatifs de la Conférence [3]

- d) Réunions et activités préparatoires
- e) Activités d'information en vue de la Conférence

(A/CONF.116/PC/2 et Corr.1, 3 et Corr.1, 4 et Corr.1, 5 et Corr.1, 6 et Corr.1 et Add.1, 7 et Corr.1 et Add.1 et 2, 8;
A/CONF.116/PC/CRP.1;
A/CONF.116/PC/NGO/1, 2 et 3)

APERCU DES SEANCES

Vendredi 25 février 1983

5ème séance

Préparatifs de la Conférence [3]

- a) Questions et thèmes
- b) Ordre du jour provisoire et documentation de la Conférence

La Commission a repris l'examen du point 3 de l'ordre du jour et a entendu des déclarations des représentants des pays suivants : Philippines, Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord, République socialiste soviétique d'Ukraine et Cuba.

Les observateurs du Bangladesh, de la Finlande, des Pays-Bas, du Botswana, de Thaïlande et du Chili ont fait des déclarations.

Le représentant du Fonds des Nations Unies pour l'enfance a fait une déclaration.

Organisation des travaux

Sur la proposition de la Présidente et après un débat auquel ont participé les représentants des pays suivants : Union des Républiques socialistes soviétiques, Cuba, Etats-Unis d'Amérique, Guatemala, Mexique, Venezuela, Inde et Philippines, la Commission a révisé son programme de travail pour le reste de la session.

6ème séance

Préparatifs de la Conférence [3]

- a) Questions et thèmes
- b) Ordre du jour provisoire et documentation de la Conférence

La Commission a repris l'examen des alinéas a) et b) du point 3 et a entendu des déclarations des représentants des pays suivants : Zaïre, Canada, Indonésie, Italie et Venezuela.

Les observateurs de la Nouvelle-Zélande, du Gabon et du Danemark ont fait des déclarations.

L'observateur de l'African National Congress of South Africa a fait une déclaration.

Le représentant du Fonds des Nations Unies pour les activités en matière de population a aussi fait une déclaration.

La Commission a ainsi conclu l'examen des alinéas a) et b) du point 3 de son ordre du jour.

- c) Règlement intérieur
- d) Réunions et activités préparatoires

La Commission est convenue, en accord avec la proposition de la Présidente, de renvoyer l'examen du point 3 c) "Règlement intérieur" à la deuxième session de l'Organe préparatoire.

Le Directeur du Service de la promotion de la femme a fait une déclaration liminaire sur le point 3 d) "Réunions et activités préparatoires".

Organisation des travaux

Il a été décidé que la liste des orateurs pour le point 3 d) de l'ordre du jour serait close le vendredi 25 février à 18 heures.



UNITED NATIONS

JOURNAL

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW
AND APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

FIRST SESSION

No.5

Schedule of meetings

Tuesday, 1 March 1983

10.00 a.m.

9th meeting

Board Room

Preparations for the Conference [3]

(A/CONF.116/PC/2 and Corr.1, 3 and Corr.1, 4 and
Corr.1, 5 and Corr.1, 6 and Corr.1 and Add.1,
7 and Corr.1 and Add.1-2; A/CONF.116/PC/WP.1;
A/CONF.116/PC/CRP.1; A/CONF.116/PC/NGO/1, 2 and
3 and Corr.1).

Drafting Group

Board Room

Immediately following
the adjournment of the
plenary meeting

1st meeting

3.00 p.m.-
6.00 p.m.

2nd meeting

Board Room

JOURNAL SUMMARY

Monday, 28 February 1983

7th meeting

Preparations for the Conference [3]

The representative of Egypt addressed a question of clarification to the Secretariat.

The Director of the Advancement for Women Branch made a statement.

- (d) Preparatory meetings and activities
- (e) Publicity for the Conference

The representative of the Department of Public Information made an introductory statement.

The representatives of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Latin America made statements.

Statements were made by the representatives of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Australia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Norway, the United States of America, Canada, the German Democratic Republic and India.

The observers for the International Federation of Business and Professional Women, a non-governmental organization in category I in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, and for the International Federation for Home Economics, a non-governmental organization in category II in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, made statements.

The representative of the Department of Public Information made a statement in response to points raised during the discussion.

Organization of work

It was decided to close the list of speakers for item 3 (e) on Monday, 28 February, at 1.00 p.m.

/..

8th meeting

Preparations for the Conference [3]

The Austrian Minister of State for Women's Affairs, H.E. Ms. Johanna Dohnal, addressed the Commission.

- (d) Preparatory meetings and activities
- (e) Publicity for the Conference

The Commission resumed its consideration of the sub-items and heard statements by the representatives of Pakistan, Egypt, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Kenya, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, France, Mexico, Indonesia, China, the Philippines and Venezuela.

The observers for Argentina and Greece made statements.

The representative of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women made a statement.

A statement was made by the observer for the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM).

The representative of the Department of Public Information made a statement in response to questions raised during the discussion.

1. Report of Inter agency meeting.

(a) formal report

(b) substantive summary
for **CCS & P. Sec.**

(c) follow-up.

*Pres.
summary
report as in
W. Report.*

2. Documentation for agencies.

(WPI - para 5)

(a) justification

(b) evaluation inter agency report.
? conference document.

(3) Documentation - general.

Input for agencies on (a), (b),
(d), (e) -

✓ What is difference between
(a) & (c)

- financing.
- who is - understanding
↳ interest.

Expulsion.

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN,
ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY FOR
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND
APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

First session

Vienna, 23 February - 4 March 1983

Item 3 (a) and (b)

PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

- (A) ISSUES AND THEMES
- (B) PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION
FOR THE CONFERENCE

Informal Working Paper by the Chairperson

DD 11/ 2/11/20
1. The Commission on the Status of Women, Acting as the Preparatory Body for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on Proposals on substantive and organizational preparations for the Conference (A/CONF.116/PC/7, corrigendum and addenda 1 and 2), and in light of the views expressed at its first session, considers that the framework of the Conference should be the World Plan of Action of Mexico City ^{1/} and the Programme of Action of Copenhagen. ^{2/} Special attention, as appropriate, should be given to the following: the improvement of the condition of women in rural areas; the implications of scientific and technological developments for women; the full participation of women in decision making, including in the achievement of peace and security, at all levels and in all sectors; the bridging of the gap between the situation of women in law and in practice; perceptions of women's changing role in society, including the influence of the mass media on such perceptions; and the equitable access by women to work opportunities and better conditions of work, without prejudice to women's multiple responsibilities in society.

^{1/} Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, Mexico City, 19 June - 2 July 1975 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1), chap. III.

^{2/} Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14-30 July 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3 and corrigendum), chap. I, sect. A.

2. The Commission makes the following recommendations:

Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the Conference
2. Election of the President
3. Adoption of the rules of procedure
4. Adoption of the agenda
5. Election of officers other than the President
6. Other organizational matters:
 - (a) Allocation of items to the main committee(s), and organization of work;
 - (b) Credentials of representatives to the Conference;
 - (i) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
 - (ii) Report of the Credentials Committee.
7. Critical review and appraisal of the progress achieved and obstacles encountered in attaining the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace:
 - (a) Progress achieved at the national level;
 - (b) Progress achieved at global and regional levels.
8. Forward-looking strategies of implementation, and concrete measures to overcome obstacles to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace:
 - (a) Strategies and measures at the national and sub-national levels;
 - (b) Strategies and measures at the global and regional levels.
9. Adoption of the report of the Conference

Palestine

Appraisal

Peace

no Planning Violence

Emp. Hate

> global

at national level

9. Adoption of the report of the Conference

Documentation

Basic documentation

- (a) Report on the review and appraisal of progress achieved and obstacles encountered in attaining the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace and the sub-themes: Employment, Health and Education.

Nat. Level replaces 2



Annex V.

(b) World survey on the role of women in development in selected sectors of the International Development Strategy of the Third United Nations Development Decade (General Assembly resolutions 35/78, 36/74 and 37/60);

Rec. of Australia
Nov '84

(c) Report on the review and appraisal of the progress achieved and the obstacles encountered by the United Nations system in support of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace and of the sub-themes: Employment, Health and Education. This report would reflect the emphasis placed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1982/26 on "... the need to identify the most effective strategies and methods of work at the international level and to establish priorities for the United Nations system";

(d) Report on forward-looking strategies of implementation and concrete measures to overcome obstacles to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, at national and sub-national and at global and regional levels;

(e) Perspective on the status of women to the year 2000 (to be prepared by the Commission on the Status of Women, Acting as the Preparatory Body for the World Conference in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26);

(f) Reports of five regional intergovernmental preparatory meetings to be organized by the five United Nations Regional Commissions; ^{3/}

(g) Reports of the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, Acting as the Preparatory Body for the World Conference;

Background documentation

(h) Reports of regional technical meetings of experts. ^{3/} These reports are intended to facilitate the work of the regional intergovernmental preparatory meetings;

(i) Report of the interregional seminar on the condition of women in rural areas; ^{4/}

^{3/} Provided that the Commission on the Status of Women, Acting as the Preparatory Body for the World Conference recommends that such meetings should be held, and that the Economic and Social Council approves such a recommendation.

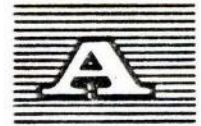
^{4/} The Secretary-General considers that this seminar would be held pursuant to General Assembly resolution 37/59.

Other documentation

(j) A number of United Nations organizations have indicated that they will prepare technical reports and information material on issues within their fields of competence. The organizations concerned will be expected to assume responsibility for preparing, translating into the languages of the Conference and reproducing these reports in sufficient quantity for distribution at the Conference;

(k) Governments preparing national reports should make these available in a sufficient number of copies to distribute at the Conference, and to other countries beforehand at the Government's own initiative.

UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
LIMITED
A/CONF.116/PC/L.1
22 February 1983
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN,
ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY FOR
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND
APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

First session
Vienna, 23 February-4 March 1983
Item 2 of the provisional agenda */

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Organization of work

Note by the Secretariat

1. The first session of the Commission on the Status of Women, Acting as the Preparatory Body for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women will be held from 23 February to 4 March 1983. There will be two meetings a day, normally from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Interpretation services are available for these meetings only. Additional meetings held by working groups or drafting groups will be conducted without interpretation facilities unless they replace plenary meetings.
2. The General Assembly has adopted guidelines for reducing time wasted resulting from cancellation of scheduled meetings and from the late start of meetings. The Secretariat wishes in this regard to bring to the attention of the Commission General Assembly resolutions 32/71, 33/55 and 33/56. Furthermore, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 32/71, the Secretariat informs members of the Commission that the session will be provided with simultaneous interpretation in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. There will be sound recording of the meetings but no summary records will be provided.

*/ A/CONF.116/PC/1.

3. Delegations are reminded that, bearing in mind the constraints imposed on the Commission and the Secretariat owing to limited time, draft recommendations regarding items on the agenda should be submitted for the consideration of the Commission as early as possible during the session.

4. The following timetable is proposed for the consideration of items ^{*/} on the agenda:

Wednesday, 23 February (a.m.)

Elections of officers [1]

Adoption of the agenda [2]

Preparations for the Conference [3]

(p.m.)

Preparations for the Conference [3]

(a) Issues and themes

(b) Provisional agenda and documentation for the Conference

Thursday, 24 February (a.m. and p.m.)

Continuation of item 3(a) and (b)

Friday, 25 February (a.m.)

Continuation of item 3(a) and (b)

(p.m.)

Continuation of item 3

(c) Rules of procedure

(d) Preparatory meetings and activities

Monday, 28 February (a.m. and p.m.)

Continuation of item 3(c) and (d)

"Study on perspectives on the status of women to the year 2000"

(A/CONF.116/PC/CRP.1)

*/ Numbers in square brackets refer to agenda items.

Tuesday, 1 March (a.m. and p.m.)

Publicity for the Conference [4]

Discussion and adoption of recommendations submitted under the item.

Conclusion of the item.

Wednesday, 2 March (a.m. and p.m.)

Preparations for the Conference [3]

Adoption of all recommendations submitted under the item.

Conclusion of the item.

Thursday, 3 March

No meetings to be held in order to enable the Rapporteur and the Secretariat to finalize and process the draft report.

Friday, 4 March (a.m. and p.m.)

Provisional agenda for the second session of the preparatory body [5]

Adoption of the report of the preparatory body on its first session [6]



General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/CONF.116/PC/1
4 January 1983

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN,
ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY FOR
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND
APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN
First session
Vienna, 23 February-4 March 1983
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Provisional Agenda

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Preparations for the Conference
4. Publicity for the Conference
5. Provisional agenda for the second session of the preparatory body
6. Adoption of the report of the preparatory body on its first session

ANNOTATIONS

1. Election of officers

In accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission will elect from among the representatives of its members, a Chairman, one or more Vice-Chairmen and such other officers as may be required.

At past sessions, the Commission has elected, in addition to the Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur.

2. Adoption of the agenda

Rule 7 of the rules of procedure provides that the Commission shall, at the beginning of the session, after the election of its officers, adopt the agenda for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda.

Documentation

Provisional agenda (A/CONF.116/PC/1)

3. Preparations for the Conference

(a) Issues and themes

The Economic and Social Council, in paragraphs 7, 8 and 9 of its resolution 1982/26 of 4 May 1982, adopted on the recommendation of the Commission on the Status of Women, 1/ invited regional commissions, Member States, non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and intergovernmental organizations outside the United Nations system, to submit their views, in writing, on issues and themes for the Conference, for presentation to the preparatory body. Paragraph 10 further requested the Secretary-General to undertake interagency consultations on issues and themes for the Conference. The various views submitted are summarized in the reports before the preparatory body.

Moreover, in light of the views provided in response to those requests and experience gained during the Decade, the Secretary-General has suggested some approaches and strategies for implementing the goals and objectives of the Decade as well as some priority issues for consideration at the Conference in 1985.

(b) Provisional agenda and documentation for the Conference

Pursuant to resolution 1982/26, organizations of the United Nations system, and intergovernmental organizations as well as non-governmental organizations, in their responses to the request of the Secretary-General, have made suggestions regarding the agenda for the Conference and documentation, including basic documents, background documents and other reports. Suggestions in this regard are also contained in the report of the Secretary-General which will be before the preparatory body under this item.

(c) Rules of procedure

Since the General Assembly, at its thirty-seventh session, did not complete the formulation of standard rules of procedure for conferences, the preparatory body will have before it at its second session, a document containing draft rules of procedure for the World Conference, prepared by the Secretary-General, for its consideration.

(d) Preparatory meetings and activities

Member States, specialized agencies and other United Nations organizations, including regional commissions, and intergovernmental organizations as well as non-governmental organizations were also invited by the Secretary-General to express their views concerning preparatory activities for the Conference and procedures and arrangements at the Conference itself. The reports in this regard which are before the preparatory body, contain summaries of the views expressed.

The Secretary-General's report under this item also contains proposals regarding preparatory meetings and other activities to be undertaken prior to the Conference.

Documentation

Views of Member States (A/CONF.116/PC/2)

Views of regional commissions (A/CONF.116/PC/3)

Views of specialized agencies (A/CONF.116/PC/4)

Views of non-governmental organizations (A/CONF.116/PC/5)

Views of intergovernmental organizations (A/CONF.116/PC/6)

Proposals on the substantive and organizational preparations for the Conference: report of the Secretary-General (A/CONF.116/PC/7)

4. Publicity for the Conference

The Secretary-General has proposed an information programme to create public awareness before the Conference, as well as to highlight the preparatory activities. This report will be before the preparatory body for its consideration.

Documentation

Proposals for an information programme (A/CONF.116/PC/8)

5. Provisional agenda for the second session of the preparatory body

In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure, the Commission will approve its provisional agenda for the following session.

6. Adoption of the report of the preparatory body on its first session

The Commission will adopt its report to the Economic and Social Council.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1982, Supplement No. 4 (E/1982/14), chap. IX.

P. 7 7 24-51.

B- ~~31-41~~ 42-51

Indi.

Koval - 10d sold firstly -

EEC - guidelines, program & adv.

Australia Q & bond, ¹⁹⁷⁰ economic review
requests. EMU Q report.

Economic role - economic planning.

Questionnaire - by countries & experts.
? help to govts.

Review of activities of Int'l Orgs - independent
analyses.

Tool exp.
Q of budget -
impact on Q

Case studies.

Decisions of the system.

Use. not to limit to questions by hand
at present - system

+ Public affairs -

+ legislative social programs.

paper rights is real state

Survey - burden of Govt. use to provide
info already available.

— new second decade.

Nobelad, Physical violence

Comp. ^{any} statistical studies -

Thailand

WATER - ① distance between primary - primary
is important

② inter relationship.

③ age / gender.

④

India, Russia.
FRG. Public life -

USA non separated -
changing attitudes

DSR. Tech.
change

We are working - here
The various methods

Chan 19. 118 - 119

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Open 69 and 370.

Experiments.



VEREINTE NATIONEN
Informationsdienst

For information - not an official document • Zur Information - kein offizielles Dokument • Pour information - document sans caractère officiel

UNIS/WOM/52

RESURGENCE OF ANTI-FEMINISM

Commission on Status of Women Prepares for World Conference

Vienna, 23 February 1983

A resurgence of "deep-seated prejudices and discriminatory practices" against women could threaten gains they had made over the years, warned the Assistant Secretary-General for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, Leticia Shahani, here today. She emphasized that the women's issue must be placed squarely within the broad context of national and international structures as well as of relations within and among nations.

Mrs. Shahani was addressing the opening of the first session (23 February to 4 March) of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as preparatory body for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the UN Decade for Women.

Referring to the period since the UN Decade began in 1976, she said the World Conference "could offer a much-needed opportunity for a realistic and factual assessment of what has been achieved". It would also be a chance for further adjustment of strategies, identification of new emphases and assessment of resources required "to reach satisfactory but realistic goals within an acceptable period of time, taking into account the grave difficulties of the present and prospective socio-economic situation".

The Conference is expected to provide an international forum for a critical review and appraisal of the Decade's achievements, difficulties in realizing the Decade's objectives and probable future trends. It would formulate strategies for advancement of women on national, regional and international levels.

While the goals of the Decade--equality, development and peace--together with the sub-themes of employment, health and education were continuing concerns, Mrs. Shahani pointed out that certain priority matters within these issues merited consideration.

Increased attention should be given to bridging the "persistent and continuing gap between legal provisions and actual practice", while the

/...

contribution of the Committee established under the Convention on the elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women should be recognized. Greater participation by women at all levels of policy formulation, decision making and planning represented another major concern. But this, as well as a greater role in development, was conditional on an equal sharing between men and women of parental and household responsibilities.

The issue of women and development should be more closely linked with the sectors highlighted by the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, such as agriculture, industry, trade, money and finance, energy, and science and technology. Increased attention could be given to enabling women to combine their economic roles with their family and household responsibilities.

To help further the objective of peace, the number of women involved in relevant policy-making decisions should be increased, as well as women being encouraged to participate in non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations aimed at strengthening international peace and security. Assistance to female victims of conflict, violations of human rights and violence in general might also be considered by the Conference.

To have an accurate perspective on progress during the Decade, Mrs. Shahani stressed the "fundamental importance that information provided by governments should be comprehensive and objective as well as critical, identifying obstacles and containing indicators on probable future trends". Governments were being encouraged to reflect assessments by national organizations of the extent to which the Decade had benefitted women, particularly at the grass-roots and village levels, and reasons for lack or slowness of progress.

Turning to future strategies, Mrs. Shahani focussed on the need to confirm and consolidate gains already achieved, "so that they may be increasingly translated into policies and programmes". A second aim was formulating concrete ways to implement the Decade's goals.

"A primary concern of such strategies", she said, "is the actual betterment of the lives of the majority of women throughout the world. This, however, cannot be brought about unless planners and policy makers, especially at the national level, incorporate the women's dimension into broader developmental strategies, plans and programmes as well as formulate temporary measures designed to correct critical imbalances affecting women."

Because the precise form for female advancement might differ with culture and area, a regional approach to Conference preparations was being emphasized. Other than the Commission's three sessions and an interregional seminar on women and rural development, all preparatory meetings should be of a regional nature.

Paying tribute to the Commission, Mrs. Shahani said that since 1947 it had played a triple role of pioneer, conserver and leader. It was a pioneer because of the action initiated on many women's issues on a global scale at an early stage; a conserver, because it helped strengthen and implement international standards on women adopted by the United Nations; and a leader, because of moving "courageously into the future" while safeguarding the gains of the past.

At its current session, the Commission will consider an agenda for the World Conference, as well as one for its own next session, together with Conference documentation and preparatory activities.

The Chairperson is O.O. Obafemi (Nigeria). The Vice-Chairpersons are Dagmar Molkova (Czechoslovakia), Grethe Vaerno (Norway) and Prabha Rao (India). The Rapporteur is Maria Esperanza Ruesta de Furter (Venezuela).

* * * * *

Commission on the Status of Women acting as the Preparatory Body for the
World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United
Nations Decade for Women, First Session, Vienna, 23 February-4 March 1983

Statement by the Assistant Secretary-General
for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs,
Mrs. Leticia Shahani, 23 February 1983

Madame Chairman, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen:

It is my great pleasure to address this first session of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the Preparatory Body for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women.

May I first of all warmly welcome all members of the Commission as well as congratulate its new members on their election to this distinguished body. It is a source of deep pride and joy for us in the Secretariat to be closely associated with this Commission.

May I also cordially welcome the representatives of States who are present here in response to the invitation of the Economic and Social Council. I am confident that they will add a most important breadth of perspective to our deliberations. I should also like to extend a sincere welcome to my colleagues from other parts of the United Nations system of organizations who are attending this meeting. Based on our long experience of collaboration with them, we are certain that their contributions to this session will be positive and fruitful.

Finally, I should like to welcome the representatives of intergovernmental organizations outside the United Nations system and those of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council who are present at this session. We in the Secretariat are conscious of what these organizations have done in advancing the status of women and we

look forward to co-operating with them in preparing for the World Conference.

May I now proceed with the introduction of item 3 of the agenda. As you are aware, this is the first session of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the Preparatory Body for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women. In accordance with mandates of the Economic and Social Council, the second session will be held in 1984 and the third in 1985, a few months previous to the Conference itself.

The Secretary-General has undertaken a number of activities in preparation for this first session. He asked Member States, agencies and organizations of the United Nations system including regional commissions, other intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations for their views on possible issues and themes for the Conference and on their possible contributions to its preparation. On the basis of suggestions received from many governments and organizations, the Secretary-General has prepared his proposals on substantive and organizational preparations for the Conference contained in document A/CONF.116/PC/7 and Add.1 and 2. I should therefore like to elaborate and explain in my statement the thrust of the proposals contained in this report.

It will be recalled that the Economic and Social Council emphasized the importance of undertaking at the conclusion of the Decade a critical review and appraisal of: (a) progress at international, regional and national levels in the achievement of the goals of the Decade - equality, development and peace, and the subthemes - employment, health and education; and (b) the obstacles encountered in the implementation of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the

International Women's Year adopted at the World Conference of the International Women's Year at Mexico in 1974 and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, adopted in Copenhagen in 1980. In addition, it was decided that a forward-looking perspective on the status of women to the year 2000 should be undertaken. The Council also emphasized the need to identify the most effective strategies and methods of work at the international level and to establish priorities for the United Nations system.

In preparing the Secretary-General's report on the proposals on substantive and organizational preparations for the Conference, it was felt that it would be valuable to review the achievements of the two previous world conferences held at the beginning and at the mid-point of the Decade (see paras 11-27). In view of the strong links between the objectives of the 1985 Conference and those of Mexico City and Copenhagen, it appeared appropriate that the Preparatory Body should consider preparations for the 1985 Conference in light of the impetus already contributed by these two events to global efforts towards the advancement of women.

As noted in the Secretary-General's report, the purpose of the Conference might be described at this preliminary stage as follows:

- (a) To provide an international forum for a critical review and appraisal of the achievements of the Decade, the difficulties encountered in achieving the objectives of the Decade, and probable future trends;
- (b) To formulate strategies for effective implementation that would identify and recommend concrete methods and means for the advancement of women to be applied at national, regional and international levels, based on experience gained during the Decade and on perspectives to the year 2000.

A thorough review and appraisal of what has been achieved since 1975 is a most valuable exercise, even though the period of time which has elapsed since the first world conference at Mexico City is limited and although it is fully realized that many of the underlying causes of women's unsatisfactory condition are complex and intractable, requiring long-term efforts for their resolution. The Mexico Conference may be seen as an enthusiastic first statement of concern and intent, the Copenhagen Conference an opportunity for a closer examination of the issues involved which allowed a more concrete specification of actions required. The 1985 World Conference could offer a much needed opportunity for a realistic and factual assessment of what has been achieved. It will also provide an opportunity for further adjustment of strategies, identification of new emphases, assessment of the resources required to reach satisfactory but realistic goals and targets within an acceptable period of time, taking into account the grave difficulties of the present and prospective socio-economic situation. There is now better awareness of the complexities of the issues and relationships involved, the multiplicity of linkages between the problem of women's equality and their full and satisfactory participation in society and other major world problems which affect peace and security. These difficulties should not deter us: but we must admit that they call for an even greater concentration of our efforts.

The Secretary-General's report points out that the goals and objectives laid down in the World Plan of Action of Mexico City and in the Programme of Action of Copenhagen and expressed in the themes - equality, development and peace - and the subthemes - employment, health and education are continuing and evolving concerns. However, it is proposed that certain priority matters within the issues of equality, development and peace merit the Conference's consideration.

In regard to the issue of equality, for example, increased attention should be given to bridging the persistent and continuing gap between legal provisions and actual practice. In this connexion, the major contribution of the Committee established under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women should be recognized. As of now, forty-six (46) States Parties are to report to the Committee on measures taken by them to implement the provisions of the Convention. As regards equality, a major concern running through almost all of the Secretary-General's proposals is the greater participation by women at all levels of policy formulation, decision-making and planning. Also conditional to the participation of women in all sectors and at all levels of development is the equal sharing between men and women of parental and household responsibilities.

Concerning the issue of women and development, the Secretary-General, while recognizing the relevance of the subthemes - employment, health and education - proposes that these should be more closely linked with the sectors highlighted by the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and which are of direct concern to women's participation in development such as agriculture, industry, trade, money and finance, energy, science and technology. In addition, increased attention should be given to the question of ways and means of enabling women to combine their economic roles with their family and household responsibilities.

Finally, with regard to the third objective of the Decade - peace - the Secretary-General proposes that the Conference might wish to focus on ways and means to substantially increase the number of women involved in relevant policy-making decisions and to encourage a greater number of

women to participate in non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations aimed at the strengthening of international peace and security. The Conference might also wish to consider the question of assistance to women who are victims of conflicts, mass and flagrant violations of human rights, and violence in all its aspects.

It is not sufficient, however, to identify specific issues but also to recognize the context within which these should be examined. The International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade places the women's issue squarely within the broad context of national and international structures and of the relations within and among nations, stating: "Appropriate measures should be taken for profound social and economic changes and for the elimination of the structural imbalances which compound and perpetuate women's disadvantages." Closely linked with this pronouncement is the fact that the severity of the global economic crisis affects the broad masses of the population, including women. Furthermore, the absence of peace and the fear of war is marked notably by the vast diversion of much-needed resources for development to the arms race. In addition, we are experiencing a definite trend of resurgence of deep-seated prejudices and discriminatory practices against women which could nullify gains painfully and slowly won over the years.

It is in the light of the foregoing that the dual purpose of the Conference, that is, review and appraisal of progress achieved and formulation of strategies for implementation, should be viewed and elaborated.

Concerning the review and appraisal of the achievements of the Decade, it is of fundamental importance that information provided by

Governments should be comprehensive and objective as well as critical, identifying obstacles and containing indicators on probable future trends. The Secretary-General would also encourage Governments to reflect in their reply to the Secretariat's questionnaire the assessment by appropriate national organizations of the extent to which the Decade has in fact benefitted women, particularly at the grass-root and village level, as well as the reasons for lack or the slowness of progress. I should therefore like to make a strong appeal that this Preparatory Body bring the attention of Governments to the great importance of giving to the preparation of their replies the seriousness it fully deserves. In addition, consideration might be given by this Preparatory Body as to how some countries, particularly the least developed ones, might be assisted to prepare, upon request, their review and appraisal for the 1985 World Conference.

Based mainly on this review and appraisal and on the conclusions of the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development which, as requested by the General Assembly, will be a major document before the Conference dealing with the economic aspects of women's condition, the Conference should look to the future and provide strategies for implementation. Such strategies in the view of the Secretary-General, should aim at: (1) confirming and consolidating the gains already achieved so that they may be increasingly translated into policies and programmes; (2) formulating concrete ways and means by which to achieve implementation of the goals of the UN Decade for Women both in areas where progress was slow and in new areas of priority identified by the Conference. It should be emphasized that a primary concern of such strategies for implementation is the actual betterment of the lives of the majority of women throughout the world. This, however, cannot be brought about unless planners and policy-makers, especially at the national level, incorporate the women's dimension into

broader development strategies, plans and programmes as well as formulate temporary measures designed to correct critical imbalances affecting women which will be phased out when such imbalances have been reduced. The urgent need for transforming General Assembly resolutions into policies and policies into action presses heavily on us. The third women's conference, it seems, could give the issue of implementation strategies very high priority.

Since the precise form in which several concepts relating to the advancement of women are translated into everyday reality may differ within each culture and region, the Secretary-General has emphasized in his proposals the importance of a regional approach to Conference preparations. Thus, it is suggested that other than the three sessions of this Commission acting as preparatory body, and an interregional seminar on women and rural development, all the other preparatory meetings should be of a regional nature - one technical meeting and one inter-governmental meeting for each region.

The United Nations system in turn will be guided by the recommendations of the regional preparatory meetings in formulating its forward-looking assessment to improve its capacity to assist Member States in the implementation of programmes benefitting women. In this connexion, I might add that a close inter-organizational collaboration within the United Nations system has marked the substantial progress made as regards the development of procedures for monitoring, review and appraisal of international strategies related to women. I am pleased to inform this body that immediately prior to this session, an inter-agency meeting was concluded in which the procedures to be followed and the areas of collaboration in preparation for the Conference were discussed. In this way, the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs has usefully carried out its mandated function as focal point for the United Nations system in harmonizing system-wide efforts in the field of the advancement of women.

In chapter IV of his report, the Secretary-General makes a number of proposals concerning organizational aspects of preparations for the World Conference. An important element of these proposals is his recommendation that during this first session of the Preparatory Body, a tentative agenda for the Conference should be formulated in such a way as to achieve the two objectives of the Conference.

The Secretary-General also makes a number of proposals concerning documentation for the Conference. He identifies a limited number of basic documents as well as a certain number of supplementary background documents. In this connexion, I wish to draw your attention to a conference room paper which could serve as the basis for a preliminary exchange of views on the perspectives on the status of women to the year 2000.

In accordance with the Secretary-General's policy of maximum budgetary restraint, the proposals concerning the organization of the World Conference have been kept to the minimum, the further reduction of which might jeopardize the success of the Conference. Basically, the Secretary-General's recommendation calls for a limited and temporary supplement to the staff of the Branch for the Advancement of Women which is the designated substantive secretariat of the Conference, for a limited number of preparatory meetings with required travel of responsible staff and for selected and limited documentation. In this connexion, and on a positive note, I wish to inform the distinguished delegates that additional requirements were kept to a minimum because within the programme budget of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs for the biennia 1982-1983 and 1984-1985, a number of activities were designed with the dual purpose of meeting the needs of current mandates while at the same time contributing specifically to

the preparations for the World Conference. Thus, the review and appraisal exercise and the preparation of the World Survey are being undertaken within the regular work programme of the Centre. In addition, an expert group meeting on women, development and peace will be held later this year. I hope that this Preparatory Body will share the view of the Secretary-General that the proposals made and their financial implications are the minimum required. On the other hand, we know by actual experience that in the course of preparing for global events, unforeseen requirements and demands are made upon some Member States, in particular the least developed countries, as well as upon the substantive secretariat. Consequently, it appears to be of importance that this body consider the possibilities of ensuring that adequate financial resources are made available for this purpose.

In view of what I have just outlined, the Commission's decisions are needed on the following matters: the agenda of the World Conference; the agenda for the next session of the Preparatory Body; documentation to be prepared for the Conference; preparatory activities, principally the nature and number of meetings, both inter-governmental and technical, as well as the public information programme, which issue will be introduced by a representative of the Department of Public Information at a later stage. If decisions are reached and concrete recommendations are made at this session on each of these matters, then Member States as well as the appropriate members of the United Nations system and other organizations will have sufficient time to formulate and implement the required policies and plans.

Before concluding, I should like to take this occasion to pay tribute to the Commission on the Status of Women. Over the years since 1947, the Commission has played what to my mind is a triple role - that

of a pioneer, that of a conserver, and that of a leader. A pioneer, because the Commission has initiated action on many women's issues on a global scale at an early stage; a conserver, because it has acted as a guardian to strengthen and to implement the international standards on women adopted by the United Nations system; a leader, because it has moved courageously into the future and, at the same time, has safeguarded the gains of the past. The torch of the Preparatory Committee of the Copenhagen Conference is now passed on to this Preparatory Body. A noble and historic task awaits this gathering. We are confident that in the preparations for the 1985 World Conference, the Commission will again live up to its triple role of pioneer, conserver and leader.

Thank you.



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ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY FOR
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND
APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

First session

Vienna, 23 February-4 March 1983

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Provisional Agenda

Corrigendum

Page 3, paragraph 3(d), Documentation

Line 4: for A/CONF.116/PC/5 read A/CONF.116/PC/6

Line 5: for A/CONF.116/PC/6 read A/CONF.116/PC/5



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COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
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UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

First session
Vienna, 23 February - 4 March 1983
Items 3 and 4 of the provisional agenda*

CONSIDERATION OF ISSUES AND THEMES TO BE EXAMINED AT
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS
OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

CONSIDERATION OF ARRANGEMENTS TO BE MADE
IN PREPARATION FOR THE CONFERENCE

Views of Member States

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

This report sets out the views of Member States as transmitted to the Secretary-General in response to paragraph 8 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26. Sixteen replies were received. The views are grouped firstly according to the substantive matters of the Conference and secondly according to organizational matters.

*A/CONF.116/PC.1/1.

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1982/26, invited Member States to submit their views on the proposed goals and specific themes of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women so that a report could be prepared for consideration by the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the preparatory body for the Conference.
2. The current report has been prepared in response to that resolution and at the time of its preparation replies had been received from the following Member States: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, Cuba, Denmark, German Democratic Republic, Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, India, Japan, Norway, Philippines and Yugoslavia. The Government of Tonga also submitted its views.
3. A number of replies noted that the time for preparing comments had been short. One pointed out that it was stating its views bearing in mind that only initial preparations were in question and that Member States would have the opportunity to take an active part in all preparations for the Conference.
4. Several replies were based on discussions with women's organizations and with individual women. For example, one reply was based on suggestions obtained by the Equal Status Council from political parties, ministries, relevant commissions, labour organizations, private organizations and a number of individuals. Overall, there was an emphasis on the importance of involving women and women's organizations in the preparations for the Conference.

SUMMARY OF REPLIES

A. Substantive matters

1. Themes, issues and objectives

5. In their replies Governments made general points on themes and issues. One Government considered it necessary that the selection of topics should secure a certain continuity in relation to previous conferences, including the World Conference of the International Women's Year held at Mexico City in 1975 and the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women held at Copenhagen in 1980, and to the World Plan of Action¹/^{*} and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women² adopted respectively at those conferences. Another considered that discussion at the Conference should have a long-term perspective.
6. In many replies, it was suggested that the main task of the Conference should be a review and appraisal of the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women. As a corollary, and of equal importance, the Conference should consider actions to be taken to resolve the problems that would be faced by women and to hasten their advancement.

*For the notes, see page 16 below.

7. A number of Governments called attention to the need to undertake a critical assessment of progress during the Decade. They considered it necessary to look at the barriers to achievement of the goals of the Decade that still existed, and which in some cases might still be increasing. They pointed to the need to consider what had not been achieved during the Decade, and consequently to discuss measures to realize the unmet goals. They noted that review and appraisal should focus particularly on an evaluation of the measures and strategies that had been adopted in order to attain the goals and objectives of the Decade. One suggested that in measuring progress, close examination should be given to the issue of whether progress or lack of progress had resulted from existing and adopted strategies and whether there was a need to revise those strategies. That was an exercise in which that Government was now engaged and which it was finding most useful. Another noted that the Programme of Action, and specifically the parts relating to the situation of women, provided the basis for its views on the goals and themes of the Conference. It strongly reaffirmed its standpoint as being the same one it had assumed before and during preparations for the 1980 World Conference, namely, that the goals and themes of the Conference should be defined in the clearest possible terms and geared to concrete problems in order to avoid as far as possible a discussion on political and ideological lines, which that Government considered of no use in solving specific problems relating to women. Consequently, in preparing and holding the Conference emphasis should be placed on practical questions relating to the implementation of the recommendations of the Programme of Action so that, by discussing concrete points and problems wherever possible, a contribution could be made towards solving actual problems and consequently genuinely improving the situation of women. That Government considered that less time should be devoted to reviewing and presenting the achievements made thus far than to looking at the problems that were still unresolved and describing measures still to be taken. The obstacles to greater progress should also be ascertained.

8. Another Government suggested that both Governments and the United Nations system should be prepared to take a hard look at the situation to determine what had been accomplished, what programmes had failed, what efforts were lacking and to analyse the reasons for the slow progress if such were found to be the case. One Government considered that the Conference should emphasize the performance of the United Nations system in implementation of the Decade. Another felt that the Conference should examine and evaluate the results of the Decade and the recommendations contained in existing proposals in order to contribute to a more successful realization of the overall objectives of the Decade. It should assess the extent to which the recommendations of the World Plan of Action and of the Programme of Action as well as the recommendations of the non-aligned and developing countries, the specialized agencies of the United Nations and other relevant bodies had become an organic part of all the relevant activities and documents of the United Nations. A further respondent also emphasized the need, within the review and appraisal, to evaluate the existing plans and programmes of action and the Declaration of Mexico.

9. The respondent developing countries in particular noted the importance within the review and appraisal procedure of identifying the factors that had prevented rapid progress in each area. One Government hoped that the Conference would make a serious effort to sum up the experiences gained over the Decade. The review and appraisal should explore the root causes of the obstacles to fully realizing the goals of equality, development and peace,

should evaluate the achievements of different countries in realizing the goals to improve the status and safeguard the rights and interests of women and should summarize experience gained in those areas.

(a) Equality, development and peace

10. A number of respondent Governments explicitly stated that the objectives of the Decade should be maintained as themes for the Conference. One Government suggested that "co-operation and solidarity" be added, taking into account the deterioration of the international political situation and the need for closer collaboration between peoples.

11. Several expressed opinions concerning priorities. One considered that emphasis should be given to the issues of development, while another considered that peace was the priority issue. Others suggested that concern for equality was of major importance.

12. One Government stressed the interrelationships between equality, development and peace and between the goals of the Decade and other major international strategies and efforts in the field of development and the strengthening of peace. It noted that the goals of the Decade were an integral part of the economic and political struggle for new relations in the world; moreover, achievement of those goals would help to attain the conditions necessary for humanity to live in a world of peace, one of a more balanced and just development, one that would respect the inalienable right of all peoples to independence and their own unhindered road to development, without which conditions positive changes in the status of women could not be made. It pointed to the links between the objectives of the Decade, the objectives of the International Development Strategy of the United Nations for the Third Development Decade, the efforts for the establishment of a new international economic order, and the measures for general and total disarmament and the promotion of peace and security in the world. It pointed out that not only had those commitments - equality, development and peace - been defined and adopted in the reports of the World Conferences in Mexico City and Copenhagen, but they had been emphatically confirmed at the Conference on the Role of Women in Development of Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries held at Baghdad, 1979, and included within the Programme of Action of the Meeting of High-Level Experts of Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries on the Role of Women in Development held at Havana in 1981.

(i) Women and equality

13. Several respondent Governments referred specifically to equality between the three themes proposed for the Conference. One Government considered that the themes for the Conference should be chosen on the principle that women and men should participate equally in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil and all other spheres. Especially, improvement of participation in fields in which little progress has so far been made should be discussed.

14. Two Governments were concerned that adequate attention be given to the issues of equality in the context of recent experience and current trends in the broad economic context of women's position in society. One of those Governments felt that the world was not merely experiencing an economic crisis but a deep modification in societal structures. Women should enter into the

new situation - which would be determined by such factors as new technologies, the mass media, problems of energy and the use of free time - on an equal footing with men. Referring specifically to the report of the Secretary-General to the Commission on the Status of Women at its twenty-ninth session on preparations for the Conference (E/CN.6/1982/8), the second of those Governments noted, with respect to section I, that it was distressed that the tone of the report indicated a reduced commitment to the goal of equality. Indeed, they contradicted the commitments of many states under a number of international human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. That Government's position was best summed up in the 1980 Declaration on the Employment of Women of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), which stressed the need for employment policies that offered women and men equal employment opportunity independent of economic growth and conditions in the labour market. The Government felt that statements of principles must not be over-ridden by fears of increased tension and unrest, especially in matters where women had borne the brunt of discrimination throughout centuries.

(ii) Women and development

15. One respondent Government considered that the greatest emphasis should be given to the issue of women and development. Another felt that priority should be given to the needs of women, particularly rural women, in developing countries. A third suggested that the subthemes of employment, health and education should be linked more closely to development (i.e. employment in development, health in development and education in development).

16. Several respondents from developed countries felt that such matters as the economic role of women should be examined within the context of broad societal change or development, a process affecting both developed and developing countries. However, one Government differentiated in its reply between the issue of women and work and that of women and development.

17. In that regard a number of respondents referred to the need for discussion by the Conference of broad world economic issues. One Government, referring to the strong demand by developing countries for the establishment of the New International Economic Order, felt that that matter should occupy an important place when discussing the question of development. A second hoped that the Conference would conclude that concern for the promotion of the status of women was an integral and inseparable part of a development strategy in which development was interpreted to include development in the political, economic, social, cultural and other dimensions of life, and the physical, moral and intellectual growth of a person. Consequently women's development should be viewed not only as an issue in social development but also as an essential component in every dimension of development. Moreover, to improve the status of women and their role in the process of development, such development should be an integral part of the New International Economic Order based on equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest and co-operation between all states. As the existing world situation was fraught with economic and political crises that unavoidably reflected on the status of women, that respondent called for a policy of self-reliance and collective self-reliance to help resolve both internal and global problems. That policy required and at the same time made possible the full participation of women in every country and in the international community. A third respondent stated

that seen in relation to the conditions existing in the world, including economic insecurity, the arms race and repeated violations of human rights, conditions for women had not improved. Consequently, it was important to emphasize that the results of the Conference must be included in, and was closely linked to, efforts to achieve a more just international economic order.

18. However, referring in particular to paragraphs 11 and 22 of the report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/1982/8) one Government noted that the establishment of a new international economic order would not necessarily ensure the promotion of equality between women and men. Of crucial importance were the economic, social and political institutions and relations in operation in countries. That point could also be made in relation to macro-economic policy within countries. The effects of macro-economic policy on women depended on the type of policy chosen but also, more importantly, on factors such as occupational and industrial distribution of women and the presence of systemic and attitudinal barriers to women's employment. Those would determine the ultimate impact on women. The discussion of macro-economic policies within the document did not clearly point out the presence of those factors between macro-economic policy and its impact on women.

19. Another Government considered that, although the Conference could not remain silent on major world problems that concerned women as well as men, it was appropriate that such major themes as the New International Economic Order, the international monetary situation and the North-South dialogue be touched upon, but not designated as specific objectives of the Conference as delegations could not include experts on all such aspects, which were the subjects of discussions in depth in other forums. Rather, it appeared more important to arrange that women be associated with such discussions by forming part of delegations to specialized conferences where they could be involved in relevant decision-making.

20. One Government considered it important that representatives from the developing countries themselves identify areas in which continued work was necessary and that developed countries be prepared to understand and support the areas so designated. It was necessary to have human resources, economic solidarity and the requisite technology in order to ensure a type of development co-operation that was relevant for and beneficial to women. Projects that had women as the primary target group were necessary and would need support for a long time to come. Consequently, development assistance that had women as the target group should be increased, especially with activities that could inform and educate women in the least privileged groups in the population and so contribute to the improvement of women's economic situation and independence. However, consideration of women's interest should be integrated into all development work; it was necessary that the consequences to the population of all development projects be considered. Special awareness was necessary to ensure that the living conditions of women and children were not worsened, and continued evaluation and co-ordination were therefore essential. It was considered important by that Government to point to those areas where women all over the world could identify with and support each other. Groups of women who were especially vulnerable and without a secure social network - for example, the young without an education or the opportunity to achieve economic independence, single mothers and widows - needed an expression of solidarity. The United Nations should allocate sufficient resources to carry out that task.

21. In that connection it was pointed out by another respondent that global unity in respect of both aims and actions was essential. A programme of action could be successfully implemented only if there were a united front. It was essential for women to work together. In reviewing whether and to what extent the Decade had improved the status of women it was important to ask what the side-effects of development were for the general well-being of the world's population. Moves towards achieving the goal of integrating women in development had been on the surface only, and there was a need to strengthen the programme in that regard, starting from the grass-roots level and extending to policy- and decision-makers.

22. A further respondent considered that in focusing upon the degree and nature of the participation of women in the process of economic development, particularly in developing countries, the Conference should assess the actual effects of that participation on the stability of development and on the long-term orientation of national development strategies.

23. A number of respondents considered the issue of the current deterioration of the world economic situation as one of central significance for women and hence a matter for careful consideration at the Conference.

24. Thus one Government, while considering that equality, development and peace still constituted the principal objectives of the Decade, noted that conditions had dramatically changed since the 1975 Conference. The economic crisis had affected profoundly both developing and developed countries. In the industrial countries women, who had always occupied a marginal position in the sphere of work, had been the first to suffer from the crisis. Female unemployment was a major problem that had to be set within the overall problem of unemployment and that called for original solutions (part-time employment, women's early retirement). The energy crisis that had so affected the industrialized countries had been catastrophic for developing countries. Women, often responsible for health, food and child education should be better able to participate in development efforts; and in that respect it should be remembered that health and education remained among the principal motors of development. That respondent concluded by noting that the world was passing not only through an economic crisis but also a profound change in the structure of civilization. Such matters as new technologies, the mass media, energy use and the use of free time merited consideration.

(iii) Women and peace

25. One respondent felt that the Conference should pay special attention to relationships between women and peace. Pointing out that there could be no development without peace and that peace could not be stable without the elimination of inequality and discrimination, that Government noted the sufferings of women and children as a result of current wars and tensions and also of massive spending upon armaments, the acceleration of which had resulted in severe cuts in social expenditures in some developed countries, thereby worsening the situation of women already made difficult by unemployment and inflation. Moreover, expenditure on armaments diverted vast resources that could be used in developing countries to combat hunger, disease and illiteracy. Consequently, elimination of the main obstacles to the peaceful life of peoples appeared to be tantamount to uprooting the main causes of discrimination against women.

26. One Government recommended that, because of the relationship between women's advancement and peace, the Conference should advocate the efficient resolution of the question of world peace and international security measures in the field of disarmament, the elimination of racist practices and all other negative practices and tendencies burdening the world. It pointed out that efforts and concern for the promotion of the status of women at the same time represented efforts for peace based on the independence and equality of all states.

27. Several Governments recommended the topic of peace as being among the main issues to be discussed by the Conference, one stressing in particular the need for participation by women in peace negotiations.

28. One Government noted that it would be more appropriate to arrange for women to form part of delegations to specialized conferences on issues such as peace and disarmament, which should be only touched upon at the World Conference, than to discuss those issues in depth at the Conference, particularly because delegations could not include specialists on all matters relevant to women.

(b) Employment, education and health

29. A number of replies supported the retention of the three subthemes identified for the 1980 Conference, equality, development and peace, and contained in the Programme of Action. It was indicated that identification of new themes was not necessary as the themes continued to reflect the common problems facing women the world over. The subthemes of Copenhagen should however be linked more closely to development. It was noted that in the years ahead the realization of the right of women to work, of equal opportunities in working life, equal pay for equal work, and equal opportunities in education and training would remain the most important task with regard to the situation of women. Improved health care for women and access to social benefits, including family planning, would also continue to be of central importance in many nations. For those reasons, the Conference should concentrate on the three concrete subthemes and reassess the goals set out in the Programme of Action. The themes addressed in the Programme were not new, but since the problems had in practice been solved only in part they remained important, especially in view of the more difficult economic conditions now existing.

(c) Suggestions for specific topics

30. Many respondent Governments identified specific topics that they felt should be given priority attention, as below.

(i) Agricultural development and food

31. A number of respondents considered that agricultural development and food was an important issue. Priority should be given particularly to the needs of rural women in developing countries. It was necessary to examine the effects of rural development lagging behind industrial development in developing countries, namely the aggravated agricultural and food situation including problems related to malnutrition. Undeveloped, predominantly subsistence, agriculture forms the basis of the national economies of most of the developing countries and women usually shoulder

(v) Education

35. In that regard, one respondent noted that women's choice of vocational education was too limited, and that weakened their position in society. Women's education must be spread over much wider areas in order to avoid the risk of being passed over by technological developments and the changing structure of society. It was also vital, according to one reply, to continue emphasizing the role of education as related to preventive measures for the maintenance of good health, such as hygiene, good nutrition, and family planning and infant care including breast feeding. The good results that had been achieved so far must be maintained and strengthened.

(vi) The right to work

36. In that connection, one Government suggested that attention should be given to the influence of new technology and of family responsibilities and duties. The effects on women of the crises in employment and high unemployment called for special action and initiatives.

(vii) Participation in political life, planning and all forms of decision-making

37. A number of respondents emphasized the importance of consideration of participation in political life, planning and decision-making.

(viii) Information and communications

38. Information and communications were considered an important issue, particularly the mass media in relation to societal attitudes towards women.

(ix) Women living in situations of extreme gravity, particularly Palestinian women and those living under apartheid

39. Some Governments stressed the importance of considering the question of women living in situations of extreme gravity, particularly Palestinian women and those living under apartheid.

(x) Miscellaneous topics

40. The following topics were also listed as issues that should be discussed: the influence of transnational corporations in the developing countries; consumption of resources and pollution; energy; water and sanitation; shelter, primary health care; population; problems of women migrants and women refugees.

41. Several respondents called attention to the need to continue research into the situations and role of women in society and to disseminate the results thereof.

2. Future action

42. Many Governments considered that the review and appraisal made by the Conference should form the basis of future actions. A number considered that the Conference should emphasize practical aspects of how to implement relevant recommendations and how to bring about a decisive improve-

ment in women's situation. On that basis the Conference should explore ways and means to further realize the goals of the Decade, giving special attention to the desires and needs of women in developing countries. One Government noted that it would seek adoption by the Conference of any action-oriented decisions aimed at the implementation of the demands raised by the Berlin World Congress, the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action. One indicated that deciding approaches to the solving of women's problems after the end of the Decade was one of the two main tasks of the Conference. In order to attain the objectives of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action, it was necessary to adopt further measures after 1985 at the national, regional and international levels. Those measures should take account of countries' differing levels of development. The ways and means for that purpose should be discussed at the Conference. Another Government recommended that review and appraisal should especially consider what had not been achieved and discuss measures to be taken in order to realize the goals of the Decade. The debate ought to lead to demands for action that would be as precise and operative as possible and give clear indications as to whether they were directed at international organizations or Governments. It was noted that particular importance should be attached to greater integration of the goals of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action in as many national and international institutions and programmes as possible since there were no plans for a Second Decade for Women. Problems and issues relating to women ought therefore to be considered and dealt with in the entire United Nations system after 1985. Moreover practical measures for application of the Declaration of Mexico, World Plan of Action and Programme of Action should be considered up to the year 2000.

43. The majority of Governments replying favoured an extension of the existing instruments, plans and programmes to a further period of implementation after 1985. One considered that there seemed to be no need to recommend new goals or new specific themes in the light of its view that the 1980 Conference subthemes should be retained for the purpose of review and appraisal of the Decade's achievements. Another did not consider a further decade for women to be desirable but proposed that the lines of action already undertaken be reformulated and possibly reoriented the better to attain concrete and practical objectives. A third Government felt that the goals and objectives of the 1980 Conference remained relevant to the Conference and consequently saw no requirement for a further plan or programme of action for the Conference. Rather the emphasis should be the further application and development of the aims and achievements of the 1980 Conference. While a decade was not a sufficient period for achieving full advancement of women, the existing World Plan of Action and Programme of Action contained useful recommendations for all to work on for the remainder of the century, although some readjustments in emphasis and reallocation of priorities would be useful. Another considered that there were no grounds for modifying the existing orientations offered by the current world economic and political situation. Thus, since the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action as well as the documents of the meetings of the non-aligned and developing countries, specialized United Nations agencies and other relevant bodies, contained recommendations of a long-term nature for giving effect to the objectives of the Decade, the forthcoming Conference should, when assessing their implementation in the framework of the general global situation, confirm them at the same time as the strategic basis for the further efforts of the world community.

44. In contrast one Government recommended that on the basis of the evaluation of progress so far achieved to be made by the Conference, a second United Nations decade for women ought to be proclaimed in order to continue and strengthen efforts made up to then. The primary goals of the Conference should be an evaluation of the Decade and the adoption of a strategy for achieving further progress in the post-decade period. That strategy should emphasize the problems that existed and formulate methods for overcoming them. Consequently, it considered that it would be valuable for the Conference to consider, encourage and recommend continued activities nationally, regionally and internationally as well as to discuss the continued responsibility of the United Nations. Possibilities for continued follow-up and evaluation and use of new and established channels for the sharing of experience should be examined, and a schedule adopted. Follow-up of the World Plan of Action with as precise goals as possible could be used as a tool in the continuing work for equality on a local, national, regional and global basis. In particular, the Conference should identify methods whereby the recommendations of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action could continue to be carried out in order that the global process that had been started continued and grew so that women who were now poorly represented in traditional international arenas would become more experienced in co-operation. A second Government felt that a decade was too short a period of time for the World Plan of Action to be effectively achieved and consequently it supported the view that the period be extended so that awareness of and concern for women's issues might be further nurtured and strengthened. In that connection, it pointed out that the setting up of national machineries had not yet been achieved in all countries and that only a few had fully fledged ministries responsible for the advancement of women.

45. One respondent considered that the holding of a world conference in 1990 would enable continued measurement of progress and tackling of problems. A second considered that a world conference to evaluate progress could be envisaged for 1995 or 2000 with, in the interval, regional conferences. That was considered to be sufficient to maintain pressure upon governments and to continue to alert public opinion.

46. One Government recommended the continued monitoring of the implementation of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action, and considered that one of the themes of the Conference should be the strengthening of regional consultations in that field.

B. Organizational matters

1. Pre-conference arrangements

(a) National level

(i) Preparatory committees and liaison arrangements

47. In response to paragraph 6 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26 that encouraged Member States:

"...to consider establishing national committees to assist, for example, in national-level preparations for the Conference, consultations on issues and themes and the preparation of national reports;"

many respondent Governments reported that such committees had already been or were being established or that such functions had been assigned to existing organizations.^{3/}

(ii) Ratification of or access to the Convention and other instruments

48. One Government, noting that the Convention could play an important role in abolishing discrimination against women in the national legislation of the States parties and in establishing the international principle of equality of men and women, recommended that Member States that had not yet done so, be urged to ratify or accede to it within the Decade. A second Government also felt that, by way of preparation for the Conference, efforts should be made to induce those governments that had not yet ratified the Convention to do so. A third respondent noted that the influence of specific instruments for achieving equal rights for women should be enhanced and that additional such instruments should be established.

(iii) The role of non-governmental organizations

49. A number of respondent Governments stated their support for an important role for non-governmental organizations in preparations for the Conference and at the Conference itself. One noted with satisfaction the increased support that grass-root movements were receiving from the United Nations system. Another respondent, referring to the Secretary-General's report (E/CN.6/1982/8), pointed out however that the lack of resources at the disposal of those non-governmental organizations should not be forgotten. If the international community were to rely more and more heavily on them in order to further its support of women, governments must assist them in their endeavours. That was true at the national as well as international level.

(b) Regional level

50. One respondent stressed the importance of regional activity to the end of the Decade. It considered that there should be a greater emphasis on regional consultation and preparation for the Conference, and results of those should be integrated into the work of the Conference. In keeping with the overall emphasis of the Conference, regional meetings should be workshops of specialists with experience in the areas of health, employment, education and staffing of women's bureaux. A second Government drew attention to the fact that, concomitantly with the meeting of a working group of OECD informal consultations had been held on 23 June 1982 on the subject of the Conference and possible priority themes for it.

51. One respondent felt that consideration should be given to the support and endorsement of the recommendations and resolutions of the relevant subregional follow-up meeting to the 1980 World Conference.

(c) International level

(i) The preparatory body and its secretariat

52. Several respondents specifically noted their support for the recommendations contained in paragraph 2 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26 that the Commission on the Status of Women act as preparatory body for the Conference. One of those Governments noted that it supported the notion that the substantive secretariat of the Conference be the Advancement of Women Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs in the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs. It strongly believed that, in order for that to be done without hampering the regular operations of the Commission on the Status of Women, the existing Secretariat machinery would need to be temporarily strengthened and, therefore, that sufficient resources must be allocated to that.

(ii) Documentation

53. Several respondents pointed out that it was essential that background documentation be ready well ahead of the time of the Conference in order to allow ample time for consultation. For that reason, it was hoped that sufficient time would be allocated in the first preparatory meeting to a discussion of organizational arrangements, especially those listed in (b), (c), (d) and (f) on page 12 of E/CN.6/1982/8. Another Government noted that review and appraisal should be carried out in the form of a penetrating analysis by experts, with results available to participants before the Conference began. The documents prepared for the 1980 Conference should provide a basis for measuring progress. Specialized agencies should be asked to document progress in respect of women's participation in development, with particular emphasis on agricultural development, industrial development, energy, food, water and sanitation, shelter, appropriate technology, functional literacy, population and primary health care. Another reply considered it important that national reports be planned in such a way that they could serve as instruments for evaluation. It noted that background documentation should be detailed and precise.

54. Having recommended that the Conference should emphasize the performance of the United Nations and its agencies in implementation of the United Nations Decade, one reply suggested that one preconference activity should be to examine and report on that. Referring specifically to the report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/1982/8) another respondent noted that it would be pleased to see more recognition and emphasis given in any future report to plans proposed by United Nations organizations and agencies and other international bodies, to mechanisms within the United Nations to integrate women's concerns and to analyse the impact of policies and programmes on women and programmes of equal opportunities and affirmative action for women within the United Nations system. A third Government proposed that a separate background document with specific recommendations to the United Nations system, including proposals to undertake administrative strengthening of questions related to women, should be worked out before the Conference.

55. Several respondents specifically supported the recommendation in paragraph 5 of ECOSOC resolution 1982/26 that a "forward-looking draft perspective on the status of women to the year 2000" should be prepared.

(iii) Resources

56. One respondent noted that the final costs of the Conference should be kept within strict limits and should not exceed the authorized budget.

2. In-session arrangements

57. A number of Governments recommended that there should be no presentation of formal oral statements on national conditions to the plenary of the Conference, but that national reports should be prepared but transmitted in advance to the Conference secretariat for prior circulation. In that way there would be more time for discussion of future oriented activities. One respondent felt that the documentation for the Conference, notably the results of an expert review and appraisal, should provide the basis for discussions. The results of regional consultations and preparations should be integrated into the work of the Conference.

58. One respondent considered it important to clarify the status of non-governmental organizations, especially women's organizations, in regard to participation in the Conference. It was of great significance that the non-governmental organizations were not only formally given the right to speak, but that proper time would be reserved for that purpose. In case of an "alternative" conference such as that held in 1980 it was necessary to establish closer communication between the main conference and the "alternative" one. The role of the women's organizations was of great importance and those organizations should feel that they were participating in the Conference as widely as possible. A second Government noted that the increased attention given to grass-root movements by the United Nations system made it natural that an "alternative" conference be held in 1985, and it supported the holding of such a conference. Another felt that both governmental and non-governmental organizations should contribute to the preparation of national reports.

Notes

1/ Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, Mexico City, 19 June - 2 July 1975 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1).

2/ Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14-30 July 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3).

3/ The secretariat of the preparatory body of the Conference will prepare a list of such national bodies and of liaison officers designated for the purpose of Conference preparation. This list will be circulated to all Permanent Missions, to interested non-governmental and inter-governmental organizations outside of the United Nations system and to focal points for the advancement of women within the United Nations system. It will also be available upon request from the secretariat.

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COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY FOR
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND
APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

First session
Vienna, 23 February - 4 March 1983
Items 3 and 4 of the provisional agenda*

CONSIDERATION OF ISSUES AND THEMES TO BE EXAMINED AT
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS
OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

CONSIDERATION OF ARRANGEMENTS TO BE MADE
IN PREPARATION FOR THE CONFERENCE

Results of consultations held by the regional
commissions on the issues and themes of the Conference

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

This report has been prepared pursuant to paragraph 7 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26, and is based on replies received from the Economic Commission for Europe, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Economic Commission for Africa.

* A/CONF.116/PC.1/1.

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INTRODUCTION

1. In its resolution 1982/26 of 4 May 1982 on preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, the Economic and Social Council invited the regional commissions to conduct consultations, within existing resources, on issues and themes for the Conference and on organizational arrangements at the regional level to prepare for the Conference, and to submit the results of those consultations to the preparatory body.
2. The present report has been prepared in compliance with that resolution and at the time of completion of the report replies had been received from the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

SUMMARY OF REPLIES

A. Substantive matters

1. Economic Commission for Europe

3. ECE reported that it would endeavour to undertake research in the following areas: (a) the economic role of women in the ECE region (to be updated as soon as results of the 1980 census became available, especially regarding additional factors besides fertility and education that affected women's participation rates in the labour force, such as the state of development, the recent slowing of economic growth and the current cyclical downturn); and (b) monitoring of nuptiality and fertility trends in Europe in the 1970s and the comparative fertility study undertaken jointly by ECE and the World Fertility Survey. The ECE Conference of European Statisticians, at its plenary session in June 1982, had taken note of the Commission's proposal to contact statistical offices of its member States in the coming months to ascertain their views on the advisability of including in its programme of work a project on statistics and indicators on the situation of women and on the kind of work that Governments would like to include in such a project. The Conference of European Statisticians had agreed that the Commission should prepare a note on the results of its investigation for consideration by the Conference at its thirty-first plenary session, including proposed terms of reference for a possible meeting in 1983-1984 to discuss the proposed project. ECE was also currently exploring the possibility of initiating a new project on women in Southern Europe.

4. ECE indicated that it would report further on issues, themes and organizational matters for the World Conference.

2. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

5. ESCAP reported that it shared the views contained in the report of the Secretary-General on preparations for the World Conference (E/CN.6/1982/8), submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women at its twenty-ninth session. In particular, ESCAP concurred with the point made that expanded participation of women in the economy in the context of a world-wide economic

recession could bring about tension between male and female workers (*ibid.* para. 18). That factor would therefore need to be pursued on the basis of a close scrutiny of country-specific and sector-specific conditions, in line with clearly defined national objectives - keeping in mind especially the fact that the rationale for promoting the expanded participation of women in the economy and other fields of activity might lie in the intrinsic value of participation itself, as an objective of and approach to overall development and as a precondition for advancing women's socio-economic interest.

6. ESCAP concurred with the point made concerning the difficulty of providing education to more women in view of the current economic recession (*ibid.*, para. 19), to the effect that educational objectives for women might often be attained at the expense of men, thus further contributing to the tension between the sexes. Considering, however, that many of the educational needs of women, as well as those of men, were for adult education in general and skills or job training in particular, which could be dealt with outside the formal education system through informal arrangements in communities or places of work, ESCAP suggested that measures could be devised to improve the level of education of women without unduly sacrificing the educational opportunities of men. To fill the need for educators or trainers, volunteers could be mobilized from universities and other educational institutions as well as perhaps from among the often under-occupied but educated women in the upper or middle classes. External technical assistance resources could also be brought into play. There were examples of countries where high levels of literacy were achieved precisely through that type of arrangement and resource mobilization. The creation of community-based educational opportunities through peer-group and co-operative approaches also offered considerable promise, although ESCAP was not aware that such an approach had been attempted anywhere to any significant extent. In that context, ESCAP felt that the educational goals and objectives for women elaborated in the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year^{1/*} were viable and attainable, regardless of the existing economic and resource context, and that they should be pursued to the fullest extent possible. In the ESCAP region, where so much of the development of women and the advancement of their status depended on their having access to formal and informal education, that particular issue was foremost in the mind of ESCAP.

7. With reference to the integration and participation of women in the development process as an alternative approach to development in the 1980s (*ibid.*, paras. 20-22), ESCAP reported that it was not able to respond too specifically, although it wholeheartedly supported the basic tenet.

8. ESCAP stated that the delineation of the economic assumptions ranging from micro- and macro-efficiency to migration issues (*ibid.*, para. 22) was not very clear. ESCAP, however, agreed in general that the participation of women in development was as fundamental as it had ever been. In the past, however, there might have been an over-emphasis on women's participation in the economic sector of development, with insufficient regard to the significance of their participation in the non-economic, qualitative aspects of development. Inasmuch as economic growth and development *per se* might not provide for the direct participation of women in the economy, although

*For the notes see page 9 below.

development in its comprehensive social and economic dimensions did so, there was no reason why the participation of women in development could not be conceived in a broader and more imaginative context. ESCAP had learned from past experience that women could participate in the economy in ever-increasing numbers and in a wider range of jobs without necessarily improving their individual and collective status because their participation had largely been in marginal occupations and subordinate positions. If anything, that had the effect of drawing greater attention to the fact that participation in the economy emphasized the overall subordinate and inferior status of women in society rather than improving it. ESCAP thus thought it was important that employment barriers and discrimination against women should be overcome.

9. Participation in itself, however, carried no guarantee for women's advancement. In the name of participation, many women might well have come to shoulder a double burden without necessarily enjoying double returns and could thus find their overall situation worse than ever. ESCAP suggested that not just participation but the conditions and the context of participation would be the real issues for women in the immediate future. By evolving a more balanced concept of development, which adequately incorporated both qualitative and quantitative objectives, avenues for participation by women could be opened in areas where women could make their contribution without necessarily displacing men in jobs or competing with them. Some of the examples that ESCAP suggested in that regard were the promotion of the quality of life in the family and community, the promotion of social values and their realization in all sectors of society, the promotion of peace at the national and international levels and the creation of a social climate in which a truly humanitarian, nurturing atmosphere prevailed. ESCAP concluded that those were objectives and tasks that must be pursued and implemented to achieve true development, but which had tended to be neglected because of the preoccupation with economic growth and development. Given the existing income distribution system, that might mean that many women participated without direct compensation by means of adequate wages. In so far as command over economic and financial resources was closely associated with influence, power and status in society, ESCAP concluded that it might be necessary to devise and promote alternative means of rewarding women for their participation in those areas.

3. Economic Commission for Latin America

10. ECLA reported that it had lately been working on two basic themes related to women. First, its Unit for the Integration of Women in Development had undertaken research on how to upgrade, through training, a country's capacity to formulate and implement policies, programmes and projects on women in development. On the basis of that research, a book was being distributed entitled Women and Development: Guidelines for Programme and Project Planning (E/CEPAL/G.1200). Secondly, ECLA was upgrading national and regional capability in the field of information, documentation and communication, as a first step towards the establishment of national and regional information centres. It had also updated the information available on the status and roles of women in the region, in a document entitled "América Latina: análisis de problemas sociales relativos a la mujer en diversos sectores" (E/CEPAL/R.316).

4. Economic Commission for Africa

11. ECA reported that it had already taken a number of steps in preparation for the Conference. It had brought to the attention of the third meeting of the African Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development, held at Douala, in the United Republic of Cameroon, from 15 to 17 March 1982, the need to consider such issues and themes as the integration of women in development, the violation of women's rights and the influence of the establishment of a new international economic order on the status of women, for review and appraisal as part of the Conference preparations.

12. The Co-ordinating Committee had agreed with that proposal, especially in the context of preparations for the proposed African regional conference. It was noted, however, that many African countries, even those particularly concerned with the advancement of women, were still not familiar with the Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa (A/S-11/14, annex I), and it would therefore be difficult to carry out a meaningful evaluation. The Co-ordinating Committee had, however, approved the proposal by the ECA African Training and Research Centre for Women that those issues should be referred to the ECA subregional committees on the integration of women in development and to the ECA multilateral programming and operational centres (MULPOCs).

13. The Co-ordinating Committee had also discussed the following issues related to Conference preparations at the regional and global levels: (a) the role of women in the alleviation of the food crisis; (b) displaced and refugee women and the issues of peace and development in Africa and the world; (c) national machineries for the integration of women in development (reviewed at both the national and subregional levels); (d) the educational development of young girls who interrupted their studies; (e) dissemination of the results of research on women and development; (f) the juridical status of women (including the struggle for their fundamental rights); (g) the struggle for the elimination of all forms of discrimination, based on the principle of the equality and the struggle of women victims of apartheid etc.); and (h) the professional development of African women (needs and trends). It had recommended that the ECA African Training and Research Centre for Women should analyse those issues and themes and submit their analysis to it for review at its next session.

14. ECA also reported that it had sent a mission to Kenya from 21 to 24 March 1982 to brief the Government both on the deliberations of the Commission on the Status of Women as well as on the meeting of the Co-ordinating Committee regarding the World Conference. Subsequently, the report of the Co-ordinating Committee had been submitted to the ECA Conference of Ministers at its eighth session, held at Tripoli from 20 to 30 April 1982, and the Conference had accordingly adopted resolution CM.8/17 on women and development action to the end of the Decade. In that resolution, the Conference of Ministers had decided that the Third Regional Conference should discuss progress in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action, with special reference to the role of women in alleviating the food crisis, refugee and displaced women, participation of women in the programme of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa, the legal status of women, women in rural areas, out-of-school girls and vocational training, the setting up of national machineries for the advancement of women, and the practical utilization of research on the status of women.

B. Organizational matters

1. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

15. ESCAP reported that the World Plan of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women contained enough objectives for the advancement of women to last for the rest of the century. What had been unsatisfactory up to now was their implementation. ESCAP noted that the World Plan of Action had not given sufficient attention to the methods, resources, whether material or financial, and expertise etc. needed to pursue them.

16. In its view, the forthcoming World Conference could well focus on measures for further implementing the Plan of Action; it suggested that the Conference might come up with world-wide quantitative and quantifiable targets for future action. ESCAP also suggested that the Conference might recommend concrete methods and specific activities for reaching the targets and might even propose the type and the scope of resources necessary to achieve them. Co-ordination and collaboration among the organizations and the agencies of the United Nations system and with the governmental and non-governmental bodies or organization concerned therefore needed strengthening. Without specific plans and the means of monitoring the implementation of recommendations emanating from the Conference, the likelihood of the Plan making a significant contribution to the progress of societies on behalf of women would be somewhat remote.

17. For its part, ESCAP indicated that it had embarked on a systematic inventory of the situation of women in the region and the status of implementation of the World Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Women and that it hoped to formulate measures for implementing the Plan of Action. It was hoped that the inventory would provide a solid contribution to the preparations for the Conference.

2. Economic Commission for Latin America

18. ECLA reported that its Unit for the Integration of Women in Development was engaged in the preparation of the Third Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development. The Conference, besides evaluating the progress achieved in the region with regard to the Regional Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, would have on its agenda an item on the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women. ECLA indicated that its Regional Conference would be the most appropriate forum for Latin American countries to express their views on the issue and said that its Third Regional Conference would most probably take place in March 1983, in which case its deliberations on the regional preparatory work for the World Conference would be presented to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirtieth session. Finally, ECLA stated that it was studying the proposed calendar of activities for the third biennial round of reporting for the review and appraisal of national level progress made in the implementation of the World Plan of Action and Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women. It would send its comments on the subject to the Secretariat as well as a report by its Unit on the Integration of Women in Development.

3. Economic Commission for Africa

19. ECA reported that at the third meeting of its Conference of Ministers, held at Rabat in March 1979,^{2/} resolution 365/XIV had been adopted, relating to the structure and mandate of the African Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development. In paragraph 7 of that resolution, it was stipulated that the Co-ordinating Committee should convene an African regional conference on the integration of women in development every three years. In that regard, ECA drew attention to the report of the third session of the Co-ordinating Committee, submitted to the ECA Conference of Ministers at its eighth session, and to Conference resolution CM.8/17, on women and development action to the end of the Decade. Regarding the organizational aspects of conference preparations for the World Conference, the Conference of Ministers had decided that the Third Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development, which would cover preparations for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, would be held in 1984.

20. The Conference of Ministers had also called upon member States, subregional committees for women in development, institutions and women's organizations to take appropriate steps to promote studies and action programmes in the areas referred to in paragraph 6 above; had requested the Executive Secretary of ECA to intensify his efforts to study the aforementioned topics in depth and organize an information network for the dissemination of all information concerning African women; had called upon the Executive Secretary of ECA, in collaboration with the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee, to begin immediately an investigation of the practical modalities for holding the Third Regional Conference and to report to the Conference of Ministers at its ninth meeting and to the Commission at its eighteenth session on the results of such investigations; had urged the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to intensify efforts to provide the North African subregional programme with resources similar to those made available to the other four subregional programmes for women; had requested the specialized agencies of the United Nations system and other donors to extend more substantial assistance to programmes for the integration of women in development; and had further requested the Executive Secretary of ECA to examine the possibilities and the means of accelerating the implementation of the subregional programmes through the decentralization of resources.

21. ECA stated that it would endeavour to meet its obligations in implementing the resolution of the Conference of Ministers and expressed the hope that the United Nations would contribute with both technical and material support towards the cost of the African Preparatory Regional Conference in 1984.

22. With regard to the inter-organizational programme for the United Nations Decade for Women and the question of collaboration, ECA affirmed that it fully endorsed joint endeavours among agencies, especially since the United Nations system was experiencing budgetary constraints in implementing programmes. ECA consequently noted that there was a need to reactivate the principles of interagency co-operation and to identify the principal areas in which such co-operation could be fostered. In this context, ECA cited the example of the African Training and Research Centre for Women, which was itself the result of joint endeavours by many agencies that had been involved both in the conception and the implementation of its programme (namely, the United Nations Secretariat, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations

Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Labor Organisation. At the regional level, ECA reported that it had established an interagency working group on women, which had already met twice.^{3/}

23. Concerning other inter-organizational projects, ECA stated that the results of two major studies that would be the outcome of interagency co-operation might be of interest to the Conference.

Notes

1/ Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, Mexico City, 19 June-2 July 1975 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1), chap. I.

2/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1979, Supplement No. 15 (E/1979/50 and Corr.1 and Add. 1), part II, sect. D.

3/ The first meeting took place in 1977, at the First African Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development, held in Mauritania, and the second meeting, of what has become known as the United Nations Inter-agency Working Group on the Integration of Women in Africa, took place in 1979 before and during the Second African Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development, held in Zambia. Thus, ECA has been in the vanguard of action by the regional commissions to link inter-organizational co-operation to conference preparation and follow-up.

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COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY FOR THE
WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND APPRAISE
THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS
DECADE FOR WOMEN

First session
Vienna, 23 February - 4 March 1983
Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

Views of specialized agencies, organs and organizations
of the United Nations system on preparations
for the Conference

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

This report has been prepared pursuant to paragraph 10 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26 and is a consolidation of the views of 24 specialized agencies, organs and organizations of the United Nations system on preparations for the Conference.

*A/CONF.116/PC.1/1.

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1982/26 on preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, requested the Secretary-General to undertake inter-agency consultations on themes and issues for the Conference with a view to presenting an inter-agency report to the preparatory body at its first session.
2. The current report has been prepared in compliance with that resolution and summarizes the views of specialized agencies, organs and organizations of the United Nations system. In addition the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Programme Matters), at its second regular session in October 1982, agreed that an inter-agency meeting to consider the preparations for the Conference should be held early in 1983, well before the first session of the preparatory body. Such a meeting has been scheduled prior to the meeting of the Commission as the preparatory body.

SUMMARY OF REPLIES

A. Integrated review and appraisal of the objectives of the Decade

3. UNDP noted that both the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year ^{1/*} and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women ^{2/} adopted at Mexico City and Copenhagen respectively, contained provisions for a periodic review and appraisal of the progress made towards their stated goals. It also noted that where appropriate the progress made in relation to the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade ^{3/} and the establishment of a new international economic order should be considered.
4. Within that comprehensive framework, UNDP suggested the interrelationship of such issues as the situation of poor women (in both urban and rural areas), the needs of women for and their potential to assist in the provision of basic services, without which they cannot effectively contribute to development (primary health care, water supply and sanitation facilities, energy, roads and transportation facilities, education and training); the role of women in food production and processing; and the role of women in the establishment of small-scale industries (in both urban and rural areas). UNDP concluded that it might also be of interest to undertake a study of the advantages and disadvantages of the establishment of special mechanisms for women's affairs at the national level and of the development of indicators to determine and monitor the role of women in society.
5. The World Bank stated that since the purpose of the Conference was to review and appraise the achievements of the Decade, such an evaluation should be the Conference's main theme, the framework being the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action. That evaluation would bring in also the strategy for the Third Development Decade and resolutions of other conferences, for example, the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, Vienna, August 1979 that were related to the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action. It consequently believed that such an evaluation

*For the notes, see page 22 below.

would help to identify whatever factors might have inhibited more rapid progress. The World Bank concluded that the World Plan of Action and Programme of Action provided an adequate basis for action, and the Conference should not be devoted to their revision, but rather, having identified the limiting factors, it should concentrate on proposing action to deal with those factors, especially vis-à-vis national decision-makers who must implement the recommendations.

6. Within that framework, the World Bank said that it expected priority issues to include overall employment, health conditions and availability of basic services in rural areas, agriculture and food production; women in decision-making positions (including positions in international agencies), and the situation of refugees (women and children). In addition to those topics, which related to the situation of women per se, the Bank suggested the following issues also merited the attention of the Conference: development of indicators for measuring progress, methodologies for integrating women into development planning; effective dissemination of information and exchange of experience; and ways to increase the effectiveness of national machinery, including specifically the machinery of non-governmental organizations.

7. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) replied that its programme on equality of educational opportunity for girls and women had been conceived in accordance with the spirit of the United Nations Decade of Women and its three themes: equality, development and peace. It said that that programme aimed mainly at using education to contribute to the achievement of those three themes and implied the Conference should similarly approach that issue on an integrated basis.

8. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) replied that the discussion at the Conference should be centred on the three goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: equality, development and peace, and the three subthemes: employment, health and education. It further commented that the appraisal of the implementation of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action would require studies based not only on statistical data, but also on qualitative analysis of the characteristic features of the female labour force, taking into account the economic and social circumstances prevailing in the 1980s as compared with the first part of the Decade.

9. The United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) also believed that the initial broad themes of the Decade, namely, equality, development and peace, should be retained during the Conference. INSTRAW indicated that, from the substantive point of view, those themes were still valid and would remain so for quite a long time. INSTRAW reported that the issue of women and development was the focus of much research and work at the national, regional and international levels, and equality and peace were basic components of programmes for the advancement of the status of women. Thus, it seemed logical to maintain, during the Conference, the same themes that launched the Decade. Noting in particular that the review and appraisal process was one of the main tasks of the Conference, INSTRAW suggested that the Conference should then seek to identify the elements that had prevented more rapid progress. INSTRAW concluded with the recommendation that the Conference should focus on specific aspects of the integration of women into development, such as the interrelationship between developmental efforts at the macro- and micro-level, taking into account the interdisciplinary and cross-cultural approaches.

10. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) stated that the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries held in Paris in September 1981 ^{4/} made a number of recommendations concerning the role of women. In that context, UNCTAD cited paragraph 19 of the Programme of Action for the least developed countries, which stated that "Within the framework of a transformation of rural life in its economic, social, cultural, institutional and human aspects, policies are needed that recognize the role of women in rural development and ensure their equitable access to productive resources, especially land and water resources and to inputs, markets and services."

11. UNCTAD further suggested that the preparatory activities for the Conference might include efforts to explore and develop possibilities for international co-operation between women in selected fields of economic and social development (e.g. commerce, production and trade, farming/fishing, and in urban and rural informal sectors). It also stressed the need for the Conference to treat the issue of an alternative development strategy related to the New International Economic Order and the structural adjustment and impact of that on women workers (North and South) and via economic co-operation between developing countries (ECDC).

12. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) recommended that, in addition to the priority issues indicated in the report to and discussion of the Conference preparations at the twenty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, ^{5/} there were several issues of primary concern to UNICEF, with varying degrees of interrelationships: (a) the relationship of women with the informal sector of the economy; (b) the intra-household allocation of tasks and the sexual division of labour with the implications for child care; (c) the interface between women's maternal and economic responsibilities; (d) the importance of vocational/skill training for women in relation to income generation opportunities; and (e) the life-cycle patterns of women, and the implications for their changing needs and concerns throughout life.

13. The World Food Programme (WFP) reported that it believed the Conference should concentrate on stock-taking, identification of lessons learned, and clear direction for future practical steps.

14. The United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) stressed the issue of the right of women to choose the number of children they bore and their spacing, and the interrelationships between fertility regulation patterns, the status of women, and their participation in development efforts.

15. The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) made a number of proposals to follow-up and interrelate the resolutions on women for world conferences, such as those on science and technology, aging, disarmament, and agrarian reform and rural development, which UNITAR believed should be taken into account in the preparations for the Conference.

B. Themes and issues for the Conference

16. In addition to the proposals to review and appraise progress in an integrated manner, there were a number of sectoral issues and themes that organizations recommended for high priority treatment by the Conference.

1. Women, agrarian reform and rural development

17. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) stated that the themes of the Mexico City and Copenhagen Conferences had been of a general nature, and FAO therefore suggested that a major issue for the Conference be women as agricultural producers. The majority of the world's women, it argued, were still involved in agricultural activities, but there was evidence that international, financial and technical assistance had bypassed, and in some cases, further marginalized that group. Rural women, it concluded, should therefore, receive priority attention at the Conference.

18. In that context, FAO recommended that the Conference should review the action required by Governments noted in the section on the integration of women in rural development of the Programme of Action adopted by the 1979 World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, with attention given to the following issues: equality of legal status; women's access to rural services; women's organization and participation; and educational and employment opportunities.^{6/} FAO suggested such additional issues for discussion as: women as food producers; land-settlement - effects on women; women and agrarian reform; post-harvest losses; women and rural households; women and water; and women and rural investment - financing factors and constraints.

19. The International Fund for Agricultural Development commented that while women in relatively advanced societies had been able to improve their status (although not to a degree commensurate with the rate of 30 years of rapid economic, social, political and technological progress), the improvement in the social and economic status of women in the least developed of the developing countries had been negligible. IFAD maintained that the most disadvantaged women had been those who shared the fate of the small and landless farmers in the least developed of the developing countries. While IFAD fully recognized that women should be involved in all aspects of life and participate in the decision-making process, it believed the Conference should address itself as well to the plight of women in rural areas of the developing countries and, particularly, to all aspects of the socio-economic structures that had impeded their progress. IFAD concluded that the Conference should give attention to practical measures and policies in that regard, as the conceptual aspects of the subject had been covered in previous conferences.

20. UNITAR suggested several issues such as the impact of agro-business on women's traditional work in rural areas; situation of rural women as it relates to changes in land distribution, technology, crop and production structures; the growth of urbanism, urban-rural links, the pauperization of the villages; the effects of contemporary agrarian development of alienation, landlessness, dependency and the breakdown of domestic and community solidarity. In addition, UNITAR stated that the Conference might also consider the situation of women in the transition from small commodity-producing peasant agriculture to large-scale collective farming and the access of the rural masses to land, credit, marketing facilities, extension services and decision-making processes.

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Views of specialized agencies, organs and organizations
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Report of the Secretary-General

Corrigendum

Document A/CONF.116/PC.1/4, dated 14 December 1982, should bear the symbol
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The footnote on the cover page should read A/CONF.116/PC/1.

2. Women, conservation and development

21. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) recommended that the Conference adopt the following issue: the role of women in conservation and development; UNEP indicated that that issue covered protection of forests, watersheds and associated wildlife etc., taking into account also the management of water, soil and other resources that were directly relevant to women and development.

3. Women and decision-making

22. UNITAR, UNFPA and the World Bank expressed the opinion that women and decision-making should be given priority attention along with other selected issues for the Conference. UNITAR said that in view of the importance to the improvement of the world-wide situation of women at various levels of having women in the professional ranks of the United Nations organizations and agencies, that subject should continue to be pursued in the context of the Conference. UNITAR, indeed, considered that overall issue as a matter for United Nations compliance with the objectives of the Decade.

4. Women as agents in and beneficiaries of development

23. Many organizations expressed the view that women as agents in and beneficiaries of development should receive a high priority in the Conference, and indicated specific aspects of the overall question.

24. UNCTAD drew attention in that regard to paragraph 23 of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, which added that:

"Women play an indispensable role in the development process. Appropriate measures must be taken to pursue the objective of strengthening women's equal participation both as agents and as beneficiaries in all sectors and at all levels of development planning, monitoring and implementation. Sufficient attention must be paid to women's access to property. The least developed countries should, within the framework of their development plans and priorities, and as an important contribution to the achievement of their development goals, formulate policies and programmes aimed at enhancing the role of women in the development process."^{7/}

25. INSTRAW replied that, should there be a consensus on having a subtheme, the Conference might wish to concentrate on more action-oriented developmental subjects that were of concern to women. In general, INSTRAW stated that the main emphasis of the Conference should be directed towards the developmental issues and their effects on women, and the alternative solutions to development problems that should take into consideration women's active participation and needs in society. It recommended, consequently, that the Conference might also deal with more specific topics than the previous two conferences, particularly with regard to the integration of women in development, and could also highlight the issue of women and the International Development Strategy, as well as the efforts to incorporate women into the framework of the policy of individual and collective self-reliance.

5. Women, education and training

26. UNESCO emphasized the importance of education and training in the achievement of the goals of the Decade and the implementation of the World Plan of Action, and implied that the Conference should treat that theme as a means of contributing to the achievement of equality, development and peace.

27. UNICEF indicated that vocational/skill training for women should be treated by the Conference in relation to income-generating opportunities.

28. UNCTAD drew attention to paragraph 26 of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, which stated that the programme for the development of education:

"...should combine the resources of school and out-of-school education, reducing disparities which operate to the disadvantage of rural populations and socially under-privileged groups, enhancing the cultural relevance of education and ensuring the preservation and enhancement of cultural identity and values as an essential part of national development etc. Due attention will be given to meeting the educational needs of women to enable them to develop their full potential."^{8/}

6. Women and employment, under-employment and unemployment

29. Under the subtheme employment, ILO replied that under "Employment, understood in its broadest sense, special emphasis should be given to the following questions which ILO considers to be particularly important in appraising the status of women:

"1. Analysis of the role of women in economic and social development and a better understanding of the important contribution of female labour to the prosperity and advancement of society.

"2. Evaluating basic trends in women's employment, taking into account in particular:

"(i) the impact of scientific and technological progress on women's employment and the quantitative and qualitative changes which have taken place in female labour. Studies should be carried out at the international, regional and national levels, in rural and urban areas, with due regard to the diverse historical, economical and social conditions;

"(ii) changes which have occurred in the division of labour and the constraints still affecting the traditional sex roles in society; various forms, direct and indirect, of discrimination still affecting women's employment and wages;

"(iii) underemployment and unemployment and their harmful consequences on the living and working conditions of working women;

"(iv) the special problems of women in the informal urban sector etc.

"3. Policies and measures to meet the specific problems of rural women (including measures taken to strengthen women's organisations and to facilitate the access of women to land and credit).

"4. Implementation of the international standards and national legislations concerning women workers, with special emphasis on developing legislation in regard to equality of treatment and opportunity in employment.

"5. Recent developments in vocational and management training of women and policies, strategies and measures to achieve opportunities for upgrading their skills at the scientific and technical levels.

"6. Policies aimed at ensuring a more equitable sharing of family responsibilities and their impact on women's employment patterns.

"7. Progress achieved in the elimination of discrimination against women in social security and towards the adoption of legislation to cater to women's specific needs."

30. UNITAR suggested that the Conference might treat such related questions as the following:

(a) The examination of the correlation between increased profit and wages in economic sectors dominated by men and the expansion of women's working hours in unpaid production;

(b) The ways in which women could protect their traditional workplaces when men's unemployment was increasing and the pressure upon those workplaces was increasingly heavy;

(c) The way in which both paid and unpaid work was to be distributed equitably between the sexes in a situation with widespread male unemployment.

7. Women and family planning

31. UNFPA wrote that the one element that was related to almost all the referred issues for the Conference was the right of women to choose the number of children they bore and their spacing. That right, UNFPA said, as well as the necessity to enable women to have access to the education and services required in order to translate that right into practice, was confirmed by the World Population Conference held in 1974 as well as by both the Mexico City and the Copenhagen Conferences. Therefore, the world conferences referred to had adopted specific resolutions on family planning. In view of that, UNFPA suggested that due consideration be given to the possibility of including family planning among the issues to be covered at the Conference.

8. Women and food production, consumption patterns and nutritional levels

32. The World Food Council (WFC) suggested that the Conference could make an important contribution to the struggle to overcome hunger and malnutrition by focusing on several major issues related to women and food production, consumption patterns and nutritional levels. In its activities generally, and most particularly with regard to national food strategies, the WFC had recognized that achieving greater food self-reliance and overcoming hunger problems in many developing countries depended on women because women made up a substantial proportion of the food producers in those countries and their impact on family consumption patterns and nutritional levels was pervasive. WFC concluded that it was therefore imperative that the role that women played in the food sector be acknowledged not only at the technical level of projects, but at the highest policy level of Governments.

33. WFP, in that regard, replied that the Conference should concentrate on several issues, including the contribution of women to development; sharing the benefits of development; identification of outstanding projects, programmes or activities demonstrating how to advance progress perhaps by sector; and via working groups on project design and delivery systems.

9. Women and health

34. The World Health Organization (WHO) replied that it considered the subthemes of employment, health and education were still valid, as health remained a priority issue for the integration and full participation of women in development. WHO affirmed that health was fundamental to all efforts in the economic, social, political and cultural fields. It believed that the principles that had been set at Mexico City and Copenhagen still held true, and although progress had undoubtedly been achieved, the objectives established by the two World Conferences had not been reached and efforts to achieve them should be continued. Finally, WHO said that it believed that a sharper focus on some issues under those subthemes could help to maintain the momentum of efforts and the visibility of major problems still facing women in the whole world.

10. Women and non-traditional activities

35. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) suggested that the Conference might wish to address itself to a theme concerned with the role of women in non-traditional activities, those that had heretofore been exclusively or at least largely the province of men. It said that one such activity had been civil aviation, an industry in which, since its inception, women had participated in a very limited way. ICAO, indeed, reported that women had played their part almost entirely on the administrative side, as secretaries, ticket agents, reservation clerks and flight stewardesses; they had rarely been found in operational or technical areas. However, it said that that situation, particularly in the developing world, was gradually changing.

36. ICAO wrote that the emergence of women into sophisticated and technological aviation activities had been observed and actively fostered by the technical assistance programme and that more and more women were being trained through fellowships to assume functions hitherto entirely male in such

technical aviation fields as air traffic control; air and space law; air transport; airfield administration; airfield engineering and maintenance; aeronautical information services; communications maintenance and operations; flight operations; accident investigation and airworthiness; aeronautical meteorology; aviation medicine, airworthiness and piloting.

11. Women, peace and disarmament

37. UNITAR cited, among several recommended priority issues for the Conference, the relationship between peace, disarmament and women's status, as well as the critical role of women in the preparations of societies for life in peace. UNITAR concluded that that theme was of particular importance in view of increasingly advanced arms technology, with its studied precision in eliminating life.

12. Women and protection from disasters

38. The Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO) expressed the view that all members of a community were entitled to the same protection from the possibility of avoidable disasters, the same preparedness for the unavoidable, and the same standard of relief after disasters. Perhaps, UNDRO suggested, if those same principles were applied to the wider issues affecting the status of women, more progress would be made. UNDRO concluded with the hope that the forthcoming Conference would achieve fully its objectives in that area.

13. Refugees and displaced women

39. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) proposed that the following be incorporated in the list of issues and themes for the Conference: refugees and displaced women: service concerns and programme plans, projects for economic and social self-sufficiency that would facilitate their participation in development, decision-making and other issues related to the improvement of their condition in countries of asylum.

14. Women and stages/cycles of life

40. UNITAR, UNICEF ^{9/} and the United Nations University addressed various aspects of the issue in their replies. UNITAR proposed that the topic of lonely women in old age be included under the overall item on women and development. It indicated that the principal cause of the problem was the fact that, world-wide, the life expectancy of women was greater than that of men. That was compounded, according to UNITAR, by many other factors such as improved public health schemes and that women tended to marry men older than themselves. It stated that, although women were currently employed during their productive years in a greater ratio than heretofore, in general, they were paid less than men. Thus their pensions were smaller than those of men, and furthermore, for women who had never been employed, if they survived their husbands they only received a fraction of the pension received during their husband's lifetime.

41. Although old age was not always accompanied by increased frailty and disabilities, UNITAR reported that there was that tendency, particularly in the presence of poverty or less than optimum nutrition. It said that the above factors were combined with the disappearance of the concept of the extended family (i.e. several generations living together under one roof) that had existed in pre-industrial societies. UNITAR concluded that the question of aging was looked at by the World Assembly on Aging as a "development issue" because the demographic pattern affected the national economy.

42. UNICEF expressed concern about another aspect of that problem. It hoped that in the planning of topics for presentation, due consideration would be given to the fact that women were not a homogeneous group; they should be differentiated not only by economic category, such as the landless, the migrant and the female head of household, but also by age category, hence the interest of UNICEF that due attention be given to the life-cycle concept on identification of issues and priorities along lines that distinguished between the adolescent female, the young woman ^{10/} mother, and the older woman.

15. Women, science and technology

43. UNITAR suggested that the Conference might treat three aspects of that question as below.

(a) Impact on women of the choice and utilization of technology

44. In most countries the choice and utilization of technology aggravated the existing disparities in earnings and socio-political efficacy between men and women. Changes in technology that accompanied modernization had, for the most part, led to a female concentration in domestic-related roles, non-market productive roles and labour-intensive activities. Men appeared universally to assume "women's work" when production changed from a subsistence to a market economy. At the initial stages of the industrialization process and at the lowest level of mechanization, e.g. the introduction of the tractor, men took over work formerly performed by women. For women, that translated into the loss of control over the means of production and over economic resources as well as reduced possibilities for the provision of food and care for their families. At current levels of industrialization in many developing countries, with the development of automation, computers and other micro-electronic devices, women often operated large and complex machines of a type to which they were not assigned prior to the development of automation. Indeed, high technology needed women. Women excelled in the type of work needed to produce and test micro-electronic devices. In the new biotechnical and genetic engineering fields there was a very high level of employment of women in all categories, not only the technical.

(b) The international distribution and use of scientific and technological resources, and women's status

45. Internationally the unequal distribution and use of scientific and technological resources, innovative capacity (research) and power had had severe implications for women's access, or lack of, to technology. The transfer of technology in many cases had worsened the employment and health

conditions of women; displacement of labour occurred, and foreign models of consumption accompanied such transfer. In certain large industries, new discriminatory labour practices had appeared in both rural and urban areas; increases in the employment of women, particularly in the urban context, had been due in great measure to an increase in the exploitation of the cheap, semi-skilled labour of young and unmarried women. Women's deteriorating conditions as a result of technology should be carefully analysed as a basis for the design and implementation of measures to redress those conditions. Moreover, technology's lack of success for women should be analysed and evaluated in industrialized as well as developing countries.

46. Consequently, UNITAR suggested that the priority issues and concerns addressed by the Conference might include such issues as:

(a) How women were particularly affected by contemporary processes related to science and technology, including planning and setting priorities for research and development, the choice, acquisition, adaptation, innovation, and application of science and technology for development;

(b) How women perceived technology and its consequences for society at various levels;

(c) How, on that basis, women could constructively contribute to technology selection, acquisition, adaptation, innovation, and application towards the creation of better life conditions for women, men and their dependants.

(c) Emerging technologies and the status of women

47. The emergence of new technologies, and the structural changes in society introduced thereby, should provide greater opportunities to correct existing imbalances unfavourable to women. The recent and rapid development of micro-electronic technology would, in the immediate future, lead to radical changes in the way in which goods and services were produced and distributed and the way in which information was managed and disseminated. The critical issues caused by that technological revolution were economic, social and political as well as technical. The revolution in micro-electronics was likely to be followed by one in materials technology, especially biotechnology. Some striking changes had already materialized in employment patterns in industrial and service sectors of industrialized economies because of the introduction of micro-electronic technology. In those economies the new technologies would make more obvious the inequitable manner in which development took place. For developing countries, the problems of providing meaningful work for the non-farm rural population would grow more acute. Environmental and social hazards would follow from the introduction and use of new techniques and products. Thus, UNITAR suggested that the Conference might address such issues as the impact on women's status of the production and use of those new technologies. It indicated that, most likely, many of those new techniques and products would be transferred through existing trade channels to the developing countries. UNITAR asked who would benefit from those new technologies.

48. In addition, UNCTAD considered that serious attention needed to be given to the examination of the implications of the technological dependence of women workers. Technological resources were indeed, UNCTAD reported, a combination of technology, embodied in capital goods, equipment and

instruments, and skills, embodied in human workers. UNCTAD indicated that the difference between the countries of the third world and the developed countries stemmed from the gap in levels of per person productivity, which, in turn, was a result of the differences in command over technological resources exercised by each worker. UNCTAD concluded that the same asymmetry found its reflection, both in the developed and developing countries, in the differences between male and female workers, and believed that policies that would strengthen the technological resources at the command of women workers would inevitably work towards reducing their technological dependence and strengthening their own participation in the national development effort.

16. Women, trade and commerce

49. UNCTAD stated that preparatory activities for the Conference might include efforts to explore and develop possibilities for transnational co-operation between women in selected fields, and indicated a first step might be to document systematically and understand more fully the actual contribution of women to economic activity, particularly in the field of commerce, in individual countries. That, UNCTAD recommended, could be followed by an equally careful and realistic assessment of their potential contribution.

50. UNCTAD further reported that the contribution of women to production and trade in many low-income developing countries appeared to be significant in certain sectors, including farming, fishing, and the rural and urban informal sectors. Usually self-employed women played a key role in maintaining and developing the trading sectors. UNCTAD related that women's key resource attributes in that regard were their basic business skills and their capacity for capital accumulation individually, but also through collective informal but binding arrangements, involving what were in effect compulsory savings and disbursement on a rotational basis. Under those monetary arrangements operated uniquely by women in developing countries, UNCTAD said the withdrawal of a lump sum, in turn, by each participant afforded her capital for financing a new or continuing business.

51. UNCTAD consequently suggested that it would be necessary to explore how those resources and development mechanisms, mainly unrecorded, might best be elaborated, firstly, in integrating women further into national development strategies, and secondly, perhaps in parallel, by exploring ways of developing co-operation between women across national boundaries. UNCTAD concluded that the particular importance of the question of the role of women in strategies of self-reliance (i.e. strategies of development based on the consumption needs of the mass of the people and on the maximum utilization of indigenous human and material resources) should also be stressed.

C. Preliminary views on follow-up strategies to the Conference

52. Several organizations submitted preliminary views on follow-up strategies to the Conference.

1. Relationship to other programmes of action adopted by United Nations world conferences

53. There were several suggestions that the results of the Conference, based on a thorough review and appraisal, should be related to other programmes of action adopted by recent United Nations world conferences.

54. In that regard, UNCTAD especially noted the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, and UNITAR recommended that the programmes of action in such diverse fields as agrarian reform and rural development; science and technology; disarmament; and the aging, be taken into account by the Conference. As cited above, the World Bank, UNDP, UNCTAD and INSTRAW especially cited the need to relate the Conference to the follow-up of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade 3/, and UNDP and UNCTAD additionally linked that to the establishment of a new international economic order. The review of replies from the International Telecommunication Union and UNFPA also revealed the need to relate the Conference to the follow-up to the World Communications Year (1983) and the World Population Conference (1984).

2. Identification of goals and targets to be achieved by the year 2000

55. Several organizations, proposed that rather than a new programme of action related to another United Nations decade for women, the Conference should draw special attention to the identification of goals and targets to be achieved by the year 2000.

56. In that regard, ILO considered that issues related to the employment of women should be given special attention when drawing up "Perspective 2000", which it believed should emphasize the ways and means of ensuring the right of women to participate in, and contribute to, economic and social development.

57. WFP, INSTRAW and several others emphasized that the Conference should base its future strategy on a thorough review and appraisal of the achievements of the Decade, and WFP emphasized the need for the Conference to identify goals and targets to be achieved by the end of the century, and the roles and responsibilities of governments in that connection.

58. While there were few other suggestions made on that subject, there nevertheless appeared to be a need for a discussion of the question of the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Meeting on the Advancement of Women, that Meeting was to be convened in association with the first session of the preparatory body to initiate an inter-agency dialogue on a forward-looking programme and its relationship to the other programmes of action and on the process of identifying goals and targets to be achieved by the year 2000.

D. Organizational matters

1. Inter-organizational communication and co-operation; needs and modalities

59. Several organizations stressed the need for inter-organizational communication and co-operation to better interrelate themes and issues as well as practical work to prepare for the Conference.

60. UNDP reported that it was consulting with other United Nations organizations concerning possible co-ordination and collaboration in the undertaking of evaluation studies on the results of development projects involving women. And UNDP indicated that it would be able to provide more detailed information on its contribution at the meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women in 1983.

61. The World Bank also reported that it was collaborating with an informal inter-agency group on a proposal for a joint assessment of the contributions of the participating agencies to the objectives of the Decade. It indicated that, in addition to the evaluation information the group hoped to generate, the methods and instruments might prove of interest for future use.

62. WFP cited the need for inter-agency co-operation and institutional arrangements for the advancement of women at both field and headquarters levels, distinguishing between policy and programme actions, in order to maintain progress, and called for the establishment of a working group on project design and delivery systems for the advancement of women, as a basic contribution to the preparations for the Conference and its follow-up.

63. Regarding inter-organizational communication and co-operation in the field of information (collection and dissemination as well as development education), UNICEF reported ^{11/} that it had co-ordinated the Sub-Group on Women and Development established under the aegis of the Joint United Nations Information Committee. The Group had produced several kits jointly with a number of United Nations specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations. UNICEF related that, so far, two kits had been produced: "Women and disability" and "Women, health and development", and that work was beginning on a third kit that would be concerned with women's economic role in terms of employment, unpaid work in the home and outside, appropriate technology, energy and income-generating activity.^{12/}

64. In addition, UNICEF stated that it had also been actively involved in the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Women and the International Drinking Water and Sanitation Decade, and in the Information Inter-Agency Working Group on Women, Population and Development, chaired by UNESCO.

65. UNITAR also referred to the importance of inter-organizational communication and co-operation, especially in the context of the improvement of the world-wide situation of women at various levels via the professional ranks of the United Nations organizations and agencies. UNITAR considered that that subject should continue to be pursued in the context of the Conference.^{13/}

66. Moreover, FAO reported that, under the auspices of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination Taskforce on Rural Development, FAO was analysing guidelines and check-lists on women in rural development issued by all United Nations agencies and organizations.

2. Contributions to the Conference and its preparations

(a) Women, agrarian reform and rural development

67. FAO submitted the following list of contributions it would make to the preparations for the Conference:

(a) A follow-up to the 1979 World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (WCARRD): women in agrarian reform and rural development. The analysis to include a report on FAO initiatives to implement the WCARRD Programme of Action and implications for rural women;

(b) Work on women and agricultural development by FAO: lessons learned and unresolved issues. It was the intention of FAO to focus on those technical areas in which it gave assistance in fields of forestry, fisheries and agriculture and their relevance for rural women.

68. Material for the contribution of FAO to the Conference could include:

(a) Guidelines and Checklists on Women in Rural Development. Under the auspices of the ACC Task Force on Rural Development;

(b) Report to the 1983 Committee on Agriculture, Follow-up to WCARRD: The Role of Women in Agricultural Production;

(c) Series of Women in Development Case Studies of FAO Projects. This is an analysis of a selected number of FAO projects as to factors which do or do not contribute to women's participation;

(d) Women and Food Systems Programme. A number of activities are planned within this new programme including surveys and project activities for selected countries;

(e) Demonstration Centres for African Women Farmers. As a direct follow-up to the 1980 Copenhagen World Conference - UN Decade for Women, FAO is planning the strengthening or establishment of demonstration centres for African women farmers, to encompass technical assistance for women's household and agricultural responsibilities;

(f) 1983 FAO Expert Consultation on Reaching Rural Women. The agenda will focus on the concerted action needed between policy-makers, women's bureaux, institutions, agencies and rural people if women are to be reached effectively. Case studies will be available.

69. The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) replied that it was prepared to assist the work of the Conference and it submitted a paper on women in rural development, which sets out measures being taken by IFAD in an effort to improve the status of women.

(b) Women, conservation and development

70. UNEP recommended themes on the topic of women, conservation and development.

(c) Women in decision-making

71. UNITAR submitted as its contribution to the preparations for the Conference the books ^{14/} derived from its research on women in management and decision-making.

(d) Women: agents in and beneficiaries of development

72. Within its resources and priorities, UNCTAD suggested that one area for possible action was an examination of an alternative development strategy linked to a new international economic order, and the consequent structural adjustment and the impact of women workers from the North and the South. UNCTAD reported that sometimes strikingly different implications for male and female workers made it desirable to include the sexual division of labour in any analysis of structural adjustment as it would affect commodity policy, trade, technology and economic co-operation between developing countries.

73. UNCTAD stated that an examination of development strategies for their effect on the progress women have made to date would contribute to more constructive documentation in preparation for future negotiations, setting priorities etc. A reconsideration of appropriate national and international machinery to promote women's integration in development and their full participation in debates on and negotiations for a new international economic order would be welcomed by UNCTAD. UNCTAD said it might be able to contribute by facilitating and arranging regional and interregional exchanges between female experts and women's organizations, within the context of, for example, economic co-operation between developing countries.

74. Referring to the possible contribution to the preparatory activities for the Conference, INSTRAW pointed out that according to its mandates its activities were totally geared to the issues related to women and development. According to the agenda of the Conference, it was prepared to contribute the output of a part of its programme to the Conference.

75. In that respect, INSTRAW highlighted in particular the contributions on: (a) the effects of the current international relationships on the role of women in development; (b) the policies of developing countries on individual and collective self-reliance as they referred to the integration of women in development; (c) indicators and data on women; (d) training guide-lines, manuals and modalities on issues related to women and development; and (e) publications and informational material on issues of relevance for women.

76. The preliminary suggestions concerning its contribution to the Conference were subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees of INSTRAW, as well as the availability of funds, since all its activities were entirely financed by voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund of INSTRAW.

(e) Women, education and training

77. UNESCO proposed the following documentation for the Conference: the document prepared for the review and appraisal of achievements in the framework of its programmes and activities since 1975, emphasizing the importance of education and training in the achievement of the goals of the

Decade and the implementation of the World Plan of Action, and those documents associated with its four types of activities: (a) research, studies and exchange of information; (b) training courses, seminars and meetings; (c) experimental projects and consultative services; and (d) collaboration with non-governmental organizations. Those documents would be primarily produced under the aegis of its programme on equality of educational opportunity for girls and women.

78. UNICEF reported that it would be happy to contribute to the conceptualization and formulation of underlying themes, and intended to have a delegation at the Conference that would include field and headquarters' staff.

(f) Women and employment, under-employment and unemployment

79. ILO reported that, as regards its contribution to the Conference, it had already agreed to analyse the replies to the United Nations questionnaire on the implementation of the subtheme "employment" of the Programme of Action, and to prepare the relevant section of the United Nations report for that Conference. In addition, it indicated that it would probably prepare a report on ILO activities to achieve the objectives of the Decade. ILO also said that it was envisaging submitting three technical contributions to the Conference: a study on the various forms of discrimination affecting women's employment, a document on maternity protection and a study on the impact of ILO technical co-operation projects on women. Finally, ILO concluded that more detailed information on the exact scope and content of its contribution would be communicated at a later stage.

(g) Women and family planning

80. UNFPA replied that, as for its substantive contribution to the preparations for the Conference, it would be happy to participate in the review and appraisal of technical papers, and the consultative activities, as appropriate.

(h) Women and food production, consumption patterns and nutritional levels

81. WFC submitted, as part of its contribution to the preparatory work of the Conference, two documents: (a) National Food Strategies to Eradicate Hunger;15/ and (b) Report of the World Food Council on the Work of its Eighth Session: Acapulco, Mexico: 21-24 June, 1982.16/

(i) Women and health

82. WHO indicated that it envisaged presenting a paper on health to the Conference, and that it would define the substance of the paper at a later date.

(j) Women and non-traditional activities

83. ICAO also expressed support for Conference preparations and noted especially its fellowship and training activities in that regard.

(k) Women, peace and disarmament

84. No specific indications were received on the issue of women, peace and disarmament of contributions planned for the Conference. The substantive secretariat for the Conference would contact other areas in the United Nations Secretariat that might be interested (e.g. the Centre for Disarmament; Centre against Apartheid; Centre for Human Rights, and the units concerned with such issues as Namibia and Palestine).

(l) Women and protection from disaster

85. No specific contributions were received on women and protection from disaster for the Conference, other than general comments from UNDRO.

(m) Refugees and displaced women

86. UNHCR reported that it intended to submit a paper for the Conference treating the issue of refugees and displaced women, which dealt with service concerns, programme plans and projects for economic and social self-sufficiency, participation in decision-making and other issues related to the improvement of the condition of such women in their countries of asylum as well as follow-up action taken by UNHCR on resolutions adopted in that field at the Copenhagen World Conference.

87. The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East replied that it would report at a later stage what progress it was making, when the themes and issues had been decided.

(n) Women and stages/cycles of life

88. UNITAR indicated that it was pleased to co-operate with the Conference secretariat, but made no proposals to follow-up its comments on lonely women in old age.

89. UNICEF, as cited in paragraph 42 above, made a general offer to contribute further to the conceptualization and formulation of such themes as women and life cycles.

90. The United Nations University replied that it had a research project on household, gender and age, and would report at a later stage when the first research results had been obtained.

(o) Women, science and technology

91. UNITAR made a general statement of intent to co-operate with the Conference secretariat.

(p) Women, trade and commerce

92. Regarding contributions to the preparations for the Conference on the topic of women, trade and commerce, UNCTAD indicated that it would consider the possibility of submitting a paper or papers, particularly concerning paragraph 22(b) of E/CN.6/1982/8 ^{17/} and perhaps paragraphs 23 and 24.

3. Organization of the Conference

93. Several organizations recommended a practical action-orientation to both Conference preparations and the Conference itself. The World Bank, for example, agreed with the comments at the twenty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women ^{18/} that it was important that the action that was proposed could feasibly be undertaken by the national decision-makers who must implement the recommendations.

94. The World Bank also agreed with the Commission that it was desirable that the Conference agenda remain flexible for as long as possible, and include both priority substantive and methodological issues.^{19/} In that context, based on the national follow-up orientation, the World Bank especially cited the need for the agenda to consider ways to increase the effectiveness of national machinery, including specifically the machinery of non-governmental organizations.

95. With regard to documentation for the Conference, the World Bank suggested that resources be concentrated on (a) an analysis of the review and a statistical annex, as comprehensive as possible; (b) short practical proposals for specific action on the critical factors; and (c) sound methodological papers (practice not theory) on indicators, development planning and national machinery. The World Bank concluded that those papers should be complemented by national and international reports.

96. Regarding the plenary debate, the World Bank recognized that while progress for women was an element of development progress in general, and could not be achieved in isolation from the political context, the World Bank ventured to express the hope that the Conference would be able to avoid diversion of time and effort into discussion of political ideologies. It suggested substituting written reports on national and international actions in lieu of oral reports, thus omitting the customary statements in the plenary sessions that had in the past added little and had primarily presented the same information as in the written reports. In that regard, the World Bank further proposed that "it would be innovative to eliminate this time-consuming and costly feature of international conferences; an equivalent amount might much more effectively be expended as a contribution to the Voluntary Fund for Women."

97. UNICEF, in addition to those points, proposed that special panels be formed at the Conference on several issues of primary concern to UNICEF.^{20/} Also, it expressed interest that the Conference agenda include sessions in which panelists could critically review the impact upon the lives of women of the different development programmes and projects that had been implemented over the past 10 years.

Notes

1/ Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, Mexico City, 19 June-2 July 1975 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1).

2/ Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14-30 July 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3).

3/ General Assembly resolution 35/36, annex.

4/ Report of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 1-14 September 1981 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.8), part one, sect. A.

5/ "Preparations for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women to be held in 1985", report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/1982/8) and Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 4 (E/1982/14, E/CN.6/1982/14), chap. IV.

6/ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Report of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, Rome, 12-20 July 1979 (Rome, 1979), pp. 11 and 12.

7/ Report of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries....

8/ Ibid.

9/ Since it concerned the interrelationship of issues and indeed a holistic approach, the reply from UNICEF was also cited in paragraph 15 above. The United Nations University, on the other hand, made no formal proposal, but indicated that it was doing research on an aspect of that issue: see paragraph 94 below.

10/ It should be recalled that one of the priority issues included in the Programme of Action was that of young women, and also, that 1985 will be International Youth Year.

11/ This data was contained in a report entitled UNICEF Advocacy and Information Dissemination Activities on the Participation of Women in Development 1980-1982 (29 June 1982), p. 9, prepared and sent by UNICEF to the Conference secretariat.

12/ The lead agency for the production of the kit on "Women and disability" was ILO; and for "Women, health and development", WHO; and currently the Advancement of Women Branch, Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, is the lead organization for the kit on "Women and the International Development Strategy". This work has implications for Conference preparations via the production of a series of kits on selected issues and themes as part of an overall information programme.

13/ The work of UNITAR has been in the area of research on the role of women in decision-making in the United Nations. This topic and the modalities thereof relate to the work of the Administrative Committee on co-ordination Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions Personnel, which will meet at Vienna in March, 1983, at the time of the seventeenth session on the International Civil Service Commission.

14/ The United Nations and Decision-Making: The Role of Women, 2 vols. (United Nations publication, Sales Nos. E.78.XV.CR/10 and E.78.XV.CR/11); The Situation of Women in the United Nations (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.XV.RR/18); and "The situation of women in the United Nations - revisited", UNITAR News, vol. 7, No. 1.

15/ Rome, United Nations World Food Council, 1982.

16/ WFC/1982/12.

17/ "Preparation for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women...".

18/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 4 (E/1982/14, E/CN.6/1982/14), chap. IV, para. 70.

19/ Ibid., paras. 77-88.

20/ See para. 12 in chapter II above for a description of these five themes, which UNICEF suggested to be the bases for special panel discussions at the Conference.



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COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY FOR
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND
APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

First session
Vienna, 23 February-4 March 1983
Items 3 and 4 of the provisional agenda*

CONSIDERATION OF ISSUES AND THEMES TO BE EXAMINED AT
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS
OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

CONSIDERATION OF ARRANGEMENTS TO BE MADE
IN PREPARATION FOR THE CONFERENCE

Views of inter-governmental organizations outside
the United Nations system on their contributions
to the Conference and on possible issues and themes

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

This report has been prepared pursuant to paragraph 9 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26 and is a consolidation of the views of inter-governmental organizations on their contributions to the Conference and on possible issues and themes for it based on the replies of eight inter-governmental organizations

*A/CONF.116/PC.1/1.

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Economic and Social Council, in paragraph 9 of its resolution 1982/26 on preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, invited non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and inter-governmental organizations to submit their views on their contributions to the Conference and on possible issues and themes for the Conference, in writing, to the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, for consolidated presentation to the preparatory body.
2. Accordingly, the views of inter-governmental organizations were sought by the Secretary-General and, at the time of completion of the report, replies had been received from the following: African Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP Group); International Centre for Public Enterprises in Developing Countries (ICPE); Commission of the European Communities; Commonwealth Secretariat; Council of Europe; Inter-governmental Committee for Migration; International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL); and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
3. The current report had been prepared to reflect the views of those inter-governmental organizations; the consolidated report on views of non-governmental organizations appeared in document A/CONF.116/PC.1/6.
4. It should be noted that the replies received from the secretariats of those inter-governmental organizations were not based on a survey by those secretariats of the views of their member states.

SUMMARY OF REPLIES*

A. Substantive aspects of the Conference

1. Issues and themes

5. The ACP Group suggested that preparations for the Conference should take into consideration the following: (a) the progress in the involvement of women in the development of science and technology; and (b) the relationship between the Programme of Action of the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and the establishment of the New International Economic Order.
6. The Commission of the European Communities suggested that the priorities to be set for the World Conference, which would conclude the United Nations Decade for Women: equality, development and peace, should be considered in the light of its new Community Action Programme for the promotion of equal opportunities for women (1982-1985) and its Council resolution of 12 July 1982 on the promotion of equal opportunities for women.^{1/} Therefore, it said that the World Conference, like the one held in the middle of the Decade in 1980 at Copenhagen, should concentrate on the subtopics of employment, health and education.

*Text of the replies is available from the United Nations Secretariat.

^{1/} Commission of the European Communities, OJ C No C 186 of 21.7.1982, p. 3.

7. The Commission of the European Communities stated that the report of the Secretary-General on preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women (E/CN.6/1982/8), which was submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women at its twenty-ninth session, contained some interesting guidelines on employment. However, in view of the Council resolution of 12 July 1982^{1/} it stressed that equal treatment of men and women as regards employment must govern policy in that field, whatever the economic situation might be. It followed that women's employment in the current economic situation deserved priority treatment. Moreover, it related that it was necessary to develop new strategies to ensure the position of women on the labour market even in an insecure economic situation. At the same time, priority should be given to the problem of integrating women into working life, particularly in connection with the new technologies.

8. In the health field, it recommended priority attention for the protection of workers, taking care that the principle of equal treatment of male and female workers was observed. It therefore suggested that it was desirable that special rules protecting women at work should be avoided and that such rules should be abolished where the concern for the protection that justified them in the past no longer applied. That implied, at the same time, adequate protection for pregnancy and motherhood. The final aim should be the best possible protection for workers against all the risks to which they might be exposed at the workplace and in their customary environment.

9. In the educational field, the Commission of the European Communities emphasized the importance of improving vocational training for women. That should enable women to take up jobs in which they had traditionally been under-represented, particularly in connection with the new technologies, and prevent too many of them taking up jobs that were insecure. Furthermore, the question of basic upgrading tuition specifically for women, including its psychosociological aspects, should not be forgotten.

10. In addition, it suggested that the place of women in society in general should be improved. In that respect, it said that the public authorities could provide a good example by improving the conditions and position of their female staff, particularly as regards career opportunities, and that proposals made on that matter deserved complete and unequivocal support. That meant, it related, first of all and as a matter of priority, that women be enabled to co-ordinate their family and occupational duties through a more equitable sharing out of family tasks and responsibilities.

11. Furthermore, it indicated that the problems of women in the developing countries in relation to development policy and the North-South dialogue should receive particular attention, and in that connection reference should be made to the community's actions and attitudes related to the North-South dialogue and to its development policy, including that at the regional level.

12. All in all, the Commission of the European Communities concluded that the Conference should be able to take stock of the situation and make it possible to draw up guidelines to improve the situation of women, whatever their position in society - even though that society was in a state of economic and social flux.

13. The Commonwealth Secretariat replied that the theme should remain employment, health and education, but the focus should be on evaluation, not

only of the achievements or failures of the Decade but also of the processes and mechanisms employed in efforts to effect change. The Commonwealth Secretariat indicated that the review of progress currently being undertaken would, no doubt, point up areas that required special attention. It suggested that among them were likely to be food production, employment, economic and social development indications as they related to women, the special problems of refugees, the aged and young women and women in Southern Africa, and it believed countries would also want to discuss and delineate various strategies to achieve disarmament and world peace.

14. The Council of Europe agreed with the retention of the subtheme of employment, health and education that was adopted by the 1980 World Conference. The Council suggested that the Conference could make a special reference to the participation of women in decision-making in all domains and at all levels, particularly with respect to mass communications, an area that was considered by the Council to be of particular importance at the regional level.

15. The Inter-governmental Committee for Migration indicated that the Conference should consider the subject of migrant women. It pointed out that the attention given during the United Nations Decade for Women to the difficult situation faced by migrant women gainfully employed in a foreign country and by those who were separated from their family members employed as migrant workers abroad deserved the attention of the Conference. The Committee noted such important aspects as equality of treatment and opportunity for migrant women, their changing role in society, social advancement, family reunion, difficulties of rearing children in a foreign country, and protection of the culture of the country of origin. The Committee also drew attention to the fact that refugee women, when they were resettled in a country, were a particularly vulnerable group.

16. ICPE referred to resolution 15 adopted at the 1980 World Conference, which concerned ICPE and recognized the growing role of the public sector and of public enterprises in developing countries as important factors of economic and social development of those countries, including their role and responsibilities for improving the situation of women. ICPE indicated that particular attention should be given by the Conference to issues and themes related to the integration of women in development through efforts aimed at the establishment of the New International Economic Order and implementation of the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade. It suggested further that attention be paid to the role and position of women in developing countries, especially regarding their participation in industrialization processes and policies as compared with rural development in those countries. ICPE also indicated that analyses should be made of the processes of transfer and development of science and technology to developing countries and of the practices of transnational companies in developing countries and their effects on the employment and composition of the labour force in those countries. ICPE concluded that other issues and themes should include: the problem of the participation of women in economic, political and public life in general, with particular reference to their role in decision-making at all levels; and the consistent application of international instruments related to women.

17. In general, OECD agreed with the views on alternative development strategies to promote the full integration of women in development (E/CN.6/1982/8, paras. 16-24). Concerning its own programmes on aid policies and those within its Development Centre, the OECD secretariat said that strategies were selected with a view to contributing to the improvement of the economic and social situation of the female population of developing countries.

18. In relation to the goals of the Conference defined as review and appraisal of what has been achieved since 1975, OECD reported that it had undertaken a review of policies for equality of opportunity under the auspices of its Working Party on the Role of Women in the Economy, with the documentation from its member country reports on the changing situation in such diverse fields as the legislation, regulations or collective agreements ensuring equal employment opportunities for men and women; the adoption of adequate policies to deal with the unemployment of women; the ways to measure and eliminate the concentration of women in a limited number of sectors and occupations; the means of reducing differentials in average earnings between men and women and of ensuring the application of the principle of equal pay for work of equal value; the arrangement of more flexible working time and working schedules for widening employment choice; the development of educational and training opportunities for girls and women; the analysis of the provisions of taxation, social security and child-support systems with regard to their effects on the allocation of time by men and women between paid employment and other activities; and the economic and social situation of migrant women in different countries.

2. Future action

19. The ACP Group cited the need for specific proposals for action beyond the Conference regarding the improvement of the status of women.

20. The Council of Europe stated its support of a second United Nations decade for women. It stated that while the problems confronting the advancement of women could not be solved in a decade, the United Nations Decade for Women had proven to be a valuable means of raising the conscience of the world on those problems and of stimulating governmental action. The Council suggested a new orientation for the Second Decade to define new models for society that would render necessary a redefinition of the respective roles allocated to men and women. In addition, the Council suggested that if a new Decade were not possible for that purpose, a proclamation of regional decades to permit the realization of particular objectives might be considered.

21. The Council of Europe further noted that it was important to proceed with the ending of the current Decade with an evaluation of the progress made and obstacles encountered in the implementation of the World Plan of Action adopted at Mexico City and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women adopted at Copenhagen. The Council pointed out that information on the difficulties encountered by Governments would be useful for the definition of future strategies.

22. ICPE suggested that in order to contribute to the understanding and successful implementation of the efforts to improve the status of women, the Conference might elaborate guidelines for further research in that field (see also paragraph 8 above), bearing in mind the results achieved so far and with reference to other activities and programmes dealing with developmental problems and the role of women.

B. Organizational aspects of the Conference

1. Relationship of inter-governmental organizations to the Conference

23. The Commonwealth Secretariat replied that with so many of the world's food deficit nations being members of the Commonwealth, particular interest was being taken in measures to increase food production. The Commonwealth Secretariat was seeking to assist countries to develop initiatives, which, recognizing women's important role, would contribute to the effectiveness of an enlarged Commonwealth Food Production programme.

24. Similarly, over the next two years, the Women and Development Division of its Secretariat would be focusing on issues relating to women and employment. Whereas health and educational issues had been given a great deal of attention, little effective progress had been made in the area of employment. It hoped that its work would contribute to a clearer understanding of the economic value of women's contribution to national growth and towards developing employment strategies and mechanisms for implementing those strategies in the formal and informal sectors.

25. The Women and Development Division would also be taking a special interest in the International Youth Year of the Commonwealth Youth Programme, and focusing on the employment possibilities for young women. It hoped to see similar emphasis on the concerns of young women reflected in the topics to be discussed at the Conference.

26. Further, it stated that if the Conference were to have lasting impact, nations needed to begin immediately addressing the issues, at every possible United Nations forum. To do so effectively, however, necessitated being in constant and close communication with the United Nations system.

27. It related that many of its members, being small island states, had but slight representation at the United Nations. If they were to participate fully in the activities leading up to and during the Conference, women's bureaux required a great deal of lead time to ensure that their input and concerns reached the relevant United Nations meetings. It asked whether it would be possible for the Commission on the Status of Women to support such action by publishing a calendar of United Nations events likely to have an impact on issues relating to women and indicating the type of input that might be required. It felt that countries would then more easily be able to brief their delegations or submit their concerns in writing.

28. Based on the experience of past meetings on the Decade, it concluded that many member nations of the Commonwealth had voiced two final concerns:

(a) Plenary speeches should be kept to a minimum so that the limited time available could be devoted to more substantive discussion;

(b) Mechanisms should be developed to effectively harness the experience of the non-governmental organizations for inclusion in the deliberations of the Conference.

29. The Commonwealth Secretariat assured the Preparatory Body that it remained anxious to assist in making the end of the Decade a meaningful and effective pointer to a future where equality, development and peace were no longer merely goals.

30. The Council of Europe reported that its views on the Conference were based on its own Programme of Action to Promote the Equality of Sexes. The Council drew attention to the permanent forum (where questions on the equality of sexes were debated) that had been established under the aegis of the Council of Europe (Committee on the Status of Women) and that brought together high-level representatives from national offices of 21 state members to exchange ideas, experiences and information on the advancement of women. The Committee served to evaluate and stimulate activities of the Council in that domain.

31. ICPE provided information in its internal organization with an indication as to how it could potentially related to the Conference. ICPE was a joint institution of developing countries dealing with public enterprise management questions that encompassed research, training, consultancy and documentation in the field of education and training, planning in public enterprises, financing, worker's participation in decision-making, transfer and development of technology, control systems and evaluation of the efficiency of public enterprises and the role of the public sector in developing countries. An integral part of the work of ICPE was the programme "Women as a Factor of Development and the Responsibilities of Public Enterprises in this Regard", which analysed the role and position of women in development.

2. Proposed contributions of inter-governmental organizations to the Conference

32. The Secretariat of the ACP Group offered to circulate relevant information on the Conference from the organizations of the United Nations system to the 63 member states of the ACP Group as a way of not only enhancing the efforts undertaken at the national, regional and sectoral levels, but also increasing the awareness of the important role of women in the economic, social, cultural and political affairs of the world community.

33. The Council of Europe, through its Committee on the Status of Women, indicated that it planned to regularly exchange points of views on the preparations for the Conference. That would give representatives from its 21 member states the opportunity to inform each other of the preparations being undertaken at the national level for the Conference. The Council indicated that it also planned to make other contributions to the Conference by: (a) undertaking a comparative study on national machineries set up by its member states to promote equality between men and women (to be completed in 1984); (b) undertaking a study of the situation of women in the political life of its member states (to be completed in 1983); and (c) organizing a seminar on the media and the equality of sexes (to take place in 1983).

34. The Inter-governmental Committee for Migration drew attention to the international seminar, which it organized in 1981, on integration problems of migrant and refugee women. It was attended by governmental officials and representatives of government and non-governmental organizations concerned with migration, particularly migrant and refugee women. A great many recommendations for action were adopted at that seminar and the Committee was currently considering the possibility of evaluating the results. For that purpose a preliminary survey might be carried out among the participants. The Committee indicated that if such an evaluation were undertaken the results would be forwarded to the United Nations.

35. ICPE indicated that it would present the results of its research in approaches to the integration of women in the development process in developing countries, with special reference to the actual and potential role of public enterprises in those countries, with the aim of identifying and suggesting concrete measures that should be incorporated into the management policies of public enterprises in particular and of the public sector in general. ICPE expressed the hope that the results of its research and the analysis of policy practices could form the basis of its contribution to the Conference.

36. INTERPOL reported that it would be prepared to make a contribution to the Conference in the form of two documents, one on female criminality and the other on a statistical survey of female police.

37. Finally, OECD indicated that its Working Party on the Role of Women in the Economy would, on the basis of national assessments, prepare a final report that would also include substantive studies on the trends in employment and unemployment of women in OECD countries; the causes and the measurement of the labour market concentration by sex; and the differential effects on men and women of social security systems and related fiscal systems. OECD concluded that that consolidated report would be submitted to the OECD Council at the end of 1983, with policy oriented conclusions on the different points under consideration. OECD said that it would put that report at the disposal of the Conference secretariat as soon as the report was available.

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ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY FOR
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND
APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

First session
Vienna, 23 February - 4 March 1983
Items 3 and 4 of the provisional agenda

CONSIDERATION OF ISSUES AND THEMES TO BE EXAMINED AT
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS
OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

CONSIDERATION OF ARRANGEMENTS TO BE MADE
IN PREPARATION FOR THE CONFERENCE

Views of non-governmental organizations in consultative status
with the Economic and Social Council
on their contributions to the Conference and on
possible issues and themes

Report of the Secretary General

This report has been prepared in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26 and consists of a consolidation of the views of non governmental organizations on their contributions to the Conference and possible issues and themes for it.

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1982/26 of 4 May 1982 on preparations for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, to be held in 1985, invited non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to submit their views on their contributions to the Conference and on possible issues and themes for the Conference, in writing, to the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, for consolidated presentation to the preparatory body.
2. Accordingly, non-governmental organizations that have actively collaborated with the United Nations on questions related to the status of women were asked to submit their views. A total of 15 organizations replied.^{1/} The International Women's Decade Committee, New York, and the Special Committee of International NGOs on Human Rights: Sub-committee on the Status of Women, Geneva, both held consultations on the subject and also submitted their views to the Secretary-General.

I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

3. In all the replies, the view was stressed that non-governmental organizations should participate in the Conference and in the preparations for it. It was considered that all the conferences convened by the General Assembly benefited substantially from active non-governmental participation, and that while separate activities by non-governmental organizations on the fringe of such conferences were useful, they were no substitute for direct access and contribution to the discussions in the conference proper. It was noted that the role of accredited observers from non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council was often misunderstood.
4. The hope was also expressed that non-governmental organizations would be invited to all preparatory meetings, including those organized by the regional commissions. It was also hoped that adequate provisions would be made for the seating of observers from non-governmental organizations in all the meetings and that adequate time would be allowed in the meetings for statements by them.
5. Many organizations considered that, besides being invited to give their views on issues and themes of the Conference called for in Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26, they should be invited to answer the questionnaire on review and appraisal so that the report could adequately reflect their responses. Some also regretted the fact that they had not been invited to submit their comments on the comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development called for in General Assembly resolution 36/74 of 4 December 1981.
6. All the organizations referred to the possibility of holding a meeting of non-governmental organizations either before the Conference, concurrently with it or both before and during the Conference, but no preference was indicated. It was pointed out that every effort should be made to involve more women from developing countries in such activities.

II. SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS

A. Themes for the Conference

7. While many organizations supported the themes of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, and the subthemes of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, held at Copenhagen from 14-30 July 1980, namely, Employment, Health and Education, they suggested that some other themes could be developed, such as "equality of opportunity", because in their view it was more realistic to have a broader goal than to set absolute targets that could be unattainable for reasons not wholly related to inequality. They supported unreservedly the priority need for development strategies to improve conditions for all people, in particular the most disadvantaged, but thought it unhelpful to ignore the widely differing political, economic, and social constraints that were currently to be found within and between the various countries. What was important was to ensure that, within the limitations imposed by such realities and diversity, women were not discriminated against. "Equality of opportunity" was a goal that women could pursue, individually and together, in their own ways and in their own settings, one that could range from participating in high-level decision-making to having a real voice in family affairs. It was the experience of those organizations that most women wished to go ahead not for themselves alone, or at the expense of men, but for the benefit of their families and communities, and on grounds of merit, not of sex.

8. Other organizations considered that the issue of peace was one of the most important themes, because living in a world without war called for an educational process in which women, the chief educators both in institutions and families, must be deeply interested and involved, and women should play a much greater role in every aspect of this issue.

9. One organization suggested that the theme for the Conference should be "full participation in changing societies", because participation required women to be equipped with valid skills and an appropriate education. Participation to them meant equal opportunities, total elimination of discrimination, a complete change in job classification and real partnership within the family. It also called for a new awareness of women's contributions, skills, abilities and potential; the acceptance of women as persons, as opposed to the "we" (men) "they" (women) syndrome.

10. In the view of one organization, another theme for the Conference should be "rural development", because it would underline the urgent need for policies to promote the viability of rural areas. It was thought that the following topics could be discussed under the main theme: the legal status of rural women; rural women as entrepreneurs, producers and managers; the implications of technology for rural women and their needs in relation to water, energy and production; rural communications and the media; changing roles within the family, particularly new opportunities and responsibilities; and collaboration between national machineries and women's organizations in order to speed development.

B. Issues for the Conference

11. Many organizations thought that the Conference should look to the future and that there should be no restatement of ideals and objectives. There was a general feeling that a second United Nations Decade for Women should be proclaimed. In that regard, attention should be paid to the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade (General Assembly resolution 35/56, annex), the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed and Countries,^{2/} the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (General Assembly resolution 34/80) and the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order (General Assembly resolution 3281 (XXIX)).

12. Many organizations considered that the Conference should focus on practical steps to accelerate the achievement of the goals of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year.^{3/} Both that and other mandates developed by the United Nations system provided sufficient guide-lines for Governments but practical steps were necessary to accelerate the achievements enumerated therein.

13. Some of the many issues elaborated on in the replies included those dealing with violations of the human rights of women, particularly in relation to the need for an opportunity to discuss what progress, if any, had been made in reducing the incidence of serious violations of the human rights of women.

14. One organization suggested that it was important to stress the need to ensure that de jure equality for women in all fields was in fact achieved, while another considered it was too optimistic to say that de jure equality for women had been achieved in almost all countries; both organizations agreed that equality was lagging behind in the area of practical application. It was pointed out that one of the most difficult and sensitive problems was that of changing attitudes. It was also pointed out that the presence of more women in decision-making positions throughout society would help, but not unless those women made decisions that took into account the situation or needs of their less powerful sisters.

15. It was considered that concrete proposals for the improvement of the status of women in development should be one of the main issues to be discussed at the Conference. It was also considered that development strategies must be appropriate to women's needs as well as to those of men and that some progress had been made in planning development so as to take more account of women's needs as partners in development. The concept of alternative development strategies was essential to the planning process, and the improvement of the status of women through their full integration into and participation in development was a necessary element of that concept. The way in which it was done should be carefully thought out so that tensions between men and women were not aggravated unnecessarily.

16. The view was expressed that it was essential to undertake analyses of the informal urban sector, of women in rural development (paying special attention to various aspects of food production, for example the use of machines by women) and of energy sources, as well as of the problems encountered by the wives of migrant workers who took over as heads of household. It was also suggested that the point that women were subsidizing economic development and growth should be emphasized, and that recognition of the value of unpaid work in the household would greatly contribute to improving women's self-image and confidence. That question should be dealt with when indicators and a statistical data base were being developed.

17. It was stated that many efforts to attain equality for women had focused on male dominance as a sexual characteristic. That had often obscured the economic and social basis for inequality and some consideration should be therefore given to how men could be mobilized in the cause of equality.

18. Special educational programmes and opportunities to participate in such programmes should be planned on a world-wide basis. That would encourage women to become conscious of their identity, resources and development so that they could develop to the maximum their potential as the rearers and earliest educators of future adults, both women and men, and thus influence their culture in the most positive way.

19. It was emphasized that the programme developed by the Conference should take into consideration the contributions to be made by the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, and by national governmental and voluntary structures; one organization referred, in particular, to the need to take special account of the expertise and activities of the International Labour Organisation, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization.

20. Because many of the social problems facing a society affected women disproportionately, it was considered that an action programme should be developed that would point up the impact on women of problems in such areas as housing, childcare, health, education etc.

21. One organization pointed out that, unless family planning were given parallel priority with health and development measures, women would often be unable to make full use of their hard-won educational and economic opportunities. Additionally, within both family-planning education and service programmes, increasing attention must be given to the special needs of adolescents, because it was now known that child-bearing in adolescence carried increased risks for both mother and child and could impair the development of both.

22. More emphasis needed to be given to the education of girls in order to prepare them better for a full life as women. Not only should the full range of educational opportunities be included but also vocational training and decision-making and community leadership skills. In fact it was considered that the traditional educational system and the attitudes it taught to both boys and girls should be re-examined in order to enable them to handle their new roles. The view was expressed that the Commission on the Status of Women should combine its efforts with those being made in connection with the International Youth Year to be observed in 1985 and should consider how girls and young women could be full participants and leaders in the theme of the Year: "Participation, Development, Peace".

23. Another area that should be considered by the Conference was that of communications vis-à-vis the role of women, particularly the question of who "controlled" the communication media at all levels and who the opinion-setters were who taught what "women's role" meant. It was pointed out that women should have access to communication channels and should be encouraged to learn to understand and master a variety of ways of communicating - formal and informal, technical and personal.

24. It was also suggested that more attention needed to be given to the difficulty of bringing about desirable change, especially in changing roles and customs that were generations old. It was pointed out that in poor rural areas only slow internal education could change inequality and it was thought that more co-operative work should be planned by international non-governmental organizations with grass-root membership who had the contacts in those areas but little funding.

25. Some organizations took exception to paragraph 18 of document E/CN.6/1982/8, in which it was stated that, in the currently depressed economic situation throughout the world, "more jobs can be given to women - but at the expense of men", which would "only increase tension within the national economy between male and female workers". They pointed out that the concept that mattered was that the best qualified person should get the job, whereas the above statement implied that a favour was being done and that women were being presented with a gift - that implication was unfair to women. It was believed that women's integration into development as a whole was very much conditioned by their status in the economic life of their country and by how that status was recognized in monetary and other terms. That was why it was essential to educate and train women so that they could open up income-producing activities for themselves, to encourage them to develop small industries, and to train them in efficient management. Efforts at self-reliance should not be confined to that sector alone.

26. Exception was also taken to paragraph 19 of the same document, in which it was indicated that education could only be provided to women at the expense of men. The point was made that there should be equality of rights in education and employment and that many "internal tensions" also existed among unemployed and underemployed women.

27. There was a suggestion that the concept "women and development" should be more clearly defined in view of the differences in the way the subject was perceived in developed and developing countries.

28. There was a proposal to conduct campaigns of "conscientization", a term coined by Paulo Freire, the Brazilian sociologist, to promote the cause of equality. The purpose would be to help people understand the impact of economic, social and cultural factors on their situation.

29. It was thought that the establishment of women's bureaux in ministries, or of ministries for women's affairs, should be carefully monitored because it could lead to marginalization.

Notes

1/ In category I: International Alliance of Women - Equal Rights, Equal Responsibilities; International Co-operative Alliance; International Federation of Business and Professional Women; International Planned Parenthood Federation and Women's International Democratic Federation; in category II: Amnesty International; Associated Country Women of the World; Christian Peace Conference; International Council of Jewish Women; International Federation of Social Workers; International Federation of University Women; OXFAM; World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts; World Young Women's Christian Association; and Zonta International.

2/ Report of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 1-14 September 1981 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.8), chap. II, sect. A.

3/ Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, Mexico City, 19 June-2 July 1975 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1), chap. II, sect. A.



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Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

Proposals
on
substantive and organizational preparations
for the Conference

Report of the Secretary-General**

SUMMARY

This report sets out suggestions concerning the substantive and organizational aspects of the Conference and its preparation based upon the views of the Commission on the Status of Women at its twenty-ninth session, and upon views transmitted to the Secretary-General by Governments, organs and organizations of the United Nations system, and inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

* A/CONF.116/PC.1/1.

** The present document contains chapters I-III of the report. Chapter IV on the organizational aspects of preparations for the Conference will be contained in an addendum (A/CONF.116/PC.1/7/Add.1).

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I. LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND

1. In its resolution 35/136 of 11 December 1980 the General Assembly decided to convene, at the conclusion of the Decade, a World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women.
2. In 1981 the General Assembly in its resolution 36/126 requested that the Commission on the Status of Women give priority at its twenty-ninth session to the question of the preparations for the Conference to mark the end of the Decade.
3. The Commission at its twenty-ninth session, in considering that question, had before it a report by the Secretary-General on preparations for the Conference^{1/*}. Chapter IV of the Commission's report^{2/} contains a summary of its debate.
4. The Economic and Social Council, at its first regular session in 1982, considered the report of the Commission in the context of its deliberations on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women^{3/} adopted at the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women at Copenhagen in 1980. The Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on the Status of Women, adopted resolution 1982/26 on preparations for the Conference.
5. In that resolution, the Council made a number of recommendations relating to the organizational and substantive aspects of the preparations for the Conference including the preparatory body for the Conference, the number of preparatory meetings, the substantive secretariat, and preparatory activities at various levels.
6. The Council decided that the Commission on the Status of Women should be the preparatory body for the Conference, that it should operate on the basis of consensus, and invited the widest possible participation by Member States in the deliberations of the preparatory body. It recommended *inter alia* that three sessions be held, in 1983, 1984 and 1985, and that the Advancement of Women Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs should serve as the substantive secretariat of the preparatory body as well as of the Conference.
7. The Council emphasized the importance of undertaking at the conclusion of the Decade a critical review and appraisal of (a) the goals of the Decade - equality, development and peace; (b) the subthemes of employment, health and education; (c) the obstacles encountered in the implementation of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year^{4/} adopted at the World Conference of the International Women's Year at Mexico City in 1975; and (d) the Programme of Action. A forward-looking perspective on the status of women to the year 2000 should also be undertaken. It also emphasized the need to identify the most effective strategies and methods of work at the international level and to establish priorities for the United Nations system.

*For the notes, see page 15 below.

8. Moreover, the Council invited the regional commissions to conduct consultations, within existing resources, on issues and themes for the Conference and on organizational arrangements at the regional level to prepare for the Conference, and to submit the results of those consultations to the preparatory body. Member States, non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Council and inter-governmental organizations were also invited to submit their views.

9. At its thirty-seventh session, the General Assembly, in its resolution 37/60 adopted on 3 December 1982, endorsed Council resolution 1982/26.

10. In response to requests made by the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 1982/26, a number of Member States (16), agencies and organizations of the United Nations system (25), inter-governmental organizations (8), non-governmental organizations (15) and regional commissions (4) submitted their views on possible issues and themes for the Conference and on their possible contributions. The current report, drawing upon the suggestions received and experience gained, puts forward suggestions for consideration at the first preparatory meeting for the Conference on the substantive preparations and preliminary suggestions on organizational matters.

II. FRAME OF REFERENCE

11. By mandate of the Council and the General Assembly, the Conference is to be closely linked with the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action. The Conference must therefore undertake a critical review and appraisal of the achievements of the goals of the Decade: equality, development and peace, and of the subthemes: employment, health and education, and formulate a forward-looking perspective on the status of women based on the experience gained in the implementation of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action. The Conference should also undertake a critical review of the international efforts undertaken during the Decade to assist in achieving its goals with a view to proposing priorities and strategies for the United Nations system.

12. It might be useful, in order to assist the preparatory body in its deliberations, to describe succinctly the thrust of both the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action, since both these documents are, by mandate, to constitute the frame of reference of the Conference.

13. The proclamation of International Women's Year 1975 was a milestone in the efforts of the international community of nations to focus on the inferior condition of women and to intensify actions to improve it. The General Assembly decided to devote that year to intensified action: (a) to promote equality between men and women; (b) to ensure the full integration of women in the total development process; and (c) to recognize the importance of women's increasing contribution to the development of friendly relations and co-operation between States, and to the strengthening of world peace.

14. This threefold objective: equality, development and peace, was the focus of the World Plan of Action. The Mexico Conference brought to light the seriously disadvantaged position of women in the context of modern society and the World Plan of Action provided the vital impetus for action to redress imbalances that have contributed to women's adverse situation in society.

15. The World Plan of Action, which was subsequently endorsed by the General Assembly in 1975, provided guidelines for action at all levels over a 10-year period as part of a sustained, long-term effort to achieve the objectives of the International Women's Year. It placed great emphasis on national action, and at the same time stressed that the "new measures taken to improve their women's situation as well as their role in the process of development must be an integral part of the global project for the establishment of a new economic order."^{5/} Since wide divergencies had existed in the situation of women in various societies, cultures and regions reflecting different needs and problems, the World Plan of Action recommended that each country should decide on its own national strategy and identify its own targets and priorities within the World Plan of Action.

16. The World Plan of Action stressed that while integrated programmes for the benefit of all members of society should be the basis for action in implementing it, special measures on behalf of women whose status was the result of particularly discriminatory practices would be necessary.

17. The World Plan of Action identified nine specific areas for national action: (a) international co-operation and the strengthening of international peace; (b) political participation; (c) education and training; (d) employment and related economic roles; (e) health and nutrition; (f) the family in modern society; (g) population; (h) housing and related facilities; and (i) other social questions (including social services, migrant women, elderly women, female offenders, prostitution and the illicit traffic in women). It placed high priority on the need for research, data collection and analysis on all aspects of the situation of women, which were lacking or inadequate, and on the use of the mass communication media that could exercise a significant influence in removing prejudices and stereotypes, major obstacles in improving women's condition.

18. The World Plan of Action set forth certain specific objectives to be achieved as a minimum during the first half of the Decade. These objectives, which were to be developed in more specific terms in regional plans of action, were defined as follows:

"(a) Marked increase in literacy and civic education of women, especially in rural areas;

"(b) The extension of co-educational technical and vocational training in basic skills to women and men in the industrial and agricultural sectors;

"(c) Equal access at every level of education, compulsory primary school education and the measures necessary to prevent school drop-outs;

"(d) Increased employment opportunities for women, reduction of unemployment and increased efforts to eliminate discrimination in the terms and conditions of employment;

"(e) The establishment and increase of the infrastructural services required in both rural and urban areas;

"(f) The enactment of legislation on voting and eligibility for election on equal terms with men, equal opportunity and conditions of employment including remuneration, and on equality in legal capacity and the exercise thereof;

"(g) Encouragement of a greater participation of women in policy-making positions at the local, national and international levels;

"(h) Increased provision for comprehensive measures for health education and services, sanitation, nutrition, family education, family planning and other welfare services;

"(i) Provision for parity in the exercise of civil, social and political rights such as those pertaining to marriage, citizenship and commerce;

"(j) Recognition of the economic value of women's work in the home in domestic food production and marketing and voluntary activities not traditionally remunerated;

"(k) The direction of formal, non-formal and life-long education towards the re-evaluation of the man and woman, in order to ensure their full realization as an individual in the family and in society;

"(l) The promotion of women's organizations as an interim measure within workers' organizations and educational, economic and professional institutions;

"(m) The development of modern rural technology, cottage industry, pre-school day centres; time- and energy-saving devices so as to help reduce the heavy work load of women, particularly those living in rural sectors and for the urban poor and thus facilitate the full participation of women in community, national and international affairs;

"(n) The establishment of interdisciplinary and multisectoral machinery within the government for accelerating the achievement of equal opportunities for women and their full integration into national life."^{6/}

19. The initiatives of the Mexico Conference led to the proclamation by the General Assembly of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1976-1985: Equality, Development and Peace, to be devoted to sustained action to implement the World Plan of Action and related resolutions. The triple objectives of equality, development and peace remain fundamental to all efforts to integrate women into political, economic, social and cultural life.

20. Five years later, at the midpoint of the Decade, the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women was convened at Copenhagen from 14 to 30 July 1980. Its purpose was to review the progress made at national, regional and international levels towards achieving the objectives of the Decade within the framework of the World Plan of Action.

21. In accordance with specific mandates emanating from the General Assembly, the Conference was to emphasize development, and within that theme the international community selected employment, health and education as subthemes to be given special attention. The Conference, while reaffirming the main principles that were enunciated at Mexico went a step further in that its deliberations were based on the premise that there was no issue that did not concern women to the same extent that it concerned men, although there were some issues that concerned women even more than men. A programme of action for the second half of the Decade was adopted that placed its recommendations for national, regional and international action within an historical and multi-sectoral perspective.

22. No attempt is being made here to summarize either the review undertaken at the Copenhagen Conference or the many recommendations contained in the Programme of Action that it adopted. However, it might be useful to recall that the Conference noted the overall slow pace of progress towards the achievement of the goals of the Decade, particularly in the field of development and in the areas of the subthemes, employment, health and education. It also stressed the worsening of the situation of women in the so-called "backward sectors", particularly with respect to the conditions of employment and education for women in the rural and marginal urban sectors. The Conference drew from its review lessons for the future in order to accelerate women's participation in the development process. The first was that any measures for women isolated from the major priorities, strategies and sectors of development could not result in any substantial progress toward attaining the goals of the Decade. Second, legislative and developmental action, unless accompanied by positive and concerted action to change attitudes and prejudices, could not be fully effective. Third, more provision of equal rights, development services and opportunities would not, by themselves, help women to benefit without simultaneous special supportive measures, e.g. legal aid, earmarking of benefits, information and knowledge, institutional innovation.

23. The Conference acknowledged that the objectives of the Decade could not be realized without an unequivocal commitment at national, regional and global levels of women's participation in all aspects of development. It recognized that the subthemes of the Conference were of crucial concern to the advancement of women and were interrelated to all aspects of development. It acknowledged that the principles of the right of women to work, to receive equal pay for work of equal value, to be provided with equal opportunities for training and education were clearly stated in the World Plan of Action, which also stressed that the full participation of women in development required that they should be given adequate and equitable access to health, nutrition and other social services, including family planning and child-care facilities. It emphasized that in all countries there was a need for continuing attention to the implementation of these principles, and that for the remainder of the Decade they should be given high priority in government planning programmes.

24. The Programme of Action adopted at the Conference delineated specific action to ensure that the objectives of the World Plan of Action were met at the end of the Decade.

25. The Copenhagen Conference provided an occasion for assessing the condition of women against the objectives established in the World Plan of Action, and also against the conditions then prevailing in the world. In so doing, its deliberations served to advance international understanding of the fact that women, far from being simply a social welfare sector or a disadvantaged group, were an integral part of every global concern in the areas of equality, development and peace.

26. The attention of the world community was soon again directed to the role and contribution of women in global issues of concern. The concerns of women, particularly in the developing and least developed of the developing countries, were incorporated in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade.

27. The International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade^{7/} foresaw that a substantial improvement in the status of women would take place during the Decade (paragraph 8). It stressed that the important set of measures to improve the status of women contained in the World Plan of Action and the important agreed measures relating to the sectors of the International Development Strategy in the Programme of Action should be implemented (paragraph 168). One of the stated goals and objectives of the Strategy was that:

"Full and effective participation by the entire population at all stages of the development process should be ensured. In line with the Programme of Action ... women should play an active role in that process. Appropriate measures should be taken for profound social and economic changes and for the elimination of the structural imbalances which compound and perpetuate women's disadvantages. To this end, all countries will pursue the objectives of securing women's equal participation both as agents and as beneficiaries in all sectors and at all levels of the development process. This should include women's greater access to nutrition, health services, education and training, employment, and financial resources and their greater participation in the analysis, planning, decision-making, implementation and evaluation of development. Changes that will lead to the sharing of responsibilities by men and women in the family and in the management of the household should be encouraged. Institutional and administrative mechanisms to accomplish these objectives should be strengthened."
(paragraph 51)

III. SUBSTANTIVE ASPECTS OF THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

28. At this preliminary stage, the purpose of the Conference might be described as follows:

(a) To provide an international forum for a critical review and appraisal of the achievements of the Decade, the difficulties encountered in achieving the objectives of the Decade, and probable future trends;

(b) To formulate strategies for effective implementation that would identify and recommend concrete methods and means for the advancement of women to be applied at national, regional and international levels, based on experience gained during the Decade and on perspectives to the year 2000.

29. Replies received from Governments, organizations of the United Nations system including the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, inter-governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations for the most part confirm that the critical review and appraisal of progress achieved during the Decade in implementation of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action should provide sufficient basis to assess the experience during the Decade and to suggest action for the years to come. The main themes and subthemes of the Decade were also almost unanimously considered appropriate for discussion to consider progress made and obstacles encountered and as areas for continuing concern.

30. The Conference should then keep a link with the issues and concerns of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action and must at the same time identify new issues for the future. It seems that a balance should be maintained between continuing needs and emerging areas of concern, as well as between issues that are conceived as being specific to women and those that affect society as a whole and require women's full and equal participation with men, such as the establishment of the New International Economic Order and the implementation of the International Development Strategy.

31. In the light of the above, the preparatory body might wish to decide that the themes and sub-themes of the Decade should constitute the broad thematic framework of the deliberations of the Conference within which certain specific issues should be given priority attention.

32. Specific issues suggested for priority attention in the replies received ranged from political to socio-economic issues, including women in the context of the New International Economic Order, the participation of women in the process of development, particularly in relation to the economic situation; policy- and decision-making; agricultural and industrial development; the role of women in agrarian reform and rural development; their role in the tertiary as well as the informal sectors of the economy; women and energy; science and technology; transnational corporations as they affect women; employment and unemployment; early retirement; the use of leisure time; food, water, sanitation and shelter; functional literacy; children's education; population and family planning; primary health care, nutrition; mass media; participation of women in the struggle for peace against colonialism and apartheid; refugees and displaced women; human rights violations; equality of opportunity; sharing of household responsibilities; and the development of indicators, among others.

33. It is evident from the above that the issues proposed for priority attention at the Conference are very wide ranging. This demonstrates the complexity and multi-dimensional character of the women's issue. There will be a need, however, to carefully select the priority issues of the Conference within the themes and the subthemes of the Decade if the Conference is to probe in depth into the issues deemed to be of importance and propose appropriate action.

34. Thus, with a view to assisting the preparatory body in its deliberations on the substantive aspects of the preparations for the Conference, an effort has been made by the Secretary-General to identify approaches and provide suggestions on some specific issues that may deserve priority attention at the Conference. This has been done on the basis of existing findings and experience gained since 1975, taking into account the views expressed in the replies received.

A. Approaches and strategies for implementation

35. Findings show repeatedly that the problems and issues already identified both in the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action were correctly diagnosed. Still the progress achieved in implementing the recommendations contained in these two major documents remains quite inadequate, although a measure of improvement of women's condition is registered in some instances.

In certain areas of the world, a deterioration is taking place erasing whatever modest gains were made. This situation cannot be attributed only to the world economic crisis that became more acute during the Decade. Women have always formed the bulk of the poor, the illiterate, the unskilled and the unemployed or under-employed. They have tended to be the first to bear the brunt of any economic downturn. Thus, while the world economic crisis may have played its part and affected progress, it may not be considered the only factor. The usual factors which hinder progress have continued to play their role, most important among them has been the inadequacy of implementation of strategies used to integrate women in development.

36. It is worth noting that there is still insufficient reflection of the women's dimension in overall and sectoral policy-making at all levels. That is to say that the instances are few of explicit articulation and incorporation of a component aimed at women's participation in the development process as agents and as beneficiaries into overall national development plans and policies. Therefore, the question of improving strategies and their implementation in national, regional and international plans and policies that would ensure women's participation in development continues to be an urgent priority.

37. Given that an important requirement for the success of policy-making is the extent to which it reflects the real needs of the population they intend to meet, implementation strategies to improve women's condition must, therefore, reflect women's true needs and aspirations. Policy-makers at all levels should be fully informed of these concerns in order to weigh them in the setting of priorities.

38. Moreover, there is a need for planners and policy-makers to bear in mind that in addition to an integrated approach - that is an approach that would incorporate the women's dimension into broader development strategies, plans and programmes - they should elaborate special measures designed to correct critical imbalances affecting women that will be phased out when such imbalances have been redressed.

39. In view of the limited number of women as yet to be involved in decision-making, the Conference might wish to devise concrete ways and means by which to involve women in the policy-making process and to ensure that full use is made of existing instruments and mechanisms that specify the needs and concerns of women.

40. Thus, the Conference should lead to the formulation of concrete strategies to implement the goals and objectives of the Decade as well as of new aims that may be recommended by the Conference. Such strategies should be defined at the national, regional and international levels.

41. Special attention should be given to the differences that exist in the condition of women that depend on national and regional political, socio-economic or cultural circumstances as well as to the similarities of women's condition throughout the world.

B. Suggestions for some specific priority issues

42. The goals and objectives laid down in the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action and expressed in the themes and subthemes of the Decade are both continuing and evolving concerns.

43. In order to achieve these goals and objectives the interrelations between the themes and subthemes must be strengthened.

1. Equality

44. The issue of equality of rights of women and men and of discrimination against women is a continuing concern, although it has evolved in some of its aspects. Thus, while constitutional and legislative guarantees of the principles of equal rights and responsibilities of women and men, and of non-discrimination on the grounds of sex, have been enacted in many countries, there is often a wide gap between legal provisions and actual practice.

45. The preparatory body might wish to recommend that within the theme of equality, special emphasis be placed on the ability of women to assume responsibilities at all levels and all sectors without discrimination.

46. Underlying this major issue, the fundamental question of the traditional sex stereotypes for men and women including their parental functions, particularly as reinforced by the mass media, should be addressed at the Conference.

2. Development

47. It has become evident that economic changes and progress that took place in recent decades have not only been unevenly distributed among countries and social groups but have been unequally shared by men and women. The equal participation of women in the decision-making process is needed to correct the imbalances and enhance the development process.

48. At this particular time certain issues require further attention because it has been demonstrated that major obstacles persist or are emerging that prevent women from full and equal participation in development as agents and beneficiaries and that continue to affect the well-being of women.

49. The subthemes of the Copenhagen Conference, employment, health and education, should continue to be a matter of concern for the Conference as substantial improvement of women's condition in the areas of these subthemes are fundamental to any real improvement in women's participation in the development process. However, in order to articulate practical approaches that would accelerate the achievement of the goals of the Decade, as far as the development theme is concerned, it is essential to interrelate progress in these crucial areas with steps to be taken to ensure women's participation in the major sectors of the economy.

50. Therefore, it is suggested that the subthemes of employment and education be further reviewed in relation to women's increased participation in the following sectors as highlighted by the International Development Strategy: agriculture, industry, trade, money and finance; energy, science and technology. For example, an important issue in agriculture is the role of women in national food systems and in the use, conservation and development of rural energy resources; in industry, women's participation not only in the labour force (including their employment by transnational corporations), but also in the informal sector: in trade, money and finance, the access of women to credit; in science and technology, the role of women in scientific research and its application including their access to and training for not only small-scale technology but new forms of high technology.

51. Furthermore, the question of ways and means of enabling women to combine their economic roles with their family and household responsibilities, which are still almost exclusively theirs, should be given full attention. In this connection, emphasis should be placed on access by women to essential social and community services, including health care.

3. Peace

52. More than ever, peace is a paramount issue in international life. Historically, women have been more often the victims of war than the active agents of peace. To the extent that women contribute effectively to the establishment of a world economic and political order, they can help prevent the tensions that lead to international conflict.

53. The issue of women's role in the promotion of peace in all spheres of life is closely linked to the need for women's greater participation in political life at all levels on an equal basis with men.

54. Therefore, it is suggested that the Conference might focus on ways and means (a) to substantially increase the numbers of women involved in policy-making decisions regarding peace, international co-operation and disarmament; and (b) to encourage greater numbers of women to participate in non-governmental and inter-governmental organizations aimed at the strengthening of international peace and security.

55. The Conference should also address the issue of assistance to women who are victims of conflicts, mass and flagrant violations of human rights, and violence in all its aspects.^{8/}

C. Conference agenda and documentation

56. The agenda for the Conference should be developed in such a way as to achieve the dual objectives of the Conference proposed in paragraph 28 above.

57. The agenda should be so formulated as to avoid duplication or overlap of discussion but at the same time provide the flexibility required for the thorough consideration of the main themes and subthemes of the Decade as well as the priority areas of concern that the preparatory body might wish to select.

58. At the forthcoming first meeting of the preparatory body, a tentative agenda for the Conference should be formulated.

59. It is proposed that efforts be made to minimize the volume of documentation before the Conference and that documents prepared should be as concise as possible. It is suggested that, as in previous conferences, they might consist of (a) a limited number of basic documents specially related to each of the substantive items on the Conference agenda; and (b) certain background documents to supplement, as required, information and analysis appearing in the basic documents.

1. Review and appraisal of the achievements of the Decade

60. The Secretary-General proposes that the Conference have two basic documents before it for the consideration of this item. The first should be a critical review and appraisal report of the achievements of the goals of the Decade, and the obstacles encountered in the implementation of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action. The report should also contain indications on probable future trends.

61. The report should be global in scope and analytical in nature and should be based on information provided by Governments in response to a comprehensive questionnaire. Such a report should cover the period since 1975 and show trends in national experience towards the achievement of the objectives of the Decade.

62. A monitoring system for the review and appraisal of the World Plan of Action was established by the General Assembly in its resolution 3520 (XXX), following the Mexico Conference. Biennial reviews have been prepared since then. It is proposed that the biennial review that should normally have been submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirtieth session in 1984 be expanded to cover the entire Decade, and be submitted to the preparatory body at its third session, to be held in 1985, and then to the Conference itself.

63. A second basic report of consideration by the Conference under this item will be the World Survey on the Role of Women in Overall Development.

64. The survey was requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 35/78. Its scope was further elaborated by General Assembly resolution 36/74 whereby it was recommended that the survey should analyse the role of women in relation to the development issues as envisaged in the International Development Strategy focusing in particular on trade, agriculture, industry, energy, money and finance, and science and technology. The General Assembly, in its resolution 37/60 requested that the survey should be submitted to the Conference.

65. The survey, which will be based on available information, will complement the findings of the review and appraisal of national experience.

2. Strategies for implementation of national, regional and international levels

66. In line with the suggestion made in paragraph 4 above that special attention should be given to the differences that exist in the condition of women depending on national and or regional circumstances as well as to the similarities of women's condition throughout the world, it is proposed that three basic documents be before the Conference for its consideration:

(a) A first report, which was requested by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1982/26, should provide a perspective for the year 2000. This perspective should project a global picture of the future evolution of women's position in society and the particular issues likely to be of concern to women in the years to come;

(b) A second report should contain the strategies for implementation recommended by the regional preparatory meetings (which should reflect the specific priorities of the countries of each region in terms of women's advancement);

(c) A third report should be a forward-looking assessment undertaken by or in co-operation with the United Nations system of organizations, which would devise international strategies aimed at assisting in the implementation of those priorities defined and adopted by the regional preparatory meetings. This report should reflect the emphasis placed by the Council in its resolution 1982/26 on "the need to identify the most effective strategies and methods of work at the international level and to establish priorities for the United Nations system". It is premature to make proposals as to whether the above three basic documents should be submitted separately or should constitute one single comprehensive document. It is suggested that the preparatory body might consider this question at its second or third meeting and make a recommendation in this regard.

67. Further basic documents could include:

(a) The five reports of the regional inter-governmental preparatory meetings, which will be organized by the five United Nations regional commissions (see paragraph below);

(b) The three reports of the meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as preparatory body for the Conference. (See paragraph below).

68. It is proposed that, at the first meeting of the preparatory body, a list of basic documents for the Conference be approved.

3. Background documents

69. A number of background documents could serve as an input to the preparatory work of the Conference. These would largely be documents prepared for and reports of technical regional and/or interregional meetings (see paragraph 74-76 below). These would include:

(a) Reports of technical regional meetings of experts, and technical interregional meetings of experts (see paragraph below);

(b) Sectoral, regional or global reports on specific issues to be determined by the preparatory body, which will facilitate the work of the regional inter-governmental preparatory meetings and the Conference itself. In this connection, it should be pointed out that relevant organizations of the United Nations system have indicated that they will prepare a number of technical reports dealing with certain issues that fall within their competence. It is proposed that in the light of discussions in the preparatory body, the identification of the sectors and of reports to be prepared by organizations be decided at an ad hoc inter-agency meeting, which would be held after the meeting of the preparatory body. The organizations concerned should assume responsibility for the preparation, translation into the languages of the Conference and processing of these reports;

(c) National reports that individual countries themselves may wish to prepare on the condition of women, focusing on the experience gained including obstacles encountered in the achievement of the objectives of the Decade, and a forward-looking perspective. Any national reports prepared should be made available by Governments in a sufficient number of copies for distribution at the time of the Conference and or to other countries beforehand at the Government's own initiative.

Notes

1/ E/CN.6/1982/8.

2/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 4 (E/1982/14, E/CN.6/1982/14).

3/ Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14-30 July 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3).

4/ Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, Mexico City, 19 June-2 July 1975 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1), chapt. II, sect. A.

5/ Ibid., para. 8.

6/ Ibid., para. 46.

7/ General Assembly resolution 35/56, annex.

8/ The Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1982/22 on abuses against women and children requested the Secretary-General to compile a study on the action taken by Member States on this question and to submit a report to the World Conference, if so decided by the preparatory body for the Conference.



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ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY FOR
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND
APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

First session
Vienna, 23 February-4 March 1983
Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

*42-55 - Party issue
56-68 - Agenda Doc
69 Doc.*

PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

Proposals
on
substantive and organizational preparations
for the Conference

Report of the Secretary-General**

SUMMARY

This report sets out suggestions concerning the substantive and organizational aspects of the Conference and its preparation based upon the views of the Commission on the Status of Women at its twenty-ninth session, and upon views transmitted to the Secretary-General by Governments, organs and organizations of the United Nations system, and inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

* A/CONF.116/PC.1/1.

** The present document contains chapters I-III of the report. Chapter IV on the organizational aspects of preparations for the Conference will be contained in an addendum (A/CONF.116/PC.1/7/Add.1).

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I. LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND

1. In its resolution 35/136 of 11 December 1980 the General Assembly decided to convene, at the conclusion of the Decade, a World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women.
2. In 1981 the General Assembly in its resolution 36/126 requested that the Commission on the Status of Women give priority at its twenty-ninth session to the question of the preparations for the Conference to mark the end of the Decade.
3. The Commission at its twenty-ninth session, in considering that question, had before it a report by the Secretary-General on preparations for the Conference^{1/*}. Chapter IV of the Commission's report^{2/} contains a summary of its debate.
4. The Economic and Social Council, at its first regular session in 1982, considered the report of the Commission in the context of its deliberations on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women^{3/} adopted at the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women at Copenhagen in 1980. The Council, on the recommendation of the Commission on the Status of Women, adopted resolution 1982/26 on preparations for the Conference.
5. In that resolution, the Council made a number of recommendations relating to the organizational and substantive aspects of the preparations for the Conference including the preparatory body for the Conference, the number of preparatory meetings, the substantive secretariat, and preparatory activities at various levels.
6. The Council decided that the Commission on the Status of Women should be the preparatory body for the Conference, that it should operate on the basis of consensus, and invited the widest possible participation by Member States in the deliberations of the preparatory body. It recommended *inter alia* that three sessions be held, in 1983, 1984 and 1985, and that the Advancement of Women Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs should serve as the substantive secretariat of the preparatory body as well as of the Conference.
7. The Council emphasized the importance of undertaking at the conclusion of the Decade a critical review and appraisal of (a) the goals of the Decade - equality, development and peace; (b) the subthemes of employment, health and education; (c) the obstacles encountered in the implementation of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year ^{4/} adopted at the World Conference of the International Women's Year at Mexico City in 1975; and (d) the Programme of Action. A forward-looking perspective on the status of women to the year 2000 should also be undertaken. It also emphasized the need to identify the most effective strategies and methods of work at the international level and to establish priorities for the United Nations system.

*For the notes, see page 15 below.

8. Moreover, the Council invited the regional commissions to conduct consultations, within existing resources, on issues and themes for the Conference and on organizational arrangements at the regional level to prepare for the Conference, and to submit the results of those consultations to the preparatory body. Member States, non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Council and inter-governmental organizations were also invited to submit their views.

9. At its thirty-seventh session, the General Assembly, in its resolution 37/60 adopted on 3 December 1982, endorsed Council resolution 1982/26.

10. In response to requests made by the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 1982/26, a number of Member States (16), agencies and organizations of the United Nations system (25), inter-governmental organizations (8), non-governmental organizations (15) and regional commissions (4) submitted their views on possible issues and themes for the Conference and on their possible contributions. The current report, drawing upon the suggestions received and experience gained, puts forward suggestions for consideration at the first preparatory meeting for the Conference on the substantive preparations and preliminary suggestions on organizational matters.

II. FRAME OF REFERENCE

11. By mandate of the Council and the General Assembly, the Conference is to be closely linked with the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action. The Conference must therefore undertake a critical review and appraisal of the achievements of the goals of the Decade: equality, development and peace, and of the subthemes: employment, health and education, and formulate a forward-looking perspective on the status of women based on the experience gained in the implementation of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action. The Conference should also undertake a critical review of the international efforts undertaken during the Decade to assist in achieving its goals with a view to proposing priorities and strategies for the United Nations system.

12. It might be useful, in order to assist the preparatory body in its deliberations, to describe succinctly the thrust of both the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action, since both these documents are, by mandate, to constitute the frame of reference of the Conference.

13. The proclamation of International Women's Year 1975 was a milestone in the efforts of the international community of nations to focus on the inferior condition of women and to intensify actions to improve it. The General Assembly decided to devote that year to intensified action: (a) to promote equality between men and women; (b) to ensure the full integration of women in the total development process; and (c) to recognize the importance of women's increasing contribution to the development of friendly relations and co-operation between States, and to the strengthening of world peace.

14. This threefold objective: equality, development and peace, was the focus of the World Plan of Action. The Mexico Conference brought to light the seriously disadvantaged position of women in the context of modern society and the World Plan of Action provided the vital impetus for action to redress imbalances that have contributed to women's adverse situation in society.

15. The World Plan of Action, which was subsequently endorsed by the General Assembly in 1975, provided guidelines for action at all levels over a 10-year period as part of a sustained, long-term effort to achieve the objectives of the International Women's Year. It placed great emphasis on national action, and at the same time stressed that the "new measures taken to improve their women's situation as well as their role in the process of development must be an integral part of the global project for the establishment of a new economic order."^{5/} Since wide divergencies had existed in the situation of women in various societies, cultures and regions reflecting different needs and problems, the World Plan of Action recommended that each country should decide on its own national strategy and identify its own targets and priorities within the World Plan of Action.

16. The World Plan of Action stressed that while integrated programmes for the benefit of all members of society should be the basis for action in implementing it, special measures on behalf of women whose status was the result of particularly discriminatory practices would be necessary.

17. The World Plan of Action identified nine specific areas for national action: (a) international co-operation and the strengthening of international peace; (b) political participation; (c) education and training; (d) employment and related economic roles; (e) health and nutrition; (f) the family in modern society; (g) population; (h) housing and related facilities; and (i) other social questions (including social services, migrant women, elderly women, female offenders, prostitution and the illicit traffic in women). It placed high priority on the need for research, data collection and analysis on all aspects of the situation of women, which were lacking or inadequate, and on the use of the mass communication media that could exercise a significant influence in removing prejudices and stereotypes, major obstacles in improving women's condition.

18. The World Plan of Action set forth certain specific objectives to be achieved as a minimum during the first half of the Decade. These objectives, which were to be developed in more specific terms in regional plans of action, were defined as follows:

"(a) Marked increase in literacy and civic education of women, especially in rural areas;

"(b) The extension of co-educational technical and vocational training in basic skills to women and men in the industrial and agricultural sectors;

"(c) Equal access at every level of education, compulsory primary school education and the measures necessary to prevent school drop-outs;

"(d) Increased employment opportunities for women, reduction of unemployment and increased efforts to eliminate discrimination in the terms and conditions of employment;

"(e) The establishment and increase of the infrastructural services required in both rural and urban areas;

"(f) The enactment of legislation on voting and eligibility for election on equal terms with men, equal opportunity and conditions of employment including remuneration, and on equality in legal capacity and the exercise thereof;

"(g) Encouragement of a greater participation of women in policy-making positions at the local, national and international levels;

"(h) Increased provision for comprehensive measures for health education and services, sanitation, nutrition, family education, family planning and other welfare services;

"(i) Provision for parity in the exercise of civil, social and political rights such as those pertaining to marriage, citizenship and commerce;

"(j) Recognition of the economic value of women's work in the home in domestic food production and marketing and voluntary activities not traditionally remunerated;

"(k) The direction of formal, non-formal and life-long education towards the re-evaluation of the man and woman, in order to ensure their full realization as an individual in the family and in society;

"(l) The promotion of women's organizations as an interim measure within workers' organizations and educational, economic and professional institutions;

"(m) The development of modern rural technology, cottage industry, pre-school day centres; time- and energy-saving devices so as to help reduce the heavy work load of women, particularly those living in rural sectors and for the urban poor and thus facilitate the full participation of women in community, national and international affairs;

"(n) The establishment of interdisciplinary and multisectoral machinery within the government for accelerating the achievement of equal opportunities for women and their full integration into national life."^{6/}

19. The initiatives of the Mexico Conference led to the proclamation by the General Assembly of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1976-1985: Equality, Development and Peace, to be devoted to sustained action to implement the World Plan of Action and related resolutions. The triple objectives of equality, development and peace remain fundamental to all efforts to integrate women into political, economic, social and cultural life.

20. Five years later, at the midpoint of the Decade, the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women was convened at Copenhagen from 14 to 30 July 1980. Its purpose was to review the progress made at national, regional and international levels towards achieving the objectives of the Decade within the framework of the World Plan of Action.

21. In accordance with specific mandates emanating from the General Assembly, the Conference was to emphasize development, and within that theme the international community selected employment, health and education as subthemes to be given special attention. The Conference, while reaffirming the main principles that were enunciated at Mexico went a step further in that its deliberations were based on the premise that there was no issue that did not concern women to the same extent that it concerned men, although there were some issues that concerned women even more than men. A programme of action for the second half of the Decade was adopted that placed its recommendations for national, regional and international action within an historical and multi-sectoral perspective.

22. No attempt is being made here to summarize either the review undertaken at the Copenhagen Conference or the many recommendations contained in the Programme of Action that it adopted. However, it might be useful to recall that the Conference noted the overall slow pace of progress towards the achievement of the goals of the Decade, particularly in the field of development and in the areas of the subthemes, employment, health and education. It also stressed the worsening of the situation of women in the so-called "backward sectors", particularly with respect to the conditions of employment and education for women in the rural and marginal urban sectors. The Conference drew from its review lessons for the future in order to accelerate women's participation in the development process. The first was that any measures for women isolated from the major priorities, strategies and sectors of development could not result in any substantial progress toward attaining the goals of the Decade. Second, legislative and developmental action, unless accompanied by positive and concerted action to change attitudes and prejudices, could not be fully effective. Third, more provision of equal rights, development services and opportunities would not, by themselves, help women to benefit without simultaneous special supportive measures, e.g. legal aid, earmarking of benefits, information and knowledge, institutional innovation.

23. The Conference acknowledged that the objectives of the Decade could not be realized without an unequivocal commitment at national, regional and global levels of women's participation in all aspects of development. It recognized that the subthemes of the Conference were of crucial concern to the advancement of women and were interrelated to all aspects of development. It acknowledged that the principles of the right of women to work, to receive equal pay for work of equal value, to be provided with equal opportunities for training and education were clearly stated in the World Plan of Action, which also stressed that the full participation of women in development required that they should be given adequate and equitable access to health, nutrition and other social services, including family planning and child-care facilities. It emphasized that in all countries there was a need for continuing attention to the implementation of these principles, and that for the remainder of the Decade they should be given high priority in government planning programmes.

24. The Programme of Action adopted at the Conference delineated specific action to ensure that the objectives of the World Plan of Action were met at the end of the Decade.

25. The Copenhagen Conference provided an occasion for assessing the condition of women against the objectives established in the World Plan of Action, and also against the conditions then prevailing in the world. In so doing, its deliberations served to advance international understanding of the fact that women, far from being simply a social welfare sector or a disadvantaged group, were an integral part of every global concern in the areas of equality, development and peace.

26. The attention of the world community was soon again directed to the role and contribution of women in global issues of concern. The concerns of women, particularly in the developing and least developed of the developing countries, were incorporated in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade.

27. The International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade^{7/} foresaw that a substantial improvement in the status of women would take place during the Decade (paragraph 8). It stressed that the important set of measures to improve the status of women contained in the World Plan of Action and the important agreed measures relating to the sectors of the International Development Strategy in the Programme of Action should be implemented (paragraph 168). One of the stated goals and objectives of the Strategy was that:

"Full and effective participation by the entire population at all stages of the development process should be ensured. In line with the Programme of Action ... women should play an active role in that process. Appropriate measures should be taken for profound social and economic changes and for the elimination of the structural imbalances which compound and perpetuate women's disadvantages. To this end, all countries will pursue the objectives of securing women's equal participation both as agents and as beneficiaries in all sectors and at all levels of the development process. This should include women's greater access to nutrition, health services, education and training, employment, and financial resources and their greater participation in the analysis, planning, decision-making, implementation and evaluation of development. Changes that will lead to the sharing of responsibilities by men and women in the family and in the management of the household should be encouraged. Institutional and administrative mechanisms to accomplish these objectives should be strengthened."
(paragraph 51)

III. SUBSTANTIVE ASPECTS OF THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

28. At this preliminary stage, the purpose of the Conference might be described as follows:

(a) To provide an international forum for a critical review and appraisal of the achievements of the Decade, the difficulties encountered in achieving the objectives of the Decade, and probable future trends;

(b) To formulate strategies for effective implementation that would identify and recommend concrete methods and means for the advancement of women to be applied at national, regional and international levels, based on experience gained during the Decade and on perspectives to the year 2000.

29. Replies received from Governments, organizations of the United Nations system including the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, inter-governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations for the most part confirm that the critical review and appraisal of progress achieved during the Decade in implementation of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action should provide sufficient basis to assess the experience during the Decade and to suggest action for the years to come. The main themes and subthemes of the Decade were also almost unanimously considered appropriate for discussion to consider progress made and obstacles encountered and as areas for continuing concern.

30. The Conference should then keep a link with the issues and concerns of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action and must at the same time identify new issues for the future. It seems that a balance should be maintained between continuing needs and emerging areas of concern, as well as between issues that are conceived as being specific to women and those that affect society as a whole and require women's full and equal participation with men, such as the establishment of the New International Economic Order and the implementation of the International Development Strategy.

31. In the light of the above, the preparatory body might wish to decide that the themes and sub-themes of the Decade should constitute the broad thematic framework of the deliberations of the Conference within which certain specific issues should be given priority attention.

32. Specific issues suggested for priority attention in the replies received ranged from political to socio-economic issues, including women in the context of the New International Economic Order, the participation of women in the process of development, particularly in relation to the economic situation; policy- and decision-making; agricultural and industrial development; the role of women in agrarian reform and rural development; their role in the tertiary as well as the informal sectors of the economy; women and energy; science and technology; transnational corporations as they affect women; employment and unemployment; early retirement; the use of leisure time; food, water, sanitation and shelter; functional literacy; children's education; population and family planning; primary health care, nutrition; mass media; participation of women in the struggle for peace against colonialism and apartheid; refugees and displaced women; human rights violations; equality of opportunity; sharing of household responsibilities; and the development of indicators, among others.

33. It is evident from the above that the issues proposed for priority attention at the Conference are very wide ranging. This demonstrates the complexity and multi-dimensional character of the women's issue. There will be a need, however, to carefully select the priority issues of the Conference within the themes and the subthemes of the Decade if the Conference is to probe in depth into the issues deemed to be of importance and propose appropriate action.

34. Thus, with a view to assisting the preparatory body in its deliberations on the substantive aspects of the preparations for the Conference, an effort has been made by the Secretary-General to identify approaches and provide suggestions on some specific issues that may deserve priority attention at the Conference. This has been done on the basis of existing findings and experience gained since 1975, taking into account the views expressed in the replies received.

A. Approaches and strategies for implementation

35. Findings show repeatedly that the problems and issues already identified both in the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action were correctly diagnosed. Still the progress achieved in implementing the recommendations contained in these two major documents remains quite inadequate, although a measure of improvement of women's condition is registered in some instances.

In certain areas of the world, a deterioration is taking place erasing whatever modest gains were made. This situation cannot be attributed only to the world economic crisis that became more acute during the Decade. Women have always formed the bulk of the poor, the illiterate, the unskilled and the unemployed or under-employed. They have tended to be the first to bear the brunt of any economic downturn. Thus, while the world economic crisis may have played its part and affected progress, it may not be considered the only factor. The usual factors which hinder progress have continued to play their role, most important among them has been the inadequacy of implementation of strategies used to integrate women in development.

36. It is worth noting that there is still insufficient reflection of the women's dimension in overall and sectoral policy-making at all levels. That is to say that the instances are few of explicit articulation and incorporation of a component aimed at women's participation in the development process as agents and as beneficiaries into overall national development plans and policies. Therefore, the question of improving strategies and their implementation in national, regional and international plans and policies that would ensure women's participation in development continues to be an urgent priority.

37. Given that an important requirement for the success of policy-making is the extent to which it reflects the real needs of the population they intend to meet, implementation strategies to improve women's condition must, therefore, reflect women's true needs and aspirations. Policy-makers at all levels should be fully informed of these concerns in order to weigh them in the setting of priorities.

38. Moreover, there is a need for planners and policy-makers to bear in mind that in addition to an integrated approach - that is an approach that would incorporate the women's dimension into broader development strategies, plans and programmes - they should elaborate special measures designed to correct critical imbalances affecting women that will be phased out when such imbalances have been redressed.

39. In view of the limited number of women as yet to be involved in decision-making, the Conference might wish to devise concrete ways and means by which to involve women in the policy-making process and to ensure that full use is made of existing instruments and mechanisms that specify the needs and concerns of women.

40. Thus, the Conference should lead to the formulation of concrete strategies to implement the goals and objectives of the Decade as well as of new aims that may be recommended by the Conference. Such strategies should be defined at the national, regional and international levels.

41. Special attention should be given to the differences that exist in the condition of women that depend on national and regional political, socio-economic or cultural circumstances as well as to the similarities of women's condition throughout the world.



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COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY FOR
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND
APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

First session
Vienna, 23 February-4 March 1983
Item 3 of the provisional agenda *

PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

Proposals
on
substantive and organizational preparations
for the Conference

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum**

* A/CONF.116/PC/1.

** This addendum contains chapter IV of the report of the Secretary-General and is reproduced here without formal editing. For chapters I-III, see document A/CONF.116/PC/7. The financial implications of the proposals made herein will be circulated in document A/CONF.116/PC/7/Add.2.

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IV. ORGANIZATIONAL ASPECTS OF PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

A. Conference Agenda and Documentation

1. The Agenda for the Conference should be developed in such a way as to achieve the dual objectives of the Conference, which should be:

- to provide an international forum for a critical review and appraisal of the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women 1976-1985, the difficulties encountered in achieving the objectives of the Decade, and probable future trends;

- to formulate strategies for effective implementation which would identify and recommend concrete methods and means for the advancement of women to be applied at national, regional and international levels, based on experience gained during the Decade and on perspectives to the year 2000.

2. The agenda should be so formulated as to avoid duplication or overlap of discussion and at the same time provide the flexibility required for the thorough consideration of the main themes and sub-themes of the Decade as well as the priority areas of concern that the Preparatory Body might wish to select.

3. At the present session of the Preparatory Body, a tentative agenda for the Conference should be formulated.

4. It is proposed that efforts be made to minimize the volume of documentation before the Conference and that documents prepared should be as brief and concise as possible. It is suggested that they might consist of:

- a limited number of basic documents specifically related to each of the substantive items on the Conference agenda; and

- certain background documents to supplement, as required, information and analysis appearing in the basic documents.

(1) Basic documentation

(a) Documentation relating to the review and appraisal of the achievements of the Decade

5. The Secretary-General would like to propose that the Conference have two basic documents before it for the consideration of this subject.

6. The first would be a critical review and appraisal report of the achievements of the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women - Equality, Development and Peace - and the sub-themes of Employment, Health and Education, and the obstacles encountered in the implementation of the World Plan and the Programme of Action. The report would also contain indications on probable future trends. The report would be global in scope and analytical in nature and would be based on information provided by Governments in response to a comprehensive questionnaire. Such a report would cover the period since 1975 and would show trends in national experience towards the achievement of the objectives of the Decade.

7. It should be recalled in this connexion that a monitoring system for the review and appraisal of the World Plan of Action for the Achievement of the Objectives of the International Women's Year was established by the General Assembly in its resolution 3520 (XXX), following the Mexico Conference, biennial reviews have been prepared since then. In view of the forthcoming Conference, it is proposed that the biennial review which normally should have been submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirtieth session in 1984 be expanded and be submitted for review by the Preparatory Body as its third session to be held in 1985 and then to the Conference itself.

8. A second basic report for consideration by the Conference under this subject would be the World Survey on the Role of Women in Over-all Development. The survey was requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 35/78. Its scope was further elaborated by General Assembly resolution 36/74 whereby it was recommended that the survey should analyze the role of women in relation to the development issues as envisaged in the International Development Strategy for the United Nations Development Decade focusing in particular on trade, agriculture, industry, energy, money and finance and science and technology. The General Assembly, in its resolution 37/60 requested that the survey should be submitted to the Conference. The survey, which will be based on a variety of available sources of information, would complement the findings of the review and appraisal of national experience.

(b) Documentation relating to strategies for implementation at national, regional and international levels

9. In line with the suggestions made above, that special attention should be given to the differences which exist in the condition of women depending on national and/or regional circumstances as well as to the similarities of women's condition throughout the world, it is proposed that the following main basic documents be before the Conference for its consideration under this subject.

10. A first report, pursuant to a request by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1982/26, would provide a perspective to the year 2000. This perspective would project a global picture of the future evolution of women's status and the particular issues likely to be of concern to women in the years to come, and would contain the consolidated perspectives developed at the regional level focusing on issues of particular concern to each region.

11. A second report would contain the strategies for implementation recommended by the regional preparatory meetings (which would reflect the specific priorities of the countries of each region in terms of women's advancement) and global strategies as discussed by the Preparatory Body.

12. A third report would be a forward-looking assessment undertaken by or in cooperation with the United Nations system of organizations which would suggest international strategies aimed at assisting in the implementation of global priorities. This report would reflect the emphasis placed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1982/26 on "the need to identify the most effective strategies and methods of work at the international level and to establish priorities for the United Nations system".

(2) Other basic documents

13. The report of the five regional intergovernmental preparatory meetings which would be organized at the five United Nations Regional Commissions would be available.

14. The final report of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as Preparatory Body for the Conference would also be available.

15. It is proposed that, at the first meeting of the Preparatory Body, a list of basic documents for the Conference be approved.

(3) Background documentation

16. A number of background documents could be made available to the Conference, in the languages they were originally issued in, as they would constitute important inputs to its preparatory work. These would largely consist of documents prepared for and/or reports of, technical and international meetings as follows:

(a) Reports of technical regional meetings of experts which will facilitate the work of the regional intergovernmental preparatory meetings and the Conference itself;

(b) Interregional reports on specific issues, including rural women;

(c) National reports that individual countries themselves may wish to prepare on the conditions of women, focusing on the experience gained including obstacles encountered in the achievements of the objectives of the Decade, and a forward looking perspective. Any national reports prepared should be made available by Governments, in sufficient number of copies for distribution at the time of the Conference and/or to other countries beforehand at the Government's own initiative.

(4) Other documentation

17. A number of United Nations organizations have indicated that they would prepare technical reports and information materials on issues within their fields of competence. It is proposed that the identification of the sectors and of reports to be presented by organizations be taken up at an Ad Hoc interagency meeting which would be held after the first session of the preparatory body. The organizations concerned would be expected to assume responsibility for preparing, translating into the languages of the Conference and reproducing these reports in quantity for distribution at the Conference.

B. Sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women as Preparatory Body for the Conference

18. Pursuant to the Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26, the Commission on the Status of Women will hold a second session as preparatory body in 1984 following its thirtieth regular session and a third in 1985. At the current session of the Preparatory Body, a preliminary agenda for the

1984 preparatory session should be formulated.

C. Other preparatory activities

19. It is proposed that regional technical and intergovernmental meetings be convened in collaboration with the regional commissions in preparation for the Conference.

20. The experience gained from the preparations for the 1975 World Conference of the International Women's Year (Mexico City) and the 1980 World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women (Copenhagen) revealed in-depth preparatory work at the regional level is essential for the success of such conferences. This will be even more so for this third World Conference since it has the task to review and appraise the achievements of the ten-year period 1976-1985 designated as the United Nations Decade for Women and should devise implementation strategies for the future.

21. It is therefore proposed that two types of meetings be held at the regional level, that is, intergovernmental preparatory meetings and meetings of a technical nature.

22. Five regional technical meetings would be convened, each under the aegis of one of the five United Nations regional commissions and the Conference Secretariat in cooperation with the specialized agencies. Each would provide an in-depth technical review of key issues relating to women of concern in the region and would identify targets and strategies of implementation and perspectives to the year 2000. Approximately twelve experts would be invited to attend each meeting.

23. With respect to intergovernmental meetings, which would be organized by the regional commissions in cooperation with the Conference Secretariat it is proposed that Governments of countries in each of the regions be invited to designate representatives of attend them to discuss the review and appraisal as well as to make recommendations on strategies for implementation and on perspectives to the year 2000 drawing upon the results of the regional technical meetings of experts, and other studies as appropriate.

24. The possibility of holding a limited number of sectoral interregional seminars on priority issues and topics of the Conference will be explored. Specific issues to be covered would be decided in the light of the exchange of views of the Preparatory Body and in consultation with organizations concerned. Those seminars would be organized by the substantive Conference Secretariat and relevant organs and organizations of the United Nations system. It should be noted in this respect that in response to operative para. 4 of General Assembly resolution 37/59, which requested the Secretary-General to consider holding within the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women as a matter of priority, an interregional seminar on national experience relating to the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas, with special emphasis on the problems of developing countries, it is proposed to hold such a seminar in 1984.

25. Ad Hoc interagency meetings will also be held in order to co-ordinate substantive and organizational preparations for the Conference by the relevant organs and organizations of the United Nations system. The first such interagency meeting will be held in Vienna prior to the first meeting of the Preparatory Body. It is envisaged that a second interagency meeting be held after the first meeting of the Preparatory Body in order to determine the inputs of organizations in light of the recommendations made by the first preparatory meeting.

26. The role and participation of non-governmental organizations prior to and during the Conference, including at regional and sectoral meetings, need to be defined at an early stage as their input in the past has been very significant.

27. It would be desirable if preparation for the Conference in countries themselves could begin immediately. For this purpose, it is suggested, as a first step, that countries may wish to establish national committees or similar focal points at a high level and to assist in national level preparations for the Conference in ensuring liaison within the country and facilitating contacts with the Conference Secretariat. It may be recalled that the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1982/26, encouraged Member States to consider establishing such Committees. It is hoped that such arrangements will be made by all Governments.

D. Public information activities

28. The Secretary-General believes that the Conference will benefit substantially from public awareness of the achievements made during the Decade and from continuing support of the objectives of the Decade. Based on the experience of the last two conferences held during the Decade, the Department of Public Information should again be the focal point for a co-ordinated public information programme at the national, regional and international levels.

29. To this end, the Secretary-General is proposing an information programme leading up to and covering the Conference, and including the post-Conference period. The programme will make use of the variety of communication techniques, including inter alia, print and audio-visual media, to reach opinion and policy-makers, non-governmental organizations, the academic community, the general public and the media (A/CONF.116/PC/8).

E. Secretariat support

30. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 37/17A, the Director-General for International Economic Cooperation will set up a steering Committee under his chairmanship and with the participation of the heads of all United Nations entities most directly concerned. The task of the steering committee will be to provide guidance on major policy issues affecting the substantial direction of Conference preparations and, in particular, to ensure conformity of the preparatory work with the general strategies and priorities established by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, as well as the substantive coordination of such work with related activities undertaken within the United Nations system.

31. In addition, in keeping with the same resolution, the Secretary-General will establish at the Secretariat level a Conference Management Committee to guide and coordinate all Secretariat activities during the preparatory phase of the Conference. The Committee will be composed of representatives of all Secretariat departments and offices involved in the preparation and organization of the Conference, under the Chairmanship of the Secretary-General or Executive Secretary of the Conference.

32. The substantive secretariat for the Conference and for the preparatory activities will be the Branch for the Advancement of Women in the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs as requested in the Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26.

33. The programme budget implications of the proposals contained in the report of the Secretary-General on substantive and organizational preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women are contained in an addendum to this report (A/CONF.116/PC/7 Add. 2).



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PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

Proposals
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Report of the Secretary-General

Corrigendum

Document A/CONF.116/PC.1/7, dated 4 January 1983, should bear the symbol
A/CONF.116/PC/7.

Cover page

The first footnote should read A/CONF.116/PC/1.

Second footnote, line 3: the symbol should read A/CONF.116/PC/7/Add.1.

Table of contents

To the table of contents add

IV. ORGANIZATIONAL ASPECTS OF PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE*

At the bottom of the page add the footnote

*To be issued as document A/CONF.116/PC/7/Add.1.

Page 12

Delete section C (paragraphs 56-69) and amend table of contents
accordingly.

B. Suggestions for some specific priority issues

42. The goals and objectives laid down in the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action and expressed in the themes and subthemes of the Decade are both continuing and evolving concerns.

43. In order to achieve these goals and objectives the interrelations between the themes and subthemes must be strengthened.

1. Equality

44. The issue of equality of rights of women and men and of discrimination against women is a continuing concern, although it has evolved in some of its aspects. Thus, while constitutional and legislative guarantees of the principles of equal rights and responsibilities of women and men, and of non-discrimination on the grounds of sex, have been enacted in many countries, there is often a wide gap between legal provisions and actual practice.

45. The preparatory body might wish to recommend that within the theme of equality, special emphasis be placed on the ability of women to assume responsibilities at all levels and all sectors without discrimination.

46. Underlying this major issue, the fundamental question of the traditional sex stereotypes for men and women including their parental functions, particularly as reinforced by the mass media, should be addressed at the Conference.

2. Development

47. It has become evident that economic changes and progress that took place in recent decades have not only been unevenly distributed among countries and social groups but have been unequally shared by men and women. The equal participation of women in the decision-making process is needed to correct the imbalances and enhance the development process.

48. At this particular time certain issues require further attention because it has been demonstrated that major obstacles persist or are emerging that prevent women from full and equal participation in development as agents and beneficiaries and that continue to affect the well-being of women.

49. The subthemes of the Copenhagen Conference, employment, health and education, should continue to be a matter of concern for the Conference as substantial improvement of women's condition in the areas of these subthemes are fundamental to any real improvement in women's participation in the development process. However, in order to articulate practical approaches that would accelerate the achievement of the goals of the Decade, as far as the development theme is concerned, it is essential to interrelate progress in these crucial areas with steps to be taken to ensure women's participation in the major sectors of the economy.

50. Therefore, it is suggested that the subthemes of employment and education be further reviewed in relation to women's increased participation in the following sectors as highlighted by the International Development Strategy: agriculture, industry, trade, money and finance; energy, science and technology. For example, an important issue in agriculture is the role of women in national food systems and in the use, conservation and development of rural energy resources; in industry, women's participation not only in the labour force (including their employment by transnational corporations), but also in the informal sector: in trade, money and finance, the access of women to credit; in science and technology, the role of women in scientific research and its application including their access to and training for not only small-scale technology but new forms of high technology.

51. Furthermore, the question of ways and means of enabling women to combine their economic roles with their family and household responsibilities, which are still almost exclusively theirs, should be given full attention. In this connection, emphasis should be placed on access by women to essential social and community services, including health care.

3. Peace

52. More than ever, peace is a paramount issue in international life. Historically, women have been more often the victims of war than the active agents of peace. To the extent that women contribute effectively to the establishment of a world economic and political order, they can help prevent the tensions that lead to international conflict.

53. The issue of women's role in the promotion of peace in all spheres of life is closely linked to the need for women's greater participation in political life at all levels on an equal basis with men.

54. Therefore, it is suggested that the Conference might focus on ways and means (a) to substantially increase the numbers of women involved in policy-making decisions regarding peace, international co-operation and disarmament; and (b) to encourage greater numbers of women to participate in non-governmental and inter-governmental organizations aimed at the strengthening of international peace and security.

55. The Conference should also address the issue of assistance to women who are victims of conflicts, mass and flagrant violations of human rights, and violence in all its aspects.^{8/}

C. Conference agenda and documentation

56. The agenda for the Conference should be developed in such a way as to achieve the dual objectives of the Conference proposed in paragraph 28 above.

57. The agenda should be so formulated as to avoid duplication or overlap of discussion but at the same time provide the flexibility required for the thorough consideration of the main themes and subthemes of the Decade as well as the priority areas of concern that the preparatory body might wish to select.

58. At the forthcoming first meeting of the preparatory body, a tentative agenda for the Conference should be formulated.

59. It is proposed that efforts be made to minimize the volume of documentation before the Conference and that documents prepared should be as concise as possible. It is suggested that, as in previous conferences, they might consist of (a) a limited number of basic documents specially related to each of the substantive items on the Conference agenda; and (b) certain background documents to supplement, as required, information and analysis appearing in the basic documents.

1. Review and appraisal of the achievements of the Decade

60. The Secretary-General proposes that the Conference have two basic documents before it for the consideration of this item. The first should be a critical review and appraisal report of the achievements of the goals of the Decade, and the obstacles encountered in the implementation of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action. The report should also contain indications on probable future trends.

61. The report should be global in scope and analytical in nature and should be based on information provided by Governments in response to a comprehensive questionnaire. Such a report should cover the period since 1975 and show trends in national experience towards the achievement of the objectives of the Decade.

62. A monitoring system for the review and appraisal of the World Plan of Action was established by the General Assembly in its resolution 3520 (XXX), following the Mexico Conference. Biennial reviews have been prepared since then. It is proposed that the biennial review that should normally have been submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirtieth session in 1984 be expanded to cover the entire Decade, and be submitted to the preparatory body at its third session, to be held in 1985, and then to the Conference itself.

63. A second basic report of consideration by the Conference under this item will be the World Survey on the Role of Women in Overall Development.

64. The survey was requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 35/78. Its scope was further elaborated by General Assembly resolution 36/74 whereby it was recommended that the survey should analyse the role of women in relation to the development issues as envisaged in the International Development Strategy focusing in particular on trade, agriculture, industry, energy, money and finance, and science and technology. The General Assembly, in its resolution 37/60 requested that the survey should be submitted to the Conference.

65. The survey, which will be based on available information, will complement the findings of the review and appraisal of national experience.

2. Strategies for implementation of national, regional and international levels

66. In line with the suggestion made in paragraph 4 above that special attention should be given to the differences that exist in the condition of women depending on national and or regional circumstances as well as to the similarities of women's condition throughout the world, it is proposed that three basic documents be before the Conference for its consideration:

(a) A first report, which was requested by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1982/26, should provide a perspective for the year 2000. This perspective should project a global picture of the future evolution of women's position in society and the particular issues likely to be of concern to women in the years to come;

(b) A second report should contain the strategies for implementation recommended by the regional preparatory meetings (which should reflect the specific priorities of the countries of each region in terms of women's advancement);

(c) A third report should be a forward-looking assessment undertaken by or in co-operation with the United Nations system of organizations, which would devise international strategies aimed at assisting in the implementation of those priorities defined and adopted by the regional preparatory meetings. This report should reflect the emphasis placed by the Council in its resolution 1982/26 on "the need to identify the most effective strategies and methods of work at the international level and to establish priorities for the United Nations system". It is premature to make proposals as to whether the above three basic documents should be submitted separately or should constitute one single comprehensive document. It is suggested that the preparatory body might consider this question at its second or third meeting and make a recommendation in this regard.

67. Further basic documents could include:

(a) The five reports of the regional inter-governmental preparatory meetings, which will be organized by the five United Nations regional commissions (see paragraph below);

(b) The three reports of the meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as preparatory body for the Conference. (See paragraph below).

68. It is proposed that, at the first meeting of the preparatory body, a list of basic documents for the Conference be approved.

3. Background documents

69. A number of background documents could serve as an input to the preparatory work of the Conference. These would largely be documents prepared for and reports of technical regional and/or interregional meetings (see paragraph 74-76 below). These would include:

(a) Reports of technical regional meetings of experts, and technical interregional meetings of experts (see paragraph below);

(b) Sectoral, regional or global reports on specific issues to be determined by the preparatory body, which will facilitate the work of the regional inter-governmental preparatory meetings and the Conference itself. In this connection, it should be pointed out that relevant organizations of the United Nations system have indicated that they will prepare a number of technical reports dealing with certain issues that fall within their competence. It is proposed that in the light of discussions in the preparatory body, the identification of the sectors and of reports to be prepared by organizations be decided at an ad hoc inter-agency meeting, which would be held after the meeting of the preparatory body. The organizations concerned should assume responsibility for the preparation, translation into the languages of the Conference and processing of these reports;

(c) National reports that individual countries themselves may wish to prepare on the condition of women, focusing on the experience gained including obstacles encountered in the achievement of the objectives of the Decade, and a forward-looking perspective. Any national reports prepared should be made available by Governments in a sufficient number of copies for distribution at the time of the Conference and or to other countries beforehand at the Government's own initiative.

Notes

1/ E/CN.6/1982/8.

2/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 4 (E/1982/14, E/CN.6/1982/14).

3/ Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14-30 July 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3).

4/ Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, Mexico City, 19 June-2 July 1975 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1), chapt. II, sect. A.

5/ Ibid., para. 8.

6/ Ibid., para. 46.

7/ General Assembly resolution 35/56, annex.

8/ The Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1982/22 on abuses against women and children requested the Secretary-General to compile a study on the action taken by Member States on this question and to submit a report to the World Conference, if so decided by the preparatory body for the Conference.

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COMMISSION DE LA CONDITION DE LA FEMME
CONSTITUEE EN ORGANE PREPARATOIRE
DE LA CONFERENCE MONDIALE CHARGEE
D'EXAMINER ET D'EVALUER LES RESULTATS
DE LA DECENNIE DES NATIONS UNIES
POUR LA FEMME

Première session

Vienne, 23 février-4 mars 1983
Point 3 de l'ordre du jour provisoire*

PREPARATIFS DE LA CONFERENCE

Avis d'institutions spécialisées, d'organismes et d'organisations
du système des Nations Unies sur les préparatifs de la Conférence

Rapport du Secrétaire général

RESUME

Le présent rapport, établi en application du paragraphe 10 de la résolution 1982/26 du Conseil économique et social, récapitule les avis formulés par 24 institutions spécialisées, organismes et organisations du système des Nations Unies sur les préparatifs de la Conférence.

*A/CONF.116/PC/1.

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INTRODUCTION

1. Dans sa résolution 1982/26 relative aux préparatifs de la Conférence mondiale chargée d'examiner et d'évaluer les résultats de la Décennie des Nations Unies pour la femme, le Conseil économique et social a prié le Secrétaire général d'engager des consultations interorganisations au sujet des questions et thèmes à aborder lors de la Conférence en vue de présenter un rapport interinstitutions à l'organe préparatoire lors de sa première session.

2. Le présent rapport, établi en application de cette résolution, récapitule les avis formulés par des institutions spécialisées, des organismes et des organisations du système des Nations Unies. En outre, à sa deuxième session ordinaire, tenue en octobre 1982, le Comité consultatif pour les questions de fond (questions de programme) est convenu qu'une réunion interinstitutions chargée d'examiner les préparatifs de la Conférence devait se tenir au début de 1983, bien avant la première session de l'organe préparatoire. Il est prévu de tenir cette réunion avant celle de la Commission constituée en organe préparatoire.

RESUME DES REPONSES

A. Examen et évaluation globaux des objectifs de la Décennie

3. Le PNUD a noté que le Plan d'action mondial en vue de la réalisation des objectifs de l'Année internationale de la femme¹/_{*} et le Programme d'action pour la seconde moitié de la Décennie des Nations Unies pour la femme²/_{*}, adoptés respectivement à Mexico et à Copenhague, contenaient tous deux des dispositions en vue d'un examen et d'une évaluation périodiques des progrès accomplis dans la réalisation de leurs objectifs déclarés. Le PNUD a par ailleurs noté qu'il conviendrait, au besoin, d'examiner les progrès réalisés dans le cadre de la Stratégie internationale du développement pour la troisième Décennie des Nations Unies pour le développement³/_{*} et de l'instauration d'un nouvel ordre économique international.

4. Dans ce contexte général, le PNUD a estimé qu'il existait des relations étroites entre des questions telles que la condition des femmes pauvres (en milieu tant urbain que rural), les services essentiels dont ont besoin les femmes et la possibilité qu'elles ont de contribuer à la fourniture de ces services, sans lesquels elles ne sauraient réellement contribuer au développement (soins de santé primaires, installations d'approvisionnement en eau et d'assainissement, énergie, réseaux routiers et moyens de transport, éducation et formation), le rôle des femmes dans la production et le traitement des denrées alimentaires ainsi que dans la création de petites industries (en milieu tant urbain que rural). Le PNUD a conclu qu'il pourrait aussi être intéressant d'entreprendre une étude sur les avantages et les inconvénients de la création de mécanismes spéciaux pour les questions féminines à l'échelon national et de la mise au point d'indicateurs permettant de déterminer et d'examiner le rôle des femmes dans la société.

* Pour les notes, voir page 25 ci-après.

5. La Banque mondiale a déclaré que puisque le but de la Conférence était d'examiner et d'évaluer les résultats de la Décennie, le thème principal de la Conférence devrait être constitué par une telle évaluation sur la base du Plan d'action mondial et du Programme d'action. Cette évaluation porterait aussi sur la Stratégie pour la troisième Décennie du développement ainsi que sur les résolutions ayant trait au Plan d'action mondial et au Programme d'action qui ont été adoptées par d'autres conférences telles que la Conférence des Nations Unies sur la science et la technique au service du développement, tenue à Vienne en août 1979. En conséquence, la Banque a estimé qu'une telle évaluation aiderait à déterminer les facteurs qui ont éventuellement empêché des progrès plus rapides. La Banque mondiale a conclu que le Plan d'action mondial et le Programme d'action constituaient un cadre d'action approprié, que la Conférence devait s'attacher, non pas à les remanier, mais plutôt à proposer, après avoir défini les facteurs en question des mesures permettant d'y remédier, notamment à l'intention des responsables nationaux appelés à mettre en oeuvre les recommandations.

6. Dans ce contexte, la Banque mondiale a déclaré qu'elle s'attendait que l'on fasse figurer parmi les questions prioritaires celles qui concernent l'emploi en général les conditions sanitaires et les services de base disponibles dans les zones rurales, l'agriculture et la production alimentaire; les femmes occupant des postes de responsabilité (notamment dans les institutions internationales) et la situation des réfugiés (femmes et enfants). Parallèlement à ces questions ayant trait à la situation de la femme en tant que telle, la Banque a estimé que les points suivants méritaient aussi l'attention de la Conférence : élaboration d'indicateurs pour mesurer les progrès réalisés et de méthodologies pour faire participer les femmes à la planification du développement; diffusion rationnelle de l'information et échanges de données d'expérience; enfin, moyens d'accroître l'efficacité des mécanismes nationaux et en particulier des mécanismes des organisations non gouvernementales.

7. L'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture (UNESCO) a répondu que son programme sur l'égalité des chances des jeunes filles et des femmes en matière d'éducation avait été conçu dans l'esprit de la Décennie des Nations Unies pour la femme et de ses trois thèmes : égalité, développement et paix. L'UNESCO a déclaré que ce programme visait essentiellement à faire en sorte que l'éducation puisse contribuer à la réalisation de ce triple objectif et supposait que la Conférence devait, de la même façon, aborder globalement cette question.

8. L'Organisation internationale du Travail (OIT) a répondu que les débats de la Conférence devraient être axés sur les trois objectifs de la Décennie des Nations Unies pour la femme : égalité, développement et paix ainsi que sur ses trois sous-thèmes : emploi, santé et enseignement. L'OIT a par ailleurs estimé que l'évaluation de la mise en oeuvre du Plan d'action mondial et du Programme d'action supposait que l'on entreprenne des études fondées non seulement sur des données statistiques mais encore sur une analyse qualitative des caractéristiques de la main-d'oeuvre féminine, compte tenu de la conjoncture économique et sociale des années 80, par rapport à la première partie de la Décennie.

9. L'institut international de recherche et de formation pour la promotion de la femme a lui aussi estimé que la Conférence devait axer ses travaux sur les grands thèmes initiaux de la Décennie, à savoir l'égalité, le développement

et la paix. De l'avis de l'Institut, ces thèmes continuaient d'être valables sur le fond et le demeurerait vraisemblablement pendant encore longtemps. L'Institut a signalé que la question des femmes et du développement faisait l'objet de nombreuses études et recherches aux niveaux national, régional et international et que les questions de l'égalité et de la paix étaient des composantes essentielles des programmes relatifs à la promotion de la condition féminine. Il paraissait donc logique que les travaux de la Conférence portent sur les thèmes initiaux de la Décennie. Notant, en particulier, que l'une des principales tâches de la Conférence était d'examiner et d'évaluer les résultats obtenus, l'Institut a suggéré que la Conférence s'efforce de déterminer les facteurs qui avaient empêché des progrès plus rapide. En conclusion, l'Institut a recommandé que la Conférence traite surtout des aspects spécifiques de l'intégration des femmes dans le développement et en particulier de l'interaction des efforts de développement déployés aux niveaux macro et micro-économiques, dans une optique interdisciplinaire et interculturelle.

10. La Conférence des Nations Unies sur le commerce et le développement (CNUCED) a rappelé que le nouveau programme substantiel d'action pour les années 80 en faveur des pays les moins avancés, adopté par la Conférence des Nations Unies sur les pays les moins avancés, qui s'est tenue à Paris en septembre 1981^{4/}, contient un certain nombre de recommandations sur le rôle des femmes. Dans ce contexte, la CNUCED a cité le paragraphe 19 du programme d'action en faveur des pays les moins avancés, aux termes duquel "pour parvenir à modifier la vie rurale dans ses aspects économiques, sociaux, culturels, institutionnels et humains, il faut établir des politiques reconnaissant le rôle de la femme dans le développement rural et leur assurant un accès équitable aux ressources productives, en particulier à la terre et aux ressources en eau, aux facteurs de production, aux marchés et aux services".

11. La CNUCED a par ailleurs estimé que, dans le cadre des activités préparatoires menées en vue de la Conférence, des initiatives pourraient être prises en vue d'étudier et de développer les possibilités de coopération internationale entre les femmes dans certains domaines du développement économique et social (commerce, production et échanges commerciaux, agriculture et pêche, secteurs urbains et ruraux non organisés, etc.). La CNUCED a par ailleurs insisté sur le fait que la Conférence devait examiner la question de l'adoption d'une nouvelle stratégie de développement en liaison avec l'instauration d'un nouvel ordre économique international et l'aménagement des structures et ce par le biais d'une coopération économique entre les pays en développement (CEPD), ainsi que les conséquences qui en résulteraient pour la main-d'oeuvre féminine (tant dans les pays du Nord que dans les pays du Sud).

12. Le Fonds des Nations Unies pour l'enfance (FISE) a déclaré qu'en plus des questions prioritaires dont il a été fait état dans le rapport et lors des débats sur les préparatifs de la Conférence à la vingt-neuvième session de la Commission de la condition de la femme^{5/}, il existait un certain nombre de questions dont le FISE se préoccupait tout particulièrement et qui étaient plus ou moins liées entre elles : a) les femmes et le secteur "non organisé" de l'économie; b) répartition des tâches à l'intérieur du ménage et division du travail d'après le sexe avec les conséquences qui en résultent pour ce qui est des soins donnés aux enfants; c) liens entre les responsabilités économiques des femmes et leur rôle de mère; d) importance de la formation

professionnelle pour les femmes et possibilité qu'elle leur donne d'exercer des activités génératrices de revenus et e) cycle de vie des femmes et incidences de ce cycle sur l'évolution des besoins et des préoccupations des femmes tout au long de leur vie.

13. Le Programme alimentaire mondial (PAM) a déclaré qu'à son avis la Conférence devait s'attarder surtout à dresser un bilan, à en tirer les enseignements et à définir des orientations précises en ce qui concerne les mesures concrètes à prendre à l'avenir.

14. Le Fonds des Nations Unies pour les activités en matière de population (FNUAP) a insisté sur la question du droit des femmes à choisir le nombre d'enfants qu'elles souhaitent mettre au monde tout comme l'espacement de ces naissances ainsi que sur la question des rapports entre les schémas de régulation de la fécondité, la condition de la femme et la participation des femmes au développement.

15. L'Institut des Nations Unies pour la formation et la recherche (UNITAR) a formulé un certain nombre de propositions visant à assurer le suivi et la corrélation des résolutions concernant les femmes adoptées lors de conférences mondiales, et notamment des conférences sur la science et la technique, le vieillissement, le désarmement, et la réforme agraire et le développement rural, résolutions qui, de l'avis de l'UNITAR, devraient être prises en considération lors de la préparation de la Conférence.

B. Thèmes et questions que la Conférence pourrait examiner

16. Outre qu'elles est proposée d'examiner et d'évaluer globalement les progrès réalisés, les organisations ont recommandé que la Conférence traite en priorité d'un certain nombre de questions et de thèmes sectoriels.

1. Les femmes, la réforme agraire et le développement rural

17. L'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture (FAO) a rappelé que les conférences de Mexico et de Copenhague avaient examiné des thèmes de caractère général; elle a donc proposé qu'une des questions principales abordées à la Conférence soit celle des femmes en tant qu'agricultrices. La FAO a fait valoir que si dans le monde, la majorité des femmes se consacrent toujours aux activités agricoles, certains indices permettent de penser que l'assistance internationale, financière et technique, avait laissé de côté et, dans certain cas, marginalisé encore plus ce groupe. Le cas des femmes rurales, a-t-elle conclu, devrait donc être examiné en priorité lors de la Conférence

18. Dans ce contexte, la FAO a recommandé que la Conférence examine les mesures qui avait été demandé aux gouvernements d'envisager dans la section sur l'intégration des femmes dans le développement rural du Programme d'action adopté par la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural tenue en 1979 et qu'elle traite des questions suivantes : égalité juridique des femmes; accès des femmes aux services ruraux; organisation et participation des femmes; possibilités d'éducation et d'emploi^{6/}. La FAO a suggéré également d'examiner d'autres questions telles que les femmes en tant que producteurs de denrées alimentaires; la colonisation rurale et ses

conséquences pour les femmes; les femmes et la réforme agraire; les pertes postérieures aux récoltes; les femmes et les ménages ruraux; les femmes et l'eau; les femmes et les investissements ruraux - facteurs et contraintes de financement.

19. Le Fonds international de développement agricole (FIDA) a constaté que si les femmes vivant dans des sociétés relativement avancées avaient pu améliorer leur condition (bien qu'à un degré ne correspondant pas aux rapides progrès économiques, sociaux, politiques et techniques enregistrés ces 30 dernières années), l'amélioration de la condition sociale et économique des femmes avait été négligeable dans les pays les moins avancés. Pour le FIDA, les femmes les plus défavorisées sont celles qui partagent le sort des petits agriculteurs et des agriculteurs sans terre dans les moins avancés des pays en développement. Pleinement conscient qu'une participation des femmes était indispensable dans tous les domaines de l'existence notamment dans celui de la prise de décisions, le FIDA a estimé que la Conférence devrait également s'intéresser à la condition des femmes dans les zones rurales des pays en développement et, notamment, à tous les aspects des structures socio-économiques qui avaient entravé l'amélioration de leur situation. Le Fida a conclu que la Conférence devrait s'intéresser aux mesures et aux politiques concrètes à appliquer dans ce domaine, étant donné que les aspects théoriques du problème avaient été traités lors des conférences précédentes.

20. L'UNITAR a proposé plusieurs questions, telles que les incidences des agro-industries sur les tâches traditionnelles des femmes dans les zones rurales; la situation des femmes rurales dans la mesure où elle est liée à l'évolution de la répartition des terres, des techniques, des récoltes et des structures de production; l'urbanisation, les rapports villes-campagnes, l'appauvrissement des villages; les conséquences de l'évolution de l'agriculture que sont l'aliénation, la privation de terres, la dépendance et la rupture des liens de solidarité unissant les membres des familles et des collectivités. En outre, l'UNITAR a déclaré que la Conférence pourrait également examiner la situation des femmes au cours de la transformation de la petite agriculture paysanne produisant des denrées de base en grande agriculture collective et l'accès des masses rurales à la propriété foncière, au crédit, aux moyens de commercialisation, aux services de vulgarisation et aux processus de prise des décisions.

2. Les femmes, la conservation des ressources et le développement

21. Le Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement (PNUE) a recommandé que la Conférence adopte le thème suivant : rôle des femmes dans la conservation des ressources et le développement; le PNUE a précisé que cette question englobait la protection des forêts, des bassins hydrographiques, de la faune, etc., et notamment la gestion des ressources hydrauliques, pédologiques et autres, qui ont un rapport direct avec la question des femmes et du développement.

3. Les femmes et la prise des décisions

22. L'UNITAR, le FNUAP et la Banque mondiale ont été d'avis que la question des femmes et de la prise des décisions devrait être examinée en priorité, en même temps que certains autres thèmes de la Conférence. Devant l'importance

que revêt la nomination de femmes à des postes d'administrateur dans les organisations et institutions des Nations Unies pour l'amélioration de la situation dans le monde des femmes à différents niveaux, l'UNITAR a estimé que l'examen de ce point devrait être poursuivi dans le contexte de la Conférence. De fait, l'UNITAR considérait, sur un plan plus général, qu'il s'agissait pour l'Organisation des Nations Unies de se conformer aux objectifs de la Décennie.

4. Les femmes en tant qu'agents et bénéficiaires du développement

23. De nombreuses organisations ont estimé que la question des femmes en tant qu'agents et bénéficiaires du développement devrait être traitée en priorité à la Conférence et ont mentionné différents aspects de cette question.

24. La CNUCED a appelé à cet égard l'attention sur le paragraphe 23 du nouveau programme substantiel pour les années 80 en faveur des pays les moins avancés, aux termes duquel :

"Les femmes jouent un rôle indispensable dans le processus de développement. Il faut prendre des mesures appropriées en vue du renforcement de la participation égale des femmes, en tant qu'agents et bénéficiaires, dans tous les secteurs et à tous les niveaux de la planification, du contrôle et de l'exécution du développement. L'accès des femmes à la propriété doit recevoir une attention suffisante. Dans le cadre de leurs plans et de leurs priorités de développement, et à titre de contribution importante à la réalisation de leurs objectifs de développement, les pays les moins avancés devraient formuler des politiques et des programmes tendant à renforcer le rôle des femmes dans le processus de développement."^{7/}

25. L'Institut international de recherche et de formation pour la promotion de la femme a répondu que si l'on retenait un sous-thème d'un commun accord pour la Conférence, celle-ci souhaiterait peut-être concentrer son attention sur des questions de développement plus pragmatiques qui intéressent les femmes. D'une façon générale, l'Institut a estimé que la Conférence devrait se préoccuper surtout des questions de développement et de leurs conséquences pour les femmes, ainsi que des solutions de rechange à apporter aux problèmes de développement, compte tenu de la nécessité d'une participation active et des besoins des femmes dans la société. L'Institut a donc recommandé que la Conférence traite également de thèmes plus précis que les deux conférences précédentes, notamment en ce qui concerne l'intégration des femmes dans le développement, et qu'elle insiste également sur la question des femmes et de la Stratégie internationale du développement, ainsi que sur les efforts d'intégration des femmes dans le cadre des politiques d'autonomie individuelle et collective.

5. Les femmes, l'éducation et la formation

26. L'UNESCO a souligné l'importance de l'éducation et de la formation pour la réalisation des objectifs de la Décennie et la mise en oeuvre du Plan d'action mondial et a émis l'avis que la Conférence devrait examiner la question de l'éducation et de la formation en tant que moyens d'assurer l'égalité, le développement et la paix.

27. Le FISE a déclaré que la question de la formation professionnelle des femmes devrait être examinée par la Conférence sous l'angle des possibilités qu'elle offre d'exercer des activités génératrices de revenus.

28. La CNUCED a appelé l'attention sur le paragraphe 26 du nouveau programme substantiel d'action pour les années 80 en faveur des pays les moins avancés aux termes duquel le programme concernant le développement de l'éducation :

"devrait allier les ressources de l'éducation scolaire à celles de l'éducation extrascolaire, afin de réduire les inégalités qui agissent au détriment des populations rurales et des groupes socialement désavantagés, de rehausser l'intérêt culturel de l'enseignement, d'assurer le maintien et le renforcement de l'identité et des valeurs culturelles en tant qu'élément essentiel du développement national, etc. On accordera l'attention voulue à la satisfaction des besoins des femmes en matière d'enseignement pour leur permettre de s'accomplir pleinement".8/

6. Les femmes et l'emploi, le sous-emploi et le chômage

29. A propos du sous-thème de l'emploi, l'OIT a répondu que lors de l'examen de la question de l'emploi pris dans son sens le plus large, une attention particulière devrait être accordée aux points suivants, que l'OIT juge très importants pour évaluer la condition de la femme :

"1. Analyse du rôle des femmes dans le développement économique et social et meilleure compréhension de l'importante contribution de la main-d'oeuvre féminine à la prospérité et au progrès de la société.

"2. Evaluation des tendances fondamentales de l'emploi féminin compte tenu notamment :

- i) De l'incidence des progrès scientifique et technique sur l'emploi féminin et des modifications quantitatives et qualitatives qui sont intervenues dans le domaine du travail féminin. Il faudrait aux niveaux international, régional et national effectuer des études dans les zones rurales et urbaines, en prenant dûment en considération la diversité des conditions historiques, économiques et sociales;
- ii) Des modifications qui sont intervenues dans la division du travail et des contraintes qui continuent d'influer sur les rôles traditionnels des sexes dans la société; des différentes formes, directes et indirectes, de discrimination dont souffrent encore les femmes en matière d'emploi et de salaires;
- iii) Du problème du sous-emploi et du chômage et de leurs incidences néfastes sur les conditions de vie et de travail des femmes qui exercent un métier;
- iv) Des problèmes propres aux femmes dans le secteur urbain non organisé, etc.

"3. Politiques et mesures permettant de résoudre les problèmes spécifiques des femmes rurales (y compris les mesures prises pour renforcer les organisations féminines et pour faciliter l'accès des femmes à la propriété foncière et au crédit).

"4. Application des normes internationales et des législations nationales concernant les travailleuses, et notamment élaboration d'une législation assurant aux femmes des possibilités d'emploi et des salaires égaux.

"5. Progrès récents en matière de formation professionnelle et administrative des femmes, et politiques, stratégies et mesures de nature à leur permettre d'améliorer leurs compétences dans les domaines scientifique et technique.

"6. Politiques visant à assurer un partage plus équitable des responsabilités familiales, et incidences de ces politiques sur les structures de l'emploi féminin.

"7. Progrès réalisés dans l'élimination de la discrimination à l'égard des femmes en matière de sécurité sociale et dans l'adoption d'une législation adaptée aux besoins spécifiques des femmes."

30. L'UNITAR a suggéré que la Conférence examine diverses questions connexes telles que :

- a) La corrélation entre l'accroissement des profits et des salaires dans les secteurs économiques dominés par les hommes et l'allongement des horaires de travail des femmes dans les activités de production non rémunérées.
- b) Les moyens qui permettraient aux femmes de préserver leurs emplois traditionnels, lorsque le chômage masculin augmente et que la pression sur ces emplois s'intensifie;
- c) Les moyens de répartir équitablement le travail rémunéré et le travail non rémunéré entre les sexes en cas de fort chômage masculin.

7. Les femmes et la planification de la famille

31. Le FNUAP a écrit qu'un des éléments liés à presque toutes les questions suggérées pour la Conférence était le droit des femmes à choisir le nombre des enfants qu'elles voulaient avoir et l'espacement des naissances. Ce droit, a déclaré le FNUAP, ainsi que la nécessité de permettre aux femmes d'avoir accès à l'éducation et aux services nécessaires pour que ce droit se matérialise ont été réaffirmés par la Conférence mondiale de la population, organisée en 1974, ainsi que par les conférences de Mexico et de Copenhague. C'est pourquoi les conférences mondiales en question ont adopté des résolutions spécifiques sur la planification de la famille. Le FNUAP a donc suggéré que l'on étudie avec toute l'attention souhaitable la possibilité de faire figurer la planification de la famille parmi les questions à aborder à la Conférence.

8. Les femmes et la production alimentaire, les habitudes de consommation et les niveaux nutritionnels

32. Le Conseil mondial de l'alimentation a estimé que la Conférence pourrait apporter une contribution importante à la lutte contre la faim et la malnutrition, en axant ses travaux sur plusieurs grandes questions intéressant les femmes et la production alimentaire, les habitudes de consommation et les niveaux nutritionnels. Dans ses activités en général et plus particulièrement en ce qui concerne les stratégies alimentaires nationales, le Conseil mondial de l'alimentation a constaté que dans de nombreux pays en développement le renforcement de l'autonomie alimentaire et la solution du problème de la faim dépendraient des femmes, étant donné que celles-ci assuraient une forte proportion de la production de denrées alimentaires dans ces pays et exerçaient une grande influence sur les habitudes de consommation et les niveaux nutritionnels de la famille. Le Conseil mondial de l'alimentation a conclu qu'il était donc impératif que le rôle des femmes dans le secteur alimentaire soit reconnu non seulement au niveau technique des projets, mais également au niveau le plus élevé des gouvernements.

33. Le PAM a répondu à cet égard que la Conférence devrait axer ses travaux sur différentes questions, telles que la contribution des femmes au développement; la répartition des bienfaits du développement; l'identification de projets, de programmes ou d'activités très importants qui montrent comment favoriser le progrès, éventuellement secteur par secteur et grâce à des groupes de travail sur les systèmes d'élaboration et d'exécution des projets.

9. Les femmes et la santé

34. L'Organisation mondiale de la santé (OMS) a répondu qu'à son avis, les sous-thèmes de l'emploi, de la santé et de l'enseignement étaient toujours valables, étant donné que la santé demeurerait une question prioritaire pour l'intégration et la pleine participation des femmes au développement. L'OMS a affirmé que la santé était un élément fondamental de tous les efforts déployés dans les secteurs économique, social, politique et culturel. A son avis, les principes énoncés à Mexico et à Copenhague n'avaient rien perdu de leur pertinence; certes des progrès avaient indubitablement été enregistrés, mais les objectifs fixés par les deux conférences mondiales n'avaient pas été atteints, en sorte que les efforts faits pour y parvenir devaient être poursuivis. Enfin, l'OMS s'est déclarée convaincue qu'en accordant davantage d'attention à certains aspects de ces sous-thèmes on pourrait éviter que les efforts déployés ne se relâchent et que les principaux problèmes que devaient encore affronter les femmes dans le monde entier ne soient perdus de vue.

10. Les femmes et les activités non traditionnelles

35. L'Organisation de l'aviation civile internationale (OACI) a estimé que la Conférence pourrait souhaiter aborder la question du rôle des femmes dans les activités non traditionnelles, qui jusque-là avaient été exclusivement, ou du moins en grande partie, réservées aux hommes. Elle a déclaré que l'aviation civile figurait parmi ces activités et que depuis sa création les femmes n'y avaient joué qu'un rôle très limité. De fait, l'OACI a indiqué que les femmes

occupaient presque exclusivement des emplois administratifs, de secrétaires, de préposées à la billetterie ou aux réservations et d'hôtes de l'air. Elles étaient très peu nombreuses dans les domaines opérationnels ou techniques; toutefois, a déclaré l'OACI, cela changeait peu à peu, notamment dans le monde en développement.

36. L'OACI a écrit que l'entrée des femmes dans des secteurs très techniques de l'aéronautique avait été activement encouragée par le programme d'assistance technique et que des femmes de plus en plus nombreuses suivaient, grâce à des bourses, une formation destinée à leur permettre d'assumer des fonctions jusque-là réservées exclusivement aux hommes dans des domaines techniques tels que le contrôle de la navigation aérienne, le droit aérien et le droit de l'espace, les transports aériens, l'administration des aéroports, l'organisation et l'entretien des aéroports, les services d'information aéronautiques, les télécommunications (entretien et exploitation), le dispatching, les enquêtes sur les accidents et la navigabilité, la météorologie aéronautique, la médecine de l'air et le pilotage.

11. Les femmes, la paix et le désarmement

37. L'UNITAR a énuméré, parmi plusieurs questions prioritaires recommandées pour la Conférence, les rapports entre la paix, le désarmement et la condition de la femme, ainsi que le rôle déterminant des femmes dans la préparation des sociétés à vivre dans la paix. L'UNITAR a conclu que ce thème était particulièrement important, du fait que l'on s'employait à perfectionner toujours davantage les armements en vue de les rendre de plus en plus meurtriers.

12. Les femmes et la protection contre les catastrophes

38. Le Bureau du coordonnateur des Nations Unies pour les secours en cas de catastrophe a émis l'opinion que tous les membres d'une communauté avaient droit à la même protection contre les catastrophes évitables, au même degré de réparation face à l'inévitable et aux mêmes secours en cas de catastrophes. Le Bureau du coordonnateur a estimé que si ces principes étaient appliqués pour les problèmes plus vastes qui influent sur la condition de la femme, les progrès réalisés seraient plus importants. En conclusion, il a formulé l'espoir que la prochaine Conférence atteindrait pleinement ses objectifs dans ce domaine.

13. Femmes réfugiées et déplacées

39. Le Haut Commissaire des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés a proposé de faire figurer les points suivants relatifs aux femmes réfugiées et déplacées sur la liste des questions et des thèmes retenus pour la Conférence : besoins en matière de services et plans-programmes, projets visant à atteindre l'autosuffisance économique et sociale, qui faciliterait leur participation au développement, prise des décisions et autres questions liées à l'amélioration de leurs conditions dans les pays d'asile.

14. Les femmes et les étapes de la vie

40. L'UNITAR, le FISE^{9/} et l'Université des Nations Unies ont évoqué divers aspects de ce problème dans leurs réponses. L'UNITAR a proposé que la question des femmes seules et âgées soit englobée dans le thème général des femmes et du développement. Il a indiqué que le problème tenait principalement au fait que dans le monde entier l'espérance de vie des femmes était plus grande que celle des hommes. A cela s'ajoutaient, d'après l'UNITAR, de nombreux autres facteurs tels que l'amélioration des programmes de santé publique et le fait que les femmes épousaient généralement des hommes plus âgés qu'elles. L'UNITAR a déclaré que si les femmes étaient désormais plus nombreuses à travailler pendant leurs années productives, elles étaient généralement moins payées que les hommes, de sorte que leur pension était plus faible; en outre, si des femmes qui n'avaient jamais travaillé survivaient à leur époux, elles ne recevaient qu'une partie de la pension perçue durant l'existence de leur conjoint.

41. Bien que la vieillesse ne soit pas toujours accompagnée d'une plus grande fragilité et d'infirmités, l'UNITAR a indiqué qu'il en était souvent ainsi, notamment lorsque les personnes en question étaient pauvres ou mal nourries. Il a déclaré que les facteurs ci-dessus étaient associés à la disparition de la "famille élargie" (c'est-à-dire de la cohabitation de plusieurs générations sous le même toit) qui existait dans les sociétés préindustrielles. L'UNITAR a conclu que la question du vieillissement était étudiée par l'Assemblée mondiale sur le vieillissement, en tant que "questions de développement" parce que les structures démographiques influaient sur l'économie nationale.

42. Le FISE s'est inquiété d'un autre aspect du problème. Il a exprimé l'espoir que lors de l'examen des questions à soumettre à la Conférence on tiendrait sûrement compte du fait que les femmes ne constituaient pas un groupe homogène et qu'il fallait par conséquent établir des distinctions entre elles sur la base non seulement des catégories économiques - femmes sans terre, femmes migrantes et femmes chefs de ménage par exemple - mais aussi des groupes d'âges auxquels elles appartenaient, d'où l'intérêt, selon le FISE d'accorder toute l'attention souhaitable au concept d'étapes de la vie pour l'identification des questions et des priorités suivant une classification que ferait une distinction entre les adolescentes, les jeunes femmes^{10/}, les mères et les femmes âgées.

15. Les femmes, la science et la technologie

43. L'UNITAR suggère que la Conférence traite trois aspects de cette question comme suit.

a) L'impact sur les femmes du choix et de l'utilisation des technologies

44. Dans la plupart des pays, le choix et l'utilisation des technologies ont aggravé les disparités existantes entre les rémunérations et l'influence politique des hommes et celles des femmes. Les transformations techniques qui ont accompagné la modernisation ont, dans la plupart des cas entraîné une concentration des femmes dans des rôles d'ordre domestique, des fonctions productives hors du marché et des activités à forte intensité en main-d'oeuvre. Lorsque l'économie de subsistance a fait place à l'économie de marché, les hommes se sont mis à faire, un peu partout, des "travaux de femmes". Dans les

premiers temps de l'industrialisation, et au plus bas degré de la mécanisation, par exemple avec l'adoption du tracteur, les hommes ont assuré des tâches autrefois exécutées par des femmes. De ce fait, les femmes ont perdu la maîtrise de certains moyens de production et de ressources économiques et se sont trouvées moins en mesure de nourrir leurs familles et d'en prendre soin. Or au niveau d'industrialisation aujourd'hui atteint dans de nombreux pays en développement, les progrès de l'automatisation, de l'informatique et des autres dispositifs micro-électroniques ont souvent amené les femmes à manipuler de grandes machines compliquées d'un type qu'on ne leur confiait pas auparavant. En fait, la technique de pointe a besoin des femmes. Elles excellent dans les travaux de fabrication et d'essai des appareils micro-électroniques. Dans les nouveaux domaines du génie biotechnique et génétique les femmes occupent de très nombreux emplois à tous les niveaux, et non seulement à celui de la technique.

b) La répartition internationale et l'emploi des ressources scientifiques et techniques et la condition féminine

45. A l'échelle internationale, l'inégalité de la répartition et de l'emploi des ressources scientifiques et techniques, de la capacité d'innovation (de la recherche) et du pouvoir ont gravement compromis l'accès des femmes à la technologie. Dans bien des cas, le transfert de technologie a nui à l'emploi et à la santé des femmes; la main-d'oeuvre est déplacée, en même temps qu'apparaissent des modèles de consommation étrangers. Dans certaines grandes industries, de nouvelles pratiques discriminatoires se manifestent, tant dans les villes que dans les campagnes. L'augmentation du nombre des emplois féminins, notamment dans les zones urbaines, est due en grande partie à l'exploitation du travail bon marché et semi-qualifié de jeunes femmes célibataires. Il faut analyser avec soin cette dégradation infligée à la condition féminine par la technique si l'on veut concevoir et mettre en oeuvre des mesures propres à y remédier. Il faut aussi analyser et évaluer le peu de succès que la technologie a valu aux femmes tant dans les pays industrialisés que dans les pays en développement.

46. L'UNITAR propose en conséquence que la Conférence donne la priorité aux sujets et aux préoccupations ci-dessous :

- a) Comment les femmes sont-elles spécialement affectées par les processus actuels relatifs à la science et à la technologie, notamment la planification et la fixation des priorités en matière de recherche et développement, le choix, l'acquisition, l'adaptation, l'innovation et l'application de la science et de la technologie en vue du développement ?
- b) Comment les femmes ressentent-elles la technologie et ses conséquences pour la société à divers niveaux ?
- c) Cela étant, comment les femmes peuvent-elles apporter une contribution constructive à la sélection, à l'acquisition, à l'adaptation, à l'innovation, et à l'application de la technologie en vue d'améliorer les conditions d'existence des femmes, des hommes et de leurs familles ?

c) Les nouvelles techniques et la condition féminine

47. L'apparition de techniques nouvelles et les transformations de structure qu'elles apportent à la société doivent faciliter la correction de certains déséquilibres qui désavantagent les femmes. Le développement récent et rapide de la technologie micro-électronique entraînera, dans l'immédiat, des modifications radicales du mode de production et de distribution des biens et des services ainsi que de la gestion et de la diffusion de l'information. Les problèmes soulevés par cette révolution technologique sont non seulement techniques mais aussi économiques, sociaux et politiques. La révolution micro-électronique sera probablement suivie d'une révolution de la technique des matériaux, et notamment de la biotechnologie. L'arrivée de la technologie micro-électronique a déjà provoqué des modifications frappantes des modalités de l'emploi dans les secteurs de l'industrie et des services des pays évolués. Sous leur régime économique, les nouvelles technologies rendront plus évidentes le caractère inéquitable du développement.

Dans les pays en développement, il sera plus difficile de fournir à la population rurale non agricole un travail qui lui convienne. L'introduction et l'emploi de nouvelles techniques et de nouveaux produits aggraveront les risques environnementaux et sociaux. Aussi l'UNITAR suggère-t-elle que la Conférence traite, entre autres, de l'impact de la création et de l'emploi de ces nouvelles technologies sur la condition féminine. L'UNITAR signale que nombre de ces techniques et produits nouveaux seront très probablement transmis aux pays en développement par les circuits commerciaux existants, et pose la question de savoir qui profitera de ces technologies nouvelles.

48. D'autre part, la CNUCED estime qu'il faut entreprendre sérieusement l'examen des conséquences de la dépendance technologique des femmes au travail. De l'avis de la CNUCED, les ressources technologiques se composent d'une part de technologie, incorporée à des biens d'investissements, à du matériel et à des instruments et de l'autre d'aptitudes, incorporées aux êtres humains qui travaillent. La CNUCED fait valoir que la différence entre les pays du tiers monde et les pays évolués est due aux écarts qui séparent les productivités par tête, lesquels à leur tour proviennent des différences entre les ressources techniques dont dispose chaque travailleur. La CNUCED en conclut que cette asymétrie, tant dans les pays évolués que dans les pays en développement, se reflète dans les différences entre travailleurs masculins et féminins, et pense que des mesures qui augmenteraient les ressources technologiques dont disposent les femmes tendraient inévitablement à réduire leur dépendance technologique et à renforcer leur participation à l'oeuvre nationale de développement.

16. Les femmes et le commerce

49. La CNUCED signale que les préparatifs de la Conférence peuvent comprendre la recherche et la mise en oeuvre de possibilités de coopération transnationale entre femmes dans divers domaines choisis, et précise qu'on pourrait commencer par étudier méthodiquement et mieux comprendre la contribution actuelle des femmes à l'activité économique, notamment dans le secteur du commerce de chaque pays. On pourrait ensuite, recommande la CNUCED, évaluer avec autant de précision et de réalisme leur contribution potentielle.

50. La CNUCED signale en outre que la contribution des femmes à la production et au commerce dans de nombreux pays en développement à faibles revenus est importante dans certains secteurs, dont l'agriculture, la pêche ainsi que les activités indépendantes dans les villes et les campagnes. Les travailleuses indépendantes jouent d'ordinaire un rôle décisif dans la conservation et le développement des secteurs commerciaux. La CNUCED rappelle que les principales ressources dont disposent les femmes à cet égard sont constituées par leurs aptitudes fondamentales et leur capacité d'accumulation de capital, tant à titre individuel qu'au moyen d'arrangements conclus sans formalités qui comportent en pratique une épargne obligatoire et des retraits périodiques.

Ces mutuelles sont réservées aux femmes dans certains pays en développement; les participants opèrent à tour de rôle un retrait qui leur fournit un capital leur permettant de créer une nouvelle entreprise ou de continuer à exploiter celle qui existe déjà.

51. La CNUCED estime en conséquence qu'il serait bon d'étudier quel serait le meilleur moyen d'organiser ces mécanismes de ressources et de développement qui fonctionnent le plus souvent sans formalités, d'abord en associant davantage les femmes aux stratégies nationales de développement et ensuite, voir parallèlement, en s'efforçant de développer la coopération entre femmes sur le plan international. En conclusion, la CNUCED juge qu'il faut aussi souligner l'importance particulière du rôle des femmes dans les stratégies d'autosuffisance (c'est-à-dire celles qui reposent sur les besoins de consommation des masses populaires et sur l'utilisation maximale des ressources humaines et matérielles indigènes).

C. Opinions préalables sur les stratégies à adopter à la suite de la Conférence

52. Plusieurs organisations ont exprimé des opinions préalables au sujet des stratégies à adopter à la suite de la Conférence.

1. Relations avec d'autres programmes d'action adoptés par les Conférences mondiales des Nations Unies

53. Plusieurs participants ont suggéré que les résultats de la Conférence, reposant sur une étude et une évaluation approfondies, devraient être reliés à d'autres programmes d'action adoptés par de récentes conférences mondiales des Nations Unies.

54. La CNUCED a tout particulièrement signalé à cet égard le nouveau programme substantiel d'action des années 1980 pour les pays les moins avancés et l'UNITAR a recommandé que la Conférence tienne compte des programmes d'action portant sur des sujets très divers tels que : réforme agraire et développement rural; science et technologie; désarmement; vieillissement. Comme on l'a dit plus haut, la Banque mondiale, le PNUD, la CNUCED et l'INSTRAW ont plus spécialement mentionné la nécessité de relier la Conférence au suivi de la Stratégie internationale du développement pour la troisième Décennie des Nations Unies pour le développement^{3/}, cependant que le PNUD et la CNUCED la rattachent aussi à l'établissement d'un nouvel ordre économique international. Les réponses de l'Union internationale des télécommunications et du FNUAP ont de leur côté révélé la nécessité de rattacher la Conférence au suivi de l'Année mondiale des communications (1983) et de la Conférence mondiale de la population (1984).

2. Définition des buts et objectifs à atteindre d'ici à l'an 2000

55. Plusieurs organisations ont proposé que la Conférence, plutôt que d'élaborer un nouveau programme d'action relié à une autre décennie des Nations Unies pour la femme, se penche plus spécialement sur la définition des buts et objectifs à atteindre d'ici à l'an 2000.

56. Le BIT estime à cet égard qu'il y aura lieu de tenir particulièrement compte des questions relatives à l'emploi des femmes lorsqu'on élaborera la "Perspective 2000", qui d'après lui devra insister sur les voies et moyens à mettre en oeuvre pour garantir aux femmes le droit de participer et de contribuer au développement économique et social.

57. Le PAM, l'INSTRAW et plusieurs autres ont souligné que la Conférence devrait fonder sa stratégie future sur une étude et une évaluation approfondies des résultats de la Décennie, et le PAM a insisté sur le fait que la Conférence devrait définir les buts et objectifs à atteindre d'ici la fin du siècle, et sur le rôle et les responsabilités incombant aux gouvernements à cet égard.

58. Bien que peu d'autres suggestions aient été présentées à ce sujet, il paraît toutefois nécessaire de discuter de la question de la Réunion spéciale interorganisation sur la promotion de la femme, réunion qui doit être associée à la première session de l'organe préparatoire en vue d'entamer un dialogue entre organismes au sujet d'un programme d'avenir et de ses relations avec les autres programmes d'action et avec la définition des buts et objectifs à atteindre d'ici à l'an 2000.

D. Questions d'organisation

1. Communication et coopération interorganisations; besoins et modalités

59. Plusieurs organisations ont souligné la nécessité d'assurer la communication et la coopération entre organismes afin de mieux coordonner les thèmes et les questions ainsi que les opérations pratiques de préparation à la Conférence.

60. Le PNUD fait savoir qu'il se consulte avec d'autres organismes des Nations Unies au sujet d'une coordination et d'une collaboration possible en vue de l'évaluation des résultats des projets de développement intéressant les femmes. Il ajoute qu'il sera en mesure de donner plus de détails sur sa contribution lors de la réunion de la Commission de la condition de la femme en 1983.

61. La Banque mondiale fait savoir qu'elle collabore avec un groupe interorganisations officieux en vue d'une estimation en commun des contributions des organismes qui participent à la Décennie. Elle ajoute qu'outre les renseignements que le groupe pourra donner en ce qui concerne l'évaluation, les méthodes et les instruments utilisés pourront rendre service dans l'avenir.

62. Le PAM a mentionné la nécessité d'une coopération interorganisations et de dispositions institutionnelles en faveur de la promotion de la femme prises tant sur le terrain qu'au siège, en distinguant entre la politique générale et les mesures d'exécution des programmes pour assurer la continuité des progrès. Il a demandé la formation d'un groupe de travail chargé de concevoir les projets et les systèmes de mise en place destinés à la promotion de la femme, groupe qui apportera une contribution essentielle aux préparatifs de la Conférence et à ses prolongements.

63. S'agissant de la communication entre organisations et de coopération dans le domaine de l'information (collecte et diffusion, et éducation en vue du développement) le FISE signale^{11/} avoir coordonné le sous-groupe sur les femmes et le développement créé sous l'égide du Comité commun de l'information des Nations Unies. Le Groupe a établi plusieurs dossiers en association avec plusieurs agences spécialisées des Nations Unies et organisations non gouvernementales. Le FISE a précisé que deux dossiers avaient été établis jusqu'à présent : "Les femmes et les handicaps" et "Les femmes, la santé et le développement"; un troisième est en cours de préparation, qui sera consacré au rôle économique des femmes en ce qui concerne l'emploi, le travail non rémunéré au foyer et ailleurs, la technologie appropriée, l'énergie, et l'activité rémunératrice^{12/}.

64. Le FISE a ajouté qu'il avait aussi participé activement à l'équipe de travail interinstitutions des Nations Unies sur la femme et à la Décennie internationale de l'eau potable et de l'assainissement, ainsi qu'au groupe de travail interagences sur les femmes, la population et le développement présidé par l'UNESCO.

65. L'UNITAR a lui aussi mentionné l'importance de la communication et de la coopération entre organisations, notamment dans le contexte de l'amélioration de la situation des femmes dans le monde aux divers niveaux grâce à leur présence dans la catégorie professionnelle du personnel des organismes et agences des Nations Unies. L'UNITAR estime que l'étude de ce problème doit se poursuivre dans le contexte de la Conférence^{13/}.

66. La FAO a fait savoir que, sous les auspices de l'équipe d'étude du développement rural du Comité administratif de coordination elle était en train d'étudier des directives et des listes de pointage établies par tous les organismes et agences des Nations Unies au sujet du rôle des femmes dans le développement rural.

2. Les contributions à la Conférence et sa préparation

a) Les femmes, la réforme agraire et le développement rural

67. La FAO a présenté la liste ci-dessous des contributions qu'elle entend apporter aux préparatifs de la Conférence :

- a) Un complément à la Conférence mondiale de 1979 sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural (WCARRD) à savoir : les femmes et la réforme agraire et le développement rural. Cette étude comprendra un rapport sur les initiatives prises par la FAO en vue de l'exécution du programme d'action de la WCARRD et sur ses conséquences pour les femmes rurales;
- b) Des travaux effectués par la FAO sur les femmes et le développement agricole : les leçons apprises et les questions non encore résolues. La FAO a l'intention d'insister sur les domaines techniques dans lesquels elle a apporté son assistance - sylviculture, pêcheries et agriculture - et sur l'intérêt qu'ils présentent pour les femmes rurales.

68. Les documents apportés par la FAO à la Conférence pourraient comprendre :

- a) Des directives et listes de pointage concernant les femmes dans le développement rural. Sous les auspices de l'équipe d'étude sur le développement rural du CAS;
- b) Le rapport au comité de 1983 sur l'Agriculture, Complément à la WCARRD : le Rôle des femmes dans la production agricole;
- c) Une série d'études de cas concernant les femmes dans le développement relatifs aux projets de la FAO. Il s'agit d'une analyse de projets FAO sélectionnés portant sur les facteurs qui contribuent ou non à la participation des femmes;
- d) Les femmes et le programme des systèmes alimentaires. Ce nouveau programme prévoit diverses activités dont des enquêtes et des études de projets portant sur des pays sélectionnés;
- e) Les centres de démonstration pour les cultivatrices africaines. Pour faire suite directement à la Conférence mondiale tenue en 1980 à Copenhague (Décennie des Nations Unies pour la femme) la FAO projette de renforcer ou de créer des centres de démonstration à l'intention des cultivatrices africaines, comportant une assistance technique aux travaux domestiques et agricoles des femmes;
- f) Consultation d'experts de la FAO en 1983 sur les mesures propres à intéresser les femmes rurales. L'ordre du jour portera principalement sur la concertation qui devra s'instituer entre responsables de décisions, institutions, agences, offices féminins et population rurale si l'on veut atteindre efficacement les femmes. La consultation aura à sa disposition des études de cas.

69. Le Fonds international de développement agricole (FIDA) a répondu qu'il était disposé à participer au travail de la Conférence et a présenté un mémoire sur le rôle des femmes dans le développement agricole exposant les mesures qu'il a prises pour améliorer la condition féminine.

- b) Les femmes, la conservation des ressources naturelles et le développement

70. Le PNUD a recommandé des thèmes concernant le rôle des femmes dans la conservation des ressources.

- c) Les femmes et la prise des décisions

71. L'UNITAR a présenté, comme contribution aux préparatifs de la Conférence, les ouvrages^{14/} résultant de ses recherches sur le rôle des femmes dans la gestion et la prise des décisions.

- d) Les femmes en tant qu'agents et bénéficiaires du développement

72. Compte tenu de ses ressources et de ses priorités, la CNUCED a indiqué qu'elle pourrait faire une place à l'étude d'une nouvelle stratégie du développement rattachée au nouvel ordre économique international, aux

modifications de structure qu'il entraînerait, et à l'impact exercé sur les travailleuses du Nord et du Sud. D'après la CNUCED, les modifications de structure peuvent avoir des conséquences très différentes selon qu'il s'agit de travailleurs hommes ou femmes, et c'est pourquoi toute analyse de ces modifications doit tenir compte du facteur sexe dans la division du travail, car il peut affecter la production des marchandises, le commerce, la technologie et la coopération économique entre pays en développement.

73. La CNUCED estime qu'une étude des effets exercés jusqu'à présent par les stratégies du développement sur les progrès de la condition féminine contribuerait à étoffer la documentation nécessaire aux négociations futures, à la fixation des priorités, etc. La CNUCED saluerait avec satisfaction un réexamen des mécanismes nationaux et internationaux aptes à promouvoir l'intégration de la femme dans le développement et sa pleine participation aux débats et aux négociations concernant un nouvel ordre économique international. La CNUCED se déclare en mesure d'y contribuer en facilitant et en organisant des échanges régionaux et interrégionaux entre spécialistes féminins et organisations féminines, par exemple dans le domaine de la coopération économique entre pays en développement.

74. S'agissant de sa contribution possible aux préparatifs de la Conférence, l'INSTRAW a fait observer qu'en vertu même de son mandat, ses activités portent en totalité sur les questions relatives au rôle des femmes dans le développement. D'après l'ordre du jour de la Conférence, l'INSTRAW est disposé à lui apporter les résultats d'une partie de son programme.

75. L'INSTRAW a signalé à cet égard ses contributions concernant : a) les effets des relations internationales actuelles sur le rôle des femmes dans le développement; b) les politiques des pays en développement en matière d'autosuffisance individuelle et collective dans la mesure où elles font état de l'intégration des femmes dans le développement; c) les indicateurs et données concernant les femmes; d) les directives, manuels et modalités de formation sur des problèmes intéressant le rôle des femmes dans le développement; e) les publications et la documentation sur les questions concernant la femme.

76. Ces suggestions préliminaires concernant la contribution de l'INSTRAW à la Conférence ainsi que l'affectation de fonds nécessaires doivent être soumises à l'approbation de son conseil d'administration, vu que toutes ses activités sont entièrement financées par des contributions volontaires à son fonds d'affectation spéciale.

e) Les femmes, l'éducation et la formation

77. L'UNESCO propose à la Conférence la documentation suivante : le document rédigé en vue de l'examen et de l'évaluation des résultats obtenus par ses programmes et ses activités depuis 1975, notamment en ce qui concerne l'importance du rôle joué par l'éducation et la formation pour atteindre les objectifs de la Décennie et mettre en oeuvre le Plan mondial d'action; les documents concernant ses quatre types d'activités : a) recherche, étude et échange d'information; b) cours, séminaires et réunions de formation; c) projets expérimentaux et services de consultation; d) collaboration avec les organisations non gouvernementales. Ces documents seront principalement présentés sous le couvert de son programme sur l'égalité des chances des jeunes filles et des femmes en matière d'éducation.

78. Le FISE indique qu'il participera volontiers à la conceptualisation et à la rédaction des thèmes en cause, et qu'il se propose d'envoyer à la Conférence une délégation comprenant des membres du personnel en opérations et de celui du siège.

f) Les femmes et l'emploi, le sous-emploi et le chômage

79. Le BIT signale que, s'agissant de sa contribution à la Conférence, il a déjà accepté d'étudier les réponses au questionnaire des Nations Unies sur la mise en oeuvre du sous-chapitre "emploi" du Programme d'action et de rédiger le chapitre correspondant du rapport des Nations Unies à cette conférence. Le BIT indique en outre qu'il rédigera probablement un rapport sur ses propres activités visant à la réalisation des objectifs de la Décennie. Il dit aussi qu'il envisage d'apporter à la Conférence trois contributions techniques : une étude sur les diverses formes de discrimination affectant l'emploi des femmes, un document sur la protection de la maternité et une étude de l'influence exercée par les projets de coopération technique du BIT concernant les femmes. Le BIT conclut en annonçant qu'il donnera à une date ultérieure des renseignements plus détaillés sur la portée et la teneur exactes de sa contribution.

g) Les femmes et la planification de la famille

80. Le FNUAP a répondu qu'il contribuera volontiers aux préparatifs de la Conférence en étudiant et en évaluant les documents techniques et les activités de consultation le cas échéant.

h) Les femmes et la production alimentaire, les habitudes de consommation et les niveaux nutritionnels

81. Le Conseil mondial de l'alimentation présente, dans le cadre de sa contribution aux préparatifs de la conférence : deux documents : a) National Fond Strategies to Eradicate Hunger^{15/} et b) Rapport du Conseil mondial de l'alimentation sur les travaux de sa huitième session : Acapulco (Mexique), 21-24 juin 1982^{16/}.

i) Les femmes et la santé

82. L'OMS fait savoir qu'elle envisage de présenter à la Conférence une communication sur la santé dont elle exposera la teneur à une date ultérieure.

j) Les femmes et les activités non traditionnelles

83. L'OACI se joint elle aussi aux préparatifs de la Conférence et fait notamment état de ses activités en matière de bourses et de formation dans ce domaine.

k) Les femmes, la paix et le désarmement

84. Aucune indication portant expressément sur la question n'a été reçue quant à des contributions à la Conférence. Le secrétariat organique de la Conférence prendra contact avec d'autres services du Secrétariat des Nations Unies susceptibles d'être intéressés (par exemple le Centre pour le désarmement, le Centre contre l'apartheid, le Centre pour les droits de l'homme et les organismes qui s'occupent de questions telles que celles de la Namibie et de la Palestine).

1) Les femmes et la protection contre les catastrophes

85. Aucune contribution portant expressément sur la protection des femmes contre les catastrophes n'a été reçue, à l'exception d'observations générales de l'UNDRO.

m) Les femmes réfugiées et déplacées

86. Le HCR fait savoir qu'il a l'intention de présenter à la Conférence une communication sur les femmes réfugiées et déplacées, traitant de fourniture de services, de plans et projets de programmes visant à l'autosuffisance économique et sociale, de participation à la prise des décisions et d'autres questions ayant trait à l'amélioration de la condition des femmes en question dans leurs pays d'asile ainsi que de l'action entreprise par le HCR à la suite des résolutions adoptées à ce sujet par la Conférence mondiale de Copenhague.

87. L'Office de secours et de travaux des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés de Palestine dans le Proche-Orient a répondu qu'il ferait connaître ultérieurement l'état d'avancement de ses activités lorsque les thèmes et les questions auront été arrêtés.

n) Les femmes et les étapes de la vie

88. L'UNITAR fait savoir qu'il collabore volontiers avec le secrétariat de la Conférence mais ne présente aucune proposition pour faire suite à ses observations sur la vieillesse de la femme seule.

89. Le FISE, comme indiqué au paragraphe 42 ci-dessus, a fait une offre générale de collaboration à la conceptualisation et à la rédaction de thèmes tels que la femme et les étapes de la vie.

90. L'Université des Nations Unies a répondu qu'elle avait entrepris une recherche sur la vie domestique, le sexe et l'âge et qu'elle présenterait un rapport après obtention des premiers résultats.

o) Les femmes, la science et la technologie

91. L'UNITAR a fait une déclaration générale d'intention de coopérer avec le secrétariat de la Conférence.

p) Les femmes et le commerce

92. S'agissant des contributions aux préparatifs de la Conférence en ce qui concerne les femmes et le commerce, la CNUCED fait savoir qu'elle envisage de présenter une ou plusieurs communications, portant notamment sur le paragraphe 22 b) du document E/CN.6/1982/8^{17/} et peut-être aussi sur les paragraphes 23 et 24.

3. Organisation de la Conférence

93. Plusieurs organisations ont recommandé d'orienter dans le sens de l'action pratique les préparatifs de la Conférence et la Conférence elle-même. La Banque mondiale, par exemple, fait siennes les observations présentées à la vingt-neuvième session de la Commission de la condition de la femme^{18/} comme quoi il importe que l'action proposée puisse être entreprise par les responsables nationaux chargés de mettre en oeuvre les recommandations.

94. La Banque mondiale juge également, comme la Commission, qu'il serait bon de laisser le plus longtemps possible à l'ordre du jour de la Conférence une certaine souplesse et d'y faire figurer des questions prioritaires tout autant sur le fond qu'en matière de méthodes^{19/}. Dans ce contexte, compte tenu du sens dans lequel on agira dans chaque pays, la Banque mondiale déclare notamment qu'il faut que l'ordre du jour envisage les moyens d'augmenter l'efficacité des mécanismes nationaux, entre autre celles des organisations non gouvernementales.

95. S'agissant de la documentation nécessaire pour la Conférence, la Banque mondiale suggère de disposer avant tout : a) d'une analyse de l'examen et d'une annexe statistique la plus complète possible; de brèves propositions pratiques d'action concrète dans les domaines critiques; c) de bonnes études méthodologiques (pratiques et non théoriques) sur les indicateurs, la planification du développement et les mécanismes nationaux. En conclusion, la Banque mondiale estime que ces documents doivent être complétés par des rapports nationaux et internationaux.

96. S'agissant du débat plénier, la Banque mondiale, tout en reconnaissant que l'avancement de la femme constitue un élément du développement général, et ne saurait se réaliser hors du contexte politique, ose exprimer l'espoir que la Conférence saura éviter de perdre son temps et son énergie dans des discussions d'idéologie politique. Elle propose de remplacer les rapports oraux sur l'action nationale et internationale par des rapports écrits, en supprimant ainsi les déclarations habituellement faites en session plénière, qui n'ajoutent pas grand chose et donnent les mêmes renseignements que les rapports écrits. A cet égard, la Banque mondiale dit encore qu'"il serait bon d'innover en supprimant cet élément des conférences internationales qui prend du temps et coûte cher; on ferait un meilleur usage du même argent en le versant au Fonds de contributions volontaires pour la décennie de la femme".

97. De plus, le FISE a proposé de constituer à la Conférence plusieurs groupes de travail consacrés à des sujets qui l'intéressent particulièrement^{20/}. Il estime également que l'ordre du jour de la Conférence doit prévoir des sessions lors desquelles les membres de ces groupes feront l'examen critique de l'impact exercé sur la vie des femmes par les divers programmes et projets de développement mis en oeuvre depuis 10 ans.

Notes

1/ Rapport de la Conférence mondiale de l'année internationale de la femme, Mexico, 19 juin-2 juillet 1975 (Publication des Nations Unies, No de vente E.76.IV.1)

2/ Rapport de la Conférence mondiale de la décennie des Nations Unies pour la femme : Egalité, développement, paix, Copenhague, 14-30 juillet 1980 (Publication des Nations Unies, No de vente E.80.IV.3)

3/ Résolution de l'Assemblée générale 35/36, annexe.

4/ Rapport de la Conférence des Nations Unies sur les pays les moins avancés, Paris, 1-4 septembre 1981 (Publication des Nations Unies, No de vente E.82.I.8), Première partie, chapitre A.

5/ "Préparatifs de la Conférence mondiale de la décennie des Nations Unies pour la femme à tenir en 1985", rapport du Secrétaire-général (E/CN.6/1982/8) et documents officiels du Conseil économique et social, Vingt-neuvième session, Supplément No 4 (E/1982/14, E/CN.6/1982/14), chapitre IV.

6/ Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture, Rapport de la Conférence mondiale sur la réforme agraire et le développement rural, Rome, 12-20 juillet 1979 (Rome 1979), pages 11 et 12.

7/ Rapport de la Conférence des Nations Unies sur les pays les moins avancés

8/ Ibid.

9/ La réponse du FISE portant sur les relations entre les questions et fleurant même le holisme, nous l'avons également citée au paragraphe 15 ci-dessus. D'autre part l'Université des Nations Unies n'a pas fait de proposition officielle mais indiqué qu'elle avait entrepris des recherches sur un des aspects de cette question : voir paragraphe 94 plus loin.

10/ Rappelons que l'un des points prioritaires du Programme d'action concerne les jeunes femmes et aussi que 1985 sera l'Année internationale de la jeunesse.

11/ Ces informations figurent dans un rapport intitulé UNICEF Advocacy and Information Dissemination Activities on the Participation of Women in Development 1980-1982 (29 juin 1982), page 9 établi par le FISE et adressé par lui au secrétariat de la Conférence.

12/ Le chef de file de l'établissement du dossier "Les femmes et le invalidités" a été le BIT; pour "Les femmes, la santé et le développement" L'OMS. A l'heure actuelle, le Service de la promotion de la femme au Centre pour le développement social et les affaires humanitaires est chef de file en ce qui concerne le dossier sur "Les femmes et la stratégie internationale du développement". Ce travail intéresse les préparatifs de la Conférence du fait qu'il établit une série de dossiers sur des questions et des thèmes choisis dans le cadre d'un programme général d'information.

13/ L'UNITAR a fait des recherches sur le rôle des femmes dans la prise de décisions aux Nations Unies. Ce sujet et ses modalités se rattachent aux travaux du Comité consultatif pour les questions administratives (Personnel) du Comité administratif de coordination qui se réunira à Vienne en mars 1983 au moment de la dix-septième session sur la Commission de la fonction publique internationale.

14/ The United Nations and Decision-Making : The Role of Women, 2 volumes (Publication des Nations Unies, No de vente E.78.XV.CR/10 et E.78.XV.CR/11); La situation des femmes aux Nations Unies (Publication des Nations Unies, No de vente E.75.XV.RR/18); "Les femmes et l'ONU", Nouvelles de l'UNITAR, volume 7, No 1.

15/ Rome, Conseil mondial de l'alimentation, 1982.

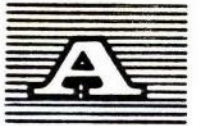
16/ WFC/1982/12.

17/ "Préparatifs de la Conférence mondiale de la Décennie des Nations Unies pour la femme ...

18/ Documents officiels du Conseil économique et social, vingt-neuvième session, Supplément No 4 (E/1982/14, E/CN.6/1982/14), chapitre IV, paragraphe 70.

19/ Ibid., paragraphes 77 à 78.

20/ Voir paragraphe 12 du chapitre II ci-dessus une description de ces cinq thèmes que le FISE propose de faire discuter par des groupes spéciaux à la Conférence.



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possible issues and themes

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

Please add the following Non-Governmental Organisations to footnote on
page 8 1 :

Category II : International Federation of Home Economics; World Movement of
Mothers; Bahá'í International Community.

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SUMMARY

This report has been prepared pursuant to paragraph 9 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26 and is a consolidation of the views of inter-governmental organizations on their contributions to the Conference and on possible issues and themes for it based on the replies of eight inter-governmental organizations

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for the Conference

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on their contributions to the Conference and on
possible issues and themes

Report of the Secretary General

SUMMARY

This report has been prepared in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26 and consists of a consolidation of the views of non governmental organizations on their contributions to the Conference and possible issues and themes for it.

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Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

Please add the following Non-Governmental Organisations to footnote on
page 8 1/ :

Category II : International Federation of Home Economics; World Movement of
Mothers; Bahá'I International Community.

UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



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COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY FOR
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND
APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

First session
Vienna, 23 February-4 March 1983
Item 3 of the provisional agenda *

PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

Proposals
on
substantive and organizational preparations
for the Conference

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum**

* A/CONF.116/PC/1.

** This addendum contains chapter IV of the report of the Secretary-General and is reproduced here without formal editing. For chapters I-III, see document A/CONF.116/PC/7. The financial implications of the proposals made herein will be circulated in document A/CONF.116/PC/7/Add.2.

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* This appendix contains chapter IV of the report of the Secretary-General and is reproduced here without formal editing. For ease of reference, the document is identified as document A/CONF.116/Annex. The financial implications of the programme of work will be detailed in document A/CONF.116/Annex.

IV. ORGANIZATIONAL ASPECTS OF PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

A. Conference Agenda and Documentation

1. The Agenda for the Conference should be developed in such a way as to achieve the dual objectives of the Conference, which should be:

- to provide an international forum for a critical review and appraisal of the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women 1976-1985, the difficulties encountered in achieving the objectives of the Decade, and probable future trends;

- to formulate strategies for effective implementation which would identify and recommend concrete methods and means for the advancement of women to be applied at national, regional and international levels, based on experience gained during the Decade and on perspectives to the year 2000.

2. The agenda should be so formulated as to avoid duplication or overlap of discussion and at the same time provide the flexibility required for the thorough consideration of the main themes and sub-themes of the Decade as well as the priority areas of concern that the Preparatory Body might wish to select.

3. At the present session of the Preparatory Body, a tentative agenda for the Conference should be formulated.

4. It is proposed that efforts be made to minimize the volume of documentation before the Conference and that documents prepared should be as brief and concise as possible. It is suggested that they might consist of:

- a limited number of basic documents specifically related to each of the substantive items on the Conference agenda; and

- certain background documents to supplement, as required, information and analysis appearing in the basic documents.

(1) Basic documentation

(a) Documentation relating to the review and appraisal of the achievements of the Decade

5. The Secretary-General would like to propose that the Conference have two basic documents before it for the consideration of this subject.

6. The first would be a critical review and appraisal report of the achievements of the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women - Equality, Development and Peace - and the sub-themes of Employment, Health and Education, and the obstacles encountered in the implementation of the World Plan and the Programme of Action. The report would also contain indications on probable future trends. The report would be global in scope and analytical in nature and would be based on information provided by Governments in response to a comprehensive questionnaire. Such a report would cover the period since 1975 and would show trends in national experience towards the achievement of the objectives of the Decade.

7. It should be recalled in this connexion that a monitoring system for the review and appraisal of the World Plan of Action for the Achievement of the Objectives of the International Women's Year was established by the General Assembly in its resolution 3520 (XXX), following the Mexico Conference, biennial reviews have been prepared since then. In view of the forthcoming Conference, it is proposed that the biennial review which normally should have been submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirtieth session in 1984 be expanded and be submitted for review by the Preparatory Body as its third session to be held in 1985 and then to the Conference itself.

8. A second basic report for consideration by the Conference under this subject would be the World Survey on the Role of Women in Over-all Development. The survey was requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 35/78. Its scope was further elaborated by General Assembly resolution 36/74 whereby it was recommended that the survey should analyze the role of women in relation to the development issues as envisaged in the International Development Strategy for the United Nations Development Decade focusing in particular on trade, agriculture, industry, energy, money and finance and science and technology. The General Assembly, in its resolution 37/60 requested that the survey should be submitted to the Conference. The survey, which will be based on a variety of available sources of information, would complement the findings of the review and appraisal of national experience.

(b) Documentation relating to strategies for implementation at national, regional and international levels

9. In line with the suggestions made above, that special attention should be given to the differences which exist in the condition of women depending on national and/or regional circumstances as well as to the similarities of women's condition throughout the world, it is proposed that the following main basic documents be before the Conference for its consideration under this subject.

10. A first report, pursuant to a request by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1982/26, would provide a perspective to the year 2000. This perspective would project a global picture of the future evolution of women's status and the particular issues likely to be of concern to women in the years to come, and would contain the consolidated perspectives developed at the regional level focusing on issues of particular concern to each region.

11. A second report would contain the strategies for implementation recommended by the regional preparatory meetings (which would reflect the specific priorities of the countries of each region in terms of women's advancement) and global strategies as discussed by the Preparatory Body.

12. A third report would be a forward-looking assessment undertaken by or in cooperation with the United Nations system of organizations which would suggest international strategies aimed at assisting in the implementation of global priorities. This report would reflect the emphasis placed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1982/26 on "the need to identify the most effective strategies and methods of work at the international level and to establish priorities for the United Nations system".

(2) Other basic documents

13. The report of the five regional intergovernmental preparatory meetings which would be organized at the five United Nations Regional Commissions would be available.

14. The final report of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as Preparatory Body for the Conference would also be available.

15. It is proposed that, at the first meeting of the Preparatory Body, a list of basic documents for the Conference be approved.

(3) Background documentation

16. A number of background documents could be made available to the Conference, in the languages they were originally issued in, as they would constitute important inputs to its preparatory work. These would largely consist of documents prepared for and/or reports of, technical and international meetings as follows:

(a) Reports of technical regional meetings of experts which will facilitate the work of the regional intergovernmental preparatory meetings and the Conference itself;

(b) Interregional reports on specific issues, including rural women;

(c) National reports that individual countries themselves may wish to prepare on the conditions of women, focusing on the experience gained including obstacles encountered in the achievements of the objectives of the Decade, and a forward looking perspective. Any national reports prepared should be made available by Governments, in sufficient number of copies for distribution at the time of the Conference and/or to other countries beforehand at the Government's own initiative.

(4) Other documentation

17. A number of United Nations organizations have indicated that they would prepare technical reports and information materials on issues within their fields of competence. It is proposed that the identification of the sectors and of reports to be presented by organizations be taken up at an Ad Hoc interagency meeting which would be held after the first session of the preparatory body. The organizations concerned would be expected to assume responsibility for preparing, translating into the languages of the Conference and reproducing these reports in quantity for distribution at the Conference.

B. Sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women as Preparatory Body for the Conference

18. Pursuant to the Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26, the Commission on the Status of Women will hold a second session as preparatory body in 1984 following its thirtieth regular session and a third in 1985. At the current session of the Preparatory Body, a preliminary agenda for the

1984 preparatory session should be formulated.

C. Other preparatory activities

19. It is proposed that regional technical and intergovernmental meetings be convened in collaboration with the regional commissions in preparation for the Conference.

20. The experience gained from the preparations for the 1975 World Conference of the International Women's Year (Mexico City) and the 1980 World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women (Copenhagen) revealed in-depth preparatory work at the regional level is essential for the success of such conferences. This will be even more so for this third World Conference since it has the task to review and appraise the achievements of the ten-year period 1976-1985 designated as the United Nations Decade for Women and should devise implementation strategies for the future.

21. It is therefore proposed that two types of meetings be held at the regional level, that is, intergovernmental preparatory meetings and meetings of a technical nature.

22. Five regional technical meetings would be convened, each under the aegis of one of the five United Nations regional commissions and the Conference Secretariat in cooperation with the specialized agencies. Each would provide an in-depth technical review of key issues relating to women of concern in the region and would identify targets and strategies of implementation and perspectives to the year 2000. Approximately twelve experts would be invited to attend each meeting.

23. With respect to intergovernmental meetings, which would be organized by the regional commissions in cooperation with the Conference Secretariat it is proposed that Governments of countries in each of the regions be invited to designate representatives of attend them to discuss the review and appraisal as well as to make recommendations on strategies for implementation and on perspectives to the year 2000 drawing upon the results of the regional technical meetings of experts, and other studies as appropriate.

24. The possibility of holding a limited number of sectoral interregional seminars on priority issues and topics of the Conference will be explored. Specific issues to be covered would be decided in the light of the exchange of views of the Preparatory Body and in consultation with organizations concerned. Those seminars would be organized by the substantive Conference Secretariat and relevant organs and organizations of the United Nations system. It should be noted in this respect that in response to operative para. 4 of General Assembly resolution 37/59, which requested the Secretary-General to consider holding within the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women as a matter of priority, an interregional seminar on national experience relating to the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas, with special emphasis on the problems of developing countries, it is proposed to hold such a seminar in 1984.

25. Ad Hoc interagency meetings will also be held in order to co-ordinate substantive and organizational preparations for the Conference by the relevant organs and organizations of the United Nations system. The first such interagency meeting will be held in Vienna prior to the first meeting of the Preparatory Body. It is envisaged that a second interagency meeting be held after the first meeting of the Preparatory Body in order to determine the inputs of organizations in light of the recommendations made by the first preparatory meeting.

26. The role and participation of non-governmental organizations prior to and during the Conference, including at regional and sectoral meetings, need to be defined at an early stage as their input in the past has been very significant.

27. It would be desirable if preparation for the Conference in countries themselves could begin immediately. For this purpose, it is suggested, as a first step, that countries may wish to establish national committees or similar focal points at a high level and to assist in national level preparations for the Conference in ensuring liaison within the country and facilitating contacts with the Conference Secretariat. It may be recalled that the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1982/26, encouraged Member States to consider establishing such Committees. It is hoped that such arrangements will be made by all Governments.

D. Public information activities

28. The Secretary-General believes that the Conference will benefit substantially from public awareness of the achievements made during the Decade and from continuing support of the objectives of the Decade. Based on the experience of the last two conferences held during the Decade, the Department of Public Information should again be the focal point for a co-ordinated public information programme at the national, regional and international levels.

29. To this end, the Secretary-General is proposing an information programme leading up to and covering the Conference, and including the post-Conference period. The programme will make use of the variety of communication techniques, including inter alia, print and audio-visual media, to reach opinion and policy-makers, non-governmental organizations, the academic community, the general public and the media (A/CONF.116/PC/8).

E. Secretariat support

30. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 37/17A, the Director-General for International Economic Cooperation will set up a steering Committee under his chairmanship and with the participation of the heads of all United Nations entities most directly concerned. The task of the steering committee will be to provide guidance on major policy issues affecting the substantial direction of Conference preparations and, in particular, to ensure conformity of the preparatory work with the general strategies and priorities established by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, as well as the substantive coordination of such work with related activities undertaken within the United Nations system.

31. In addition, in keeping with the same resolution, the Secretary-General will establish at the Secretariat level a Conference Management Committee to guide and coordinate all Secretariat activities during the preparatory phase of the Conference. The Committee will be composed of representatives of all Secretariat departments and offices involved in the preparation and organization of the Conference, under the Chairmanship of the Secretary-General or Executive Secretary of the Conference.

32. The substantive secretariat for the Conference and for the preparatory activities will be the Branch for the Advancement of Women in the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs as requested in the Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26.

33. The programme budget implications of the proposals contained in the report of the Secretary-General on substantive and organizational preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women are contained in an addendum to this report (A/CONF.116/PC/7 Add. 2).

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COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY FOR
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND
APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

First session
Vienna, 23 February-4 March 1983
Item 3 of the provisional agenda

PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

Proposals
on
substantive and organizational preparations
for the Conference

Report of the Secretary-General

Corrigendum

Document A/CONF.116/PC.1/7, dated 4 January 1983, should bear the symbol A/CONF.116/PC/7.

Cover page

The first footnote should read A/CONF.116/PC/1.

Second footnote, line 3: the symbol should read A/CONF.116/PC/7/Add.1.

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IV. ORGANIZATIONAL ASPECTS OF PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE*

At the bottom of the page add the footnote

*To be issued as document A/CONF.116/PC/7/Add.1.

Page 12

Delete section C (paragraphs 56-69) and amend table of contents accordingly.



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COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY FOR
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND
APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

First session
Vienna, 23 February-4 March 1983
Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

Programme budget implications of the proposals contained in the Report
of the Secretary-General on substantive and organizational
preparations for the World Conference to Review and
Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations
Decade for Women (A/CONF.116/PC/7/Add. 1)**

Note by the Secretary-General

* A/CONF.116/PC/1

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Estimated costs of conference servicing requirements of the regional preparatory meetings

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1. A number of proposals by the Secretary-General regarding the substantive and organizational preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, would, if recommended by the Commission, give rise to programme budget implications in 1983 and 1984-1985. These proposals are set out below under the following headings: (a) three preparatory meetings for the Commission on the Status of Women as the preparatory body of the Conference; (b) regional technical and inter-governmental meetings; (c) interregional seminar; and (d) secretariat support.

2. The proposals contained in the Report of the Secretary-General are presented for consideration by the Commission. Subject to the recommendations which the Commission may wish to make in respect of these proposals, authorization to incur those commitments to be undertaken in 1983 would be sought, initially, under the terms of General Assembly resolution 36/241 on unforeseen and extraordinary expenditures. With regard to the requirements relating to the 1984-1985 biennium, the proposed programme budget for that biennium has yet to be reviewed by the Programme Planning and Budgeting Board. That review is expected to be completed by 31 March. Additional requirements which might result from the decisions of the Commission and the Economic and Social Council, and for which no provision would exist in the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985, would be the subject of revised estimates to be submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session.

I. THREE PREPARATORY MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN ACTING AS PREPARATORY BODY OF THE CONFERENCE

3. It will be recalled that, at its twenty-ninth session, the Commission decided to recommend to ECOSOC that the Commission on the Status of Women should be the preparatory body for the Conference and should meet in Vienna in extraordinary session in 1983 and again in 1985 with conference preparations as the sole item of the agenda, and that its thirtieth session, in 1984, should be extended to allow additional time for conference preparations (E/CN.6/1982/14). By resolution 1982/26, the Council endorsed the decision of the Commission. The requirements of the preparatory body for 1983 have already been included in the 1982-1983 programme budget. The cost of convening the preparatory body's sessions in 1984 and 1985 will be included by the Secretary-General in his proposal for the 1984-1985 programme budget.

II. REGIONAL TECHNICAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETINGS

4. In paragraph 18 of the Report of the Secretary-General, it is proposed that regional and intergovernmental meetings be convened in collaboration with the regional commissions in preparation for the Conference. In paragraph 22, it is proposed that five regional technical meetings be convened, each under the aegis of one of the five United Nations regional commissions and the Conference Secretariat in co-operation with the specialized agencies. Further in paragraph 23, it is proposed that Governments of countries in each of the regions be invited to designate representatives to attend the intergovernmental meeting in their region which would be organized by the regional commissions in co-operation with the Conference Secretariat.

A. Five regional technical meetings of experts

5. The experience gained from the 1975 and 1980 World Conference in Mexico City and Copenhagen revealed that in-depth preparatory work at the regional level is essential for the success of such conferences. Each of the technical meetings of experts would provide an in-depth technical review of key issues relating to concerns of women in the region and would identify targets and strategies for action as well as perspectives to the year 2000. Up to twelve experts from the respective regions would be invited to attend each meeting for the duration of five working days. In addition, two substantive staff would attend each of these meetings in order to provide substantive servicing at the meeting.

6. The conference servicing requirements would be as follows:

(a) the languages of interpretation and documentation would be the languages of the regional commission where the meeting would be held;

(b) the documentation for each meeting would be 48 pages of pre-session and 24 pages each of in-session and post-session documentation.

7. The total estimated costs of the five regional technical meetings of experts, including conference servicing costs calculated on a full-cost basis, be as follows:

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984-1985</u>
	\$	\$
Travel and subsistence of experts	70,400	112,100
Travel and subsistence of Staff	13,700	16,400
Conference servicing costs	275,800	255,100
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	<u>359,900</u>	<u>383,600</u>

B. Regional intergovernmental meetings

8. Five intergovernmental meetings would be held for a period of one week each at the headquarters of each of the five regional commissions. These meetings would focus on review and appraisal of progress in the implementation at the regional level and on perspectives to the year 2000. These meetings would take place in late 1983 and during 1984. Three substantive staff would attend each of these meetings in order to provide substantive servicing.

9. The conference servicing requirements would be as follows:

(a) the languages of interpretation and documentation would be the languages of the regional commission where the meeting would be held;

(b) the documentation for each meeting would be 48 pages of pre-session, 50 pages of in-session and 24 pages of post-session documentation.

10. The estimated cost for holding the five regional intergovernmental meetings, including conference servicing costs calculated on a full-cost basis, would be as follows:

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984-1985</u>
	\$	\$
Travel and subsistence of staff	20,100	24,300
Conference servicing costs	327,200	301,800
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	<u>347,300</u>	<u>326,100</u>

III. INTERREGIONAL SEMINAR

11. In paragraph 23 of the report, it is proposed to convene, in response to General Assembly resolution 37/59, an interregional seminar which would review and assess the national experience relating to the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas with special emphasis on selected problems of developing countries. It would also focus on selected topics such as application of small scale technologies, education and employment opportunities in various sectors. The seminar would be organized by the Secretariat in consultation with specialized agencies and in close collaboration with other relevant United Nations organizations. An average of three experts from each region (up to a total of 15 experts) would be invited to attend the seminar envisaged to meet for ten working days. One representative from each of the regional commission and one substantive staff from New York would attend the seminar to be held in Vienna in 1984.

12. The conference servicing requirements would be as follows:

(a) the languages of interpretation and documentation would be the six languages of the General Assembly;

(b) the documentation requirements would be 48 pages of pre-session and 24 pages of in-session documentation.

13. The estimated costs for holding the seminar, including conference servicing costs calculated on a full cost basis, would be as follows:

	<u>1984</u>
	\$
Travel and subsistence of experts	51,200
Travel and subsistence of staff	3,000
Travel and subsistence of one representative from each of the regional commissions	17,100
Conference servicing costs	154,700
	<hr/>
Total	226,000

IV. SECRETARIAT SUPPORT

14. The Economic and Social Council, by resolution 1982/26, recommended that the General Assembly should make the necessary budgetary allocations, in the light of the proposals made by the preparatory body at its first session, to enable the Advancement of Women Branch to perform those duties recommended to be carried out in the resolution.

15. Based on the experience with preparations for the 1975 and 1980 Conferences for the Decade and in order to respond fully to the need for administrative co-ordination and substantive preparations for the Conference it is envisaged that the following would be required.

A. Conference Secretariat

16. In order to perform the duties described in the Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26, it is estimated that the services of one P-5, one P-4, one P-3 and three General service staff would be required in 1983 and 1984-1985. The P-5 would have planning and administrative responsibility including co-ordination and liaison with agencies and other organizations within and outside the United Nations system. The P-4 and the P-3 would assist in substantive and co-ordination work for activities at the sectoral, regional and interregional levels. Specifically, the P-4 would be responsible for the elaboration of proposals for targets and strategies for the achievements of the objectives of the Decade, as well as the consolidation of the basic document on perspectives to the year 2000 as well as the preparation of other basic documentation for the World Conference. The P-3 would assist in the preparation and co-ordination of the regional preparatory meetings and related documentation. Three General service posts would also be required for secretariat support to the professional staff above.

17. In order to effectively discharge the secretariat functions for servicing the Conference, the Secretary-General of the Conference and the secretariat of the Preparatory Committee would be required to maintain close collaboration with appropriate officials of Member States and other relevant organizations. Accordingly, travel for purposes of consultations would be required in 1983 and 1984-1985 at an estimated cost of \$90,000. Total consultancy service estimated at \$50,000 would also be required to prepare technical research papers on selected topics in connection with documentation of the main agenda of the Conference.

18. The related costs are estimated as follows:

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984-1985</u>
	\$	\$
Salaries and related costs	92,300	485,000
Consultants	--	50,000
Travel	15,000	75,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	107,300	610,000

B. Regional Commissions

19. In order to enable regional commissions to provide substantive input for the Conference in the preparation of the basic documentation for the regional technical and intergovernmental meetings, it is envisaged that consultant services would also be required by each of the regional commissions. The total estimated costs of consultancy service is \$105,000, representing 30 workmonths.

V. SUMMARY

20. In summary, the total cost, (exclusive of conference servicing costs) at 1983 rates, of implementing the proposals of the Secretary-General, as contained in document A/CONF.116/PC/7 Add. 1, is estimated at \$1,150,600 is summarized below. The conference servicing requirements are \$1,314,600 estimated on a full-cost basis at 1983 rates. Any actual requirements will be reflected either in the performance report for 1983 or the consolidated statements of conference servicing requirements for 1984 and 1985.

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984-1985</u>
	\$	\$
(a) Regional technical meetings	359,000	383,600
(b) Regional intergovernmental meetings	347,300	326,100
(c) Interregional seminar	-	226,000
(d) Secretariat support to substantive secretariat	107,300	610,000
(e) Secretariat support to the regional commissions	42,000	63,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	855,600	1,608,700

Annex

Estimated costs of conference servicing requirements
of the regional preparatory meetings

A. REGIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETINGS

	\$
1. <u>ECA region, Addis Ababa, 1983</u>	
Pre-session (15,840 words, A, E, F)	17,800
Meeting servicing (10 meetings, A, E, F)	4,200
In-session (16,500 words, A, E, F)	8,000
Post-session (7,920 words, A, E, F)	8,500
Total	<u>118,500</u>
2. <u>European region, Geneva, 1984</u>	
Pre-session (15,840 words, E, F, R)	17,800
Meeting servicing (10 meetings, E, F, R)	13,000
In-session (16,500 words E, F, R)	16,500
Post-session (7,920 words E, F, R)	8,500
Total	<u>55,800</u>
3. <u>ECLA region, Santiago, 1984</u>	
Pre-session (15,840 words, E, F, S)	17,800
Meeting servicing (10 meetings, E, F, S)	47,000
In-session (20,000 words, E, F, S)	51,700
Post session (7,920 words, E, F, S)	8,500
Office of General Services	3,900
Total	<u>128,900</u>
4. <u>ECWA region, Baghdadm 1984</u>	
Pre-session (15,840 words, A, E, F)	17,800
Meeting servicing (10 meetings, A, E, F)	43,600
In-session (16,500 words, A, E, F)	47,200
Post-session (7,920 words, A, E, F)	8,500
Total	<u>117,100</u>
5. <u>ESCAP region, Bangkok, 1983</u>	
Pre-session (15,840 words, C, E, F, R)	23,700
Meeting servicing (10 meetings, C, E, F, R)	77,200
In-session (20,000 words, C, E, F, R)	92,000
Post-session (7,920 words, C, E, F, R)	11,900
Office of General Services requirements	3,900
Total	<u>208,700</u>
TOTAL	<u>629,000</u>

B. REGIONAL TECHNICAL MEETINGS OF EXPERTS

	\$
1. <u>ECA region, Addis Ababa, 1983</u>	
Pre-session (15,840 words, A, E, F)	17,800
Meeting servicing (10 meetings, A, E, F)	44,200
In-session (7,920 words, A, E, F)	26,000
Post-session (7,920 words, A, E, F)	8,500
Total	<u>96,500</u>
2. <u>European region, Geneva, 1984</u>	
Pre-session (15,840 words, E, F, R)	17,800
Meeting Servicing (10 meetings, E, F, R)	13,000
In-session (7,920 words, E, F, R)	9,900
Post-session (7,920 words, E, F, R)	8,500
Total	<u>49,200</u>
3. <u>ECLA region, Santiago, 1984</u>	
Pre-session (15,840 words, E, F, S)	17,800
Meeting servicing (10 meetings, E, F, S)	47,000
In-session (9,600 words, E, F, S)	33,100
Post-session (7,920 words, E, F, S)	8,500
Office of General Services requirements	3,900
Total	<u>110,300</u>
4. <u>ECWA region, Baghdad, 1984</u>	
Pre-session (15,840 words, A, E, F)	17,800
Meeting servicing (10 meetings, A, E, F)	43,600
In-session (7,920 words, A, E, F)	25,700
Post-session (7,920 words, A, E, F)	8,500
Total	<u>95,600</u>
5. <u>ESCAP region, Bangkok, 1983</u>	
Pre-session (15,840 words, C, E, F, R)	23,700
Meeting servicing (10 meetings, C, E, F, R)	77,200
In-session (9,600 words, C, E, F, R)	62,600
Post-session (7,920 words, C, E, F, R)	11,900
Office of General Services requirements	3,900
Total	<u>179,300</u>
TOTAL	<u>530,900</u>

C. INTERREGIONAL SEMINAR TO REVIEW AND ASSESS THE NATIONAL EXPERIENCE
RELATING TO THE IMPROVEMENT AND SITUATION OF WOMEN
(Vienna, 1984, 10 days)

Pre-session (15,840 words, A, C, E, F, R, S)	37,100
Meeting servicing (20 meetings, A, C, E, F, R, S)	95,900
In-session (7,920 words, A, C, E, F, R, S)	20,100
Office of General Services requirements	1,600
Total	<u>154,700</u>



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COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY FOR
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND
APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

First session
Vienna, 23 February-4 March 1983
Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

PUBLICITY FOR THE CONFERENCE

Proposed information programme for the World Conference to
Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations
Decade for Women **

Report of the Secretary-General

* A/CONF.116/PC/1.

** This document has been reproduced without formal editing.

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I. Background

1. In its resolution 35/136 of 11 December 1980, the General Assembly decided to convene in 1985, at the conclusion of the Decade for Women, a World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women.
2. The Economic and Social Council, at its first regular session of 1982, in its resolution 1982/26 recommended that the Commission on the Status of Women, acting as the preparatory body for the Conference should meet in Vienna in extraordinary session in 1983 with conference preparations as the sole item of the agenda. In order to assist the Commission in reviewing the preparations for the Conference, the Secretary-General submits herewith for consideration by the Commission proposals regarding public information activities that could be undertaken to assist in reaching the aims and objectives of the Conference.
3. The objective of the proposed information programme which is outlined below would be to create public awareness concerning the issues before the Conference as well as to highlight the preparatory activities.

II. Target Audiences

4. Activities would be geared to information redisseminators who could, within their own organizational structures and means, inform and involve audiences in Member States.
5. In order to reach women at the "grass roots" level, information material would be channelled through existing national commissions, as well as "grass roots" non-governmental organizations and every effort would be made to reach the widest audience possible.
6. The target audiences of the information programme would also be reached through United Nations information centres.
7. The following would be the target audiences of the information programme:
 - (a) National Commissions and Women's Bureaux;
 - (b) Inter-governmental organizations;
 - (c) Development/educational planners and programmers;
 - (d) National, regional and international women's organizations;
 - (e) Interested non-governmental organizations and special interest groups such as anti-apartheid and human rights groups;
 - (f) Academic and research institutes;
 - (g) Media and specialized publications on women.

III. Proposed Activities

A. Publications

8. A brochure would be issued giving the why, what, where, when and how of the Conference. This multi-coloured brochures (four to six pages folded) would be produced in English (20,000 copies), French and Spanish (10,000 each), Arabic (5,000), Russian and Chinese (2,000 each).

9. Seven issues of a quarterly newsletter would be published providing information on all activities preceding the Conference, including regional meetings, preparatory meetings, seminars and sectoral meetings, etc. The last issue of the newsletter would be devoted to a summary of the conclusions of the Conference and would be published in English (10,000 copies), French and Spanish (5,000 copies each), and Arabic (2,000 copies).

10. Ten background notes, 5 features and 2 fact sheets would be issued to cover in greater detail the issues of the Conference. They would be published in English (10,000 copies), French and Spanish (5,000 copies each) and Arabic (2,000 copies).

11. The Mexico Plan of Action would be reprinted and the Copenhagen Programme of Action would be reproduced in booklet form. The print run for the above material would be 20,000 English, 10,000 each Spanish and French, 5,000 Arabic and 2,500 each Russian and Chinese.

12. A press information kit on the status of the world's women similar to those prepared for the two previous women's conferences, as well as for International Year for Disabled Persons, International Year of the Child, the World Population Conference and the World Assembly on Aging would be produced in the first quarter of 1985. It would be aimed mainly at a select list of media organizations worldwide, but would also be distributed to non-governmental organizations. There would be approximately 5,000 kits in four languages (English, French, Spanish and Arabic).

13. Regular articles on women would be printed in Development Forum prior to the Conference and a special supplement would be published in 1985. A booklet would be published after the Conference which would contain a description of the event itself and any follow-up programme which may result from the Conference.

B. Audio Visual Programme

14. For the past three years the United Nations Radio programme "Women" has been produced on a weekly basis in English, French and Spanish programmes are being produced twice monthly. Beginning in 1983, French, Spanish and Arabic programmes will be produced on a weekly basis. As feedback and usage reports indicate that in addition to broadcasting recorded material, organizations also use the scripts for newsletters, articles and for adaptation into other languages for broadcast purposes, it is anticipated that distribution of both tapes and scripts would increase.

15. A poster for the Conference using the logo for the Decade and along the lines of the Mexico Conference poster would be designed. It would be printed in the official languages with blanks for local languages. The print run would be 60,000 for the multi-language versions and an additional run of 40,000 with blank for local languages.

16. A photo exhibit would be arranged covering the five regions and would be mounted for an exhibition at the Conference site as well as at Headquarters, New York, and would involve photographic inputs from the entire United Nations system.

WB - panels 4
+ ?

17. The Women and Development television series which will begin in 1983 will be completed in time for the Conference. The project consists of production by approximately 12 women TV-producers from developing and developed countries of up to a half-hour of programming on issues relevant to the Decade and the Conference. Special screenings of the vignettes will be shown at the Conference and also at the preparatory regional and sectoral meetings if available in time.

18. A film would be produced based on the Conference, bringing out the various issues of concern to the participants. The film will have worldwide distribution.

C. Other Activities

19. Five fellowships would be awarded to journalists in each of the four regions in the developing world to attend the proposed regional preparatory meetings and a one day briefing would be held before the meeting to appraise the journalists of the issues.

20. An international encounter of journalists and experts would be held immediately preceding the Conference. Approximately 20 journalists from the developing countries would be invited to attend the encounter and the Conference at United Nations expense. Two panelists would also be invited to brief the journalists. The Encounter would also be open to all journalists accredited to the Conference.

21. Seed money would be made available to United Nations Information Centres to organize, at the national level, information activities in connection with the Conference (seminars, lectures, speaking tours, etc.). The money would also be used to reproduce (and distribute) information material in local languages.

22. A JUNIC Task Force on Women would be established and will begin meeting in 1983 to draft interagency information activities in connection with the Conference.

23. The undertaking of the programme proposed above would require 42 work months at the Professional level and 42 work months at the General Service level.

24. As indicated in para. 2 above, the activities outlined in this report are proposed for consideration by the Commission. The total costs of these activities are estimated at \$1,175,600. Subject to the recommendations that the Commission may wish to make in respect of these activities, any resources which may be required in addition to the provisions to be made in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 which is in the process of being formulated will be brought to the attention of the appropriate legislative organs. It is anticipated at this stage that some of these activities could be financed from extrabudgetary resources while others such as the radio programmes which have been regularly produced for the past three years could be undertaken during 1984-1985 without necessitating additional resources.

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APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

First session
Vienna, 23 February-4 March 1983
Item 3 of the provisional agenda

PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

Views of Member States

Report of the Secretary-General

Corrigendum

Document A/CONF.116/PC.1/2, dated 16 December 1982, should bear the symbol A/CONF.116/PC/2; the cover page should be replaced by the cover page appearing overleaf.

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APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

First session
Vienna, 23 February-4 March 1983
Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

Views of Member States

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

This report sets out the views of Member States as transmitted to the Secretary-General in response to paragraph 8 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26. Sixteen replies were received. The views are grouped firstly according to the substantive matters of the Conference and secondly according to organizational matters.

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UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

First session
Vienna, 23 February - 4 March 1983
Items 3 and 4 of the provisional agenda*

CONSIDERATION OF ISSUES AND THEMES TO BE EXAMINED AT
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS
OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

CONSIDERATION OF ARRANGEMENTS TO BE MADE
IN PREPARATION FOR THE CONFERENCE

Views of Member States

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

This report sets out the views of Member States as transmitted to the Secretary-General in response to paragraph 8 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26. Sixteen replies were received. The views are grouped firstly according to the substantive matters of the Conference and secondly according to organizational matters.

*A/CONF.116/PC.1/1.

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1982/26, invited Member States to submit their views on the proposed goals and specific themes of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women so that a report could be prepared for consideration by the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the preparatory body for the Conference.
2. The current report has been prepared in response to that resolution and at the time of its preparation replies had been received from the following Member States: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, Cuba, Denmark, German Democratic Republic, Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, India, Japan, Norway, Philippines and Yugoslavia. The Government of Tonga also submitted its views.
3. A number of replies noted that the time for preparing comments had been short. One pointed out that it was stating its views bearing in mind that only initial preparations were in question and that Member States would have the opportunity to take an active part in all preparations for the Conference.
4. Several replies were based on discussions with women's organizations and with individual women. For example, one reply was based on suggestions obtained by the Equal Status Council from political parties, ministries, relevant commissions, labour organizations, private organizations and a number of individuals. Overall, there was an emphasis on the importance of involving women and women's organizations in the preparations for the Conference.

SUMMARY OF REPLIES

A. Substantive matters

1. Themes, issues and objectives

5. In their replies Governments made general points on themes and issues. One Government considered it necessary that the selection of topics should secure a certain continuity in relation to previous conferences, including the World Conference of the International Women's Year held at Mexico City in 1975 and the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women held at Copenhagen in 1980, and to the World Plan of Action¹/^{*} and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women² adopted respectively at those conferences. Another considered that discussion at the Conference should have a long-term perspective.
6. In many replies, it was suggested that the main task of the Conference should be a review and appraisal of the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women. As a corollary, and of equal importance, the Conference should consider actions to be taken to resolve the problems that would be faced by women and to hasten their advancement.

*For the notes, see page 16 below.

7. A number of Governments called attention to the need to undertake a critical assessment of progress during the Decade. They considered it necessary to look at the barriers to achievement of the goals of the Decade that still existed, and which in some cases might still be increasing. They pointed to the need to consider what had not been achieved during the Decade, and consequently to discuss measures to realize the unmet goals. They noted that review and appraisal should focus particularly on an evaluation of the measures and strategies that had been adopted in order to attain the goals and objectives of the Decade. One suggested that in measuring progress, close examination should be given to the issue of whether progress or lack of progress had resulted from existing and adopted strategies and whether there was a need to revise those strategies. That was an exercise in which that Government was now engaged and which it was finding most useful. Another noted that the Programme of Action, and specifically the parts relating to the situation of women, provided the basis for its views on the goals and themes of the Conference. It strongly reaffirmed its standpoint as being the same one it had assumed before and during preparations for the 1980 World Conference, namely, that the goals and themes of the Conference should be defined in the clearest possible terms and geared to concrete problems in order to avoid as far as possible a discussion on political and ideological lines, which that Government considered of no use in solving specific problems relating to women. Consequently, in preparing and holding the Conference emphasis should be placed on practical questions relating to the implementation of the recommendations of the Programme of Action so that, by discussing concrete points and problems wherever possible, a contribution could be made towards solving actual problems and consequently genuinely improving the situation of women. That Government considered that less time should be devoted to reviewing and presenting the achievements made thus far than to looking at the problems that were still unresolved and describing measures still to be taken. The obstacles to greater progress should also be ascertained.

8. Another Government suggested that both Governments and the United Nations system should be prepared to take a hard look at the situation to determine what had been accomplished, what programmes had failed, what efforts were lacking and to analyse the reasons for the slow progress if such were found to be the case. One Government considered that the Conference should emphasize the performance of the United Nations system in implementation of the Decade. Another felt that the Conference should examine and evaluate the results of the Decade and the recommendations contained in existing proposals in order to contribute to a more successful realization of the overall objectives of the Decade. It should assess the extent to which the recommendations of the World Plan of Action and of the Programme of Action as well as the recommendations of the non-aligned and developing countries, the specialized agencies of the United Nations and other relevant bodies had become an organic part of all the relevant activities and documents of the United Nations. A further respondent also emphasized the need, within the review and appraisal, to evaluate the existing plans and programmes of action and the Declaration of Mexico.

9. The respondent developing countries in particular noted the importance within the review and appraisal procedure of identifying the factors that had prevented rapid progress in each area. One Government hoped that the Conference would make a serious effort to sum up the experiences gained over the Decade. The review and appraisal should explore the root causes of the obstacles to fully realizing the goals of equality, development and peace,

should evaluate the achievements of different countries in realizing the goals to improve the status and safeguard the rights and interests of women and should summarize experience gained in those areas.

(a) Equality, development and peace

10. A number of respondent Governments explicitly stated that the objectives of the Decade should be maintained as themes for the Conference. One Government suggested that "co-operation and solidarity" be added, taking into account the deterioration of the international political situation and the need for closer collaboration between peoples.

11. Several expressed opinions concerning priorities. One considered that emphasis should be given to the issues of development, while another considered that peace was the priority issue. Others suggested that concern for equality was of major importance.

12. One Government stressed the interrelationships between equality, development and peace and between the goals of the Decade and other major international strategies and efforts in the field of development and the strengthening of peace. It noted that the goals of the Decade were an integral part of the economic and political struggle for new relations in the world; moreover, achievement of those goals would help to attain the conditions necessary for humanity to live in a world of peace, one of a more balanced and just development, one that would respect the inalienable right of all peoples to independence and their own unhindered road to development, without which conditions positive changes in the status of women could not be made. It pointed to the links between the objectives of the Decade, the objectives of the International Development Strategy of the United Nations for the Third Development Decade, the efforts for the establishment of a new international economic order, and the measures for general and total disarmament and the promotion of peace and security in the world. It pointed out that not only had those commitments - equality, development and peace - been defined and adopted in the reports of the World Conferences in Mexico City and Copenhagen, but they had been emphatically confirmed at the Conference on the Role of Women in Development of Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries held at Baghdad, 1979, and included within the Programme of Action of the Meeting of High-Level Experts of Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries on the Role of Women in Development held at Havana in 1981.

(i) Women and equality

13. Several respondent Governments referred specifically to equality between the three themes proposed for the Conference. One Government considered that the themes for the Conference should be chosen on the principle that women and men should participate equally in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil and all other spheres. Especially, improvement of participation in fields in which little progress has so far been made should be discussed.

14. Two Governments were concerned that adequate attention be given to the issues of equality in the context of recent experience and current trends in the broad economic context of women's position in society. One of those Governments felt that the world was not merely experiencing an economic crisis but a deep modification in societal structures. Women should enter into the

new situation - which would be determined by such factors as new technologies, the mass media, problems of energy and the use of free time - on an equal footing with men. Referring specifically to the report of the Secretary-General to the Commission on the Status of Women at its twenty-ninth session on preparations for the Conference (E/CN.6/1982/8), the second of those Governments noted, with respect to section I, that it was distressed that the tone of the report indicated a reduced commitment to the goal of equality. Indeed, they contradicted the commitments of many states under a number of international human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. That Government's position was best summed up in the 1980 Declaration on the Employment of Women of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), which stressed the need for employment policies that offered women and men equal employment opportunity independent of economic growth and conditions in the labour market. The Government felt that statements of principles must not be over-ridden by fears of increased tension and unrest, especially in matters where women had borne the brunt of discrimination throughout centuries.

(ii) Women and development

15. One respondent Government considered that the greatest emphasis should be given to the issue of women and development. Another felt that priority should be given to the needs of women, particularly rural women, in developing countries. A third suggested that the subthemes of employment, health and education should be linked more closely to development (i.e. employment in development, health in development and education in development).

16. Several respondents from developed countries felt that such matters as the economic role of women should be examined within the context of broad societal change or development, a process affecting both developed and developing countries. However, one Government differentiated in its reply between the issue of women and work and that of women and development.

17. In that regard a number of respondents referred to the need for discussion by the Conference of broad world economic issues. One Government, referring to the strong demand by developing countries for the establishment of the New International Economic Order, felt that that matter should occupy an important place when discussing the question of development. A second hoped that the Conference would conclude that concern for the promotion of the status of women was an integral and inseparable part of a development strategy in which development was interpreted to include development in the political, economic, social, cultural and other dimensions of life, and the physical, moral and intellectual growth of a person. Consequently women's development should be viewed not only as an issue in social development but also as an essential component in every dimension of development. Moreover, to improve the status of women and their role in the process of development, such development should be an integral part of the New International Economic Order based on equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest and co-operation between all states. As the existing world situation was fraught with economic and political crises that unavoidably reflected on the status of women, that respondent called for a policy of self-reliance and collective self-reliance to help resolve both internal and global problems. That policy required and at the same time made possible the full participation of women in every country and in the international community. A third respondent stated

that seen in relation to the conditions existing in the world, including economic insecurity, the arms race and repeated violations of human rights, conditions for women had not improved. Consequently, it was important to emphasize that the results of the Conference must be included in, and was closely linked to, efforts to achieve a more just international economic order.

18. However, referring in particular to paragraphs 11 and 22 of the report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/1982/8) one Government noted that the establishment of a new international economic order would not necessarily ensure the promotion of equality between women and men. Of crucial importance were the economic, social and political institutions and relations in operation in countries. That point could also be made in relation to macro-economic policy within countries. The effects of macro-economic policy on women depended on the type of policy chosen but also, more importantly, on factors such as occupational and industrial distribution of women and the presence of systemic and attitudinal barriers to women's employment. Those would determine the ultimate impact on women. The discussion of macro-economic policies within the document did not clearly point out the presence of those factors between macro-economic policy and its impact on women.

19. Another Government considered that, although the Conference could not remain silent on major world problems that concerned women as well as men, it was appropriate that such major themes as the New International Economic Order, the international monetary situation and the North-South dialogue be touched upon, but not designated as specific objectives of the Conference as delegations could not include experts on all such aspects, which were the subjects of discussions in depth in other forums. Rather, it appeared more important to arrange that women be associated with such discussions by forming part of delegations to specialized conferences where they could be involved in relevant decision-making.

20. One Government considered it important that representatives from the developing countries themselves identify areas in which continued work was necessary and that developed countries be prepared to understand and support the areas so designated. It was necessary to have human resources, economic solidarity and the requisite technology in order to ensure a type of development co-operation that was relevant for and beneficial to women. Projects that had women as the primary target group were necessary and would need support for a long time to come. Consequently, development assistance that had women as the target group should be increased, especially with activities that could inform and educate women in the least privileged groups in the population and so contribute to the improvement of women's economic situation and independence. However, consideration of women's interest should be integrated into all development work; it was necessary that the consequences to the population of all development projects be considered. Special awareness was necessary to ensure that the living conditions of women and children were not worsened, and continued evaluation and co-ordination were therefore essential. It was considered important by that Government to point to those areas where women all over the world could identify with and support each other. Groups of women who were especially vulnerable and without a secure social network - for example, the young without an education or the opportunity to achieve economic independence, single mothers and widows - needed an expression of solidarity. The United Nations should allocate sufficient resources to carry out that task.

21. In that connection it was pointed out by another respondent that global unity in respect of both aims and actions was essential. A programme of action could be successfully implemented only if there were a united front. It was essential for women to work together. In reviewing whether and to what extent the Decade had improved the status of women it was important to ask what the side-effects of development were for the general well-being of the world's population. Moves towards achieving the goal of integrating women in development had been on the surface only, and there was a need to strengthen the programme in that regard, starting from the grass-roots level and extending to policy- and decision-makers.

22. A further respondent considered that in focusing upon the degree and nature of the participation of women in the process of economic development, particularly in developing countries, the Conference should assess the actual effects of that participation on the stability of development and on the long-term orientation of national development strategies.

23. A number of respondents considered the issue of the current deterioration of the world economic situation as one of central significance for women and hence a matter for careful consideration at the Conference.

24. Thus one Government, while considering that equality, development and peace still constituted the principal objectives of the Decade, noted that conditions had dramatically changed since the 1975 Conference. The economic crisis had affected profoundly both developing and developed countries. In the industrial countries women, who had always occupied a marginal position in the sphere of work, had been the first to suffer from the crisis. Female unemployment was a major problem that had to be set within the overall problem of unemployment and that called for original solutions (part-time employment, women's early retirement). The energy crisis that had so affected the industrialized countries had been catastrophic for developing countries. Women, often responsible for health, food and child education should be better able to participate in development efforts; and in that respect it should be remembered that health and education remained among the principal motors of development. That respondent concluded by noting that the world was passing not only through an economic crisis but also a profound change in the structure of civilization. Such matters as new technologies, the mass media, energy use and the use of free time merited consideration.

(iii) Women and peace

25. One respondent felt that the Conference should pay special attention to relationships between women and peace. Pointing out that there could be no development without peace and that peace could not be stable without the elimination of inequality and discrimination, that Government noted the sufferings of women and children as a result of current wars and tensions and also of massive spending upon armaments, the acceleration of which had resulted in severe cuts in social expenditures in some developed countries, thereby worsening the situation of women already made difficult by unemployment and inflation. Moreover, expenditure on armaments diverted vast resources that could be used in developing countries to combat hunger, disease and illiteracy. Consequently, elimination of the main obstacles to the peaceful life of peoples appeared to be tantamount to uprooting the main causes of discrimination against women.

26. One Government recommended that, because of the relationship between women's advancement and peace, the Conference should advocate the efficient resolution of the question of world peace and international security measures in the field of disarmament, the elimination of racist practices and all other negative practices and tendencies burdening the world. It pointed out that efforts and concern for the promotion of the status of women at the same time represented efforts for peace based on the independence and equality of all states.

27. Several Governments recommended the topic of peace as being among the main issues to be discussed by the Conference, one stressing in particular the need for participation by women in peace negotiations.

28. One Government noted that it would be more appropriate to arrange for women to form part of delegations to specialized conferences on issues such as peace and disarmament, which should be only touched upon at the World Conference, than to discuss those issues in depth at the Conference, particularly because delegations could not include specialists on all matters relevant to women.

(b) Employment, education and health

29. A number of replies supported the retention of the three subthemes identified for the 1980 Conference, equality, development and peace, and contained in the Programme of Action. It was indicated that identification of new themes was not necessary as the themes continued to reflect the common problems facing women the world over. The subthemes of Copenhagen should however be linked more closely to development. It was noted that in the years ahead the realization of the right of women to work, of equal opportunities in working life, equal pay for equal work, and equal opportunities in education and training would remain the most important task with regard to the situation of women. Improved health care for women and access to social benefits, including family planning, would also continue to be of central importance in many nations. For those reasons, the Conference should concentrate on the three concrete subthemes and reassess the goals set out in the Programme of Action. The themes addressed in the Programme were not new, but since the problems had in practice been solved only in part they remained important, especially in view of the more difficult economic conditions now existing.

(c) Suggestions for specific topics

30. Many respondent Governments identified specific topics that they felt should be given priority attention, as below.

(i) Agricultural development and food

31. A number of respondents considered that agricultural development and food was an important issue. Priority should be given particularly to the needs of rural women in developing countries. It was necessary to examine the effects of rural development lagging behind industrial development in developing countries, namely the aggravated agricultural and food situation including problems related to malnutrition. Undeveloped, predominantly subsistence, agriculture forms the basis of the national economies of most of the developing countries and women usually shoulder

the greatest burden in such economies, consequently, the issue should be considered from the point of view of the promotion of the integral development of rural areas including the participation of women and of the women in traditional sectors that cannot absorb redundant workers because of insufficient economic development in conditions of an economic crisis, not only in the developing countries but throughout the world. That Government considered also, in regard to the role of transnational corporations in rural areas, that particular attention should be paid to the practice of expanding the capital- and technology-intensive agricultural estates of the transnational corporations, which often disrupt the activities of women in agriculture and other traditional sectors of activity without taking into account the development plans and the overall development of those countries.

(ii) Industrial development

32. Several Governments felt that the issue of industrial development was important. In that connection, one respondent considered that the Conference should give attention to the effects of the widespread practice of introducing into the developing countries industries based on cheap and unskilled female labour that do not contribute to the development of those countries, but rather, in a special way, intensify their exploitation.

(iii) Services

33. In respect to services, one Government considered that the Conference should also appraise the status of women in the tertiary sector as well as in "unorganized" sectors of activity under conditions of an economic crisis during which an increasing number of women were losing their jobs and were being directed to the periphery of the labour market in both developed and developing countries. Another considered that attention should be given to the work performed by women in the home, including the care of children and elderly persons.

(iv) The impact of developments in science and technology

34. A number of respondents felt the impact of developments in science and technology to be an important issue. Special attention should be given to the application of appropriate technology. Employment should be examined in relation to technological development. An assessment of scientific and technological development in developing countries was needed to identify the degree of the participation of women in scientific and technological transformation; to find a way to humanize working conditions; to organize a bolder breakthrough in the more massive integration of women in new sectors of labour; and to review the manifest adverse effects that the introduction of inadequate technologies have on women, particularly on the overall development of the developing countries. The Conference should also deal with the question of the effects that new technologies have on the social and economic situation of women, their health and working conditions, and contribute towards ensuring that the increased use of new technologies had positive repercussions for women.

(v) Education

35. In that regard, one respondent noted that women's choice of vocational education was too limited, and that weakened their position in society. Women's education must be spread over much wider areas in order to avoid the risk of being passed over by technological developments and the changing structure of society. It was also vital, according to one reply, to continue emphasizing the role of education as related to preventive measures for the maintenance of good health, such as hygiene, good nutrition, and family planning and infant care including breast feeding. The good results that had been achieved so far must be maintained and strengthened.

(vi) The right to work

36. In that connection, one Government suggested that attention should be given to the influence of new technology and of family responsibilities and duties. The effects on women of the crises in employment and high unemployment called for special action and initiatives.

(vii) Participation in political life, planning and all forms of decision-making

37. A number of respondents emphasized the importance of consideration of participation in political life, planning and decision-making.

(viii) Information and communications

38. Information and communications were considered an important issue, particularly the mass media in relation to societal attitudes towards women.

(ix) Women living in situations of extreme gravity, particularly Palestinian women and those living under apartheid

39. Some Governments stressed the importance of considering the question of women living in situations of extreme gravity, particularly Palestinian women and those living under apartheid.

(x) Miscellaneous topics

40. The following topics were also listed as issues that should be discussed: the influence of transnational corporations in the developing countries; consumption of resources and pollution; energy; water and sanitation; shelter, primary health care; population; problems of women migrants and women refugees.

41. Several respondents called attention to the need to continue research into the situations and role of women in society and to disseminate the results thereof.

2. Future action

42. Many Governments considered that the review and appraisal made by the Conference should form the basis of future actions. A number considered that the Conference should emphasize practical aspects of how to implement relevant recommendations and how to bring about a decisive improve-

ment in women's situation. On that basis the Conference should explore ways and means to further realize the goals of the Decade, giving special attention to the desires and needs of women in developing countries. One Government noted that it would seek adoption by the Conference of any action-oriented decisions aimed at the implementation of the demands raised by the Berlin World Congress, the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action. One indicated that deciding approaches to the solving of women's problems after the end of the Decade was one of the two main tasks of the Conference. In order to attain the objectives of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action, it was necessary to adopt further measures after 1985 at the national, regional and international levels. Those measures should take account of countries' differing levels of development. The ways and means for that purpose should be discussed at the Conference. Another Government recommended that review and appraisal should especially consider what had not been achieved and discuss measures to be taken in order to realize the goals of the Decade. The debate ought to lead to demands for action that would be as precise and operative as possible and give clear indications as to whether they were directed at international organizations or Governments. It was noted that particular importance should be attached to greater integration of the goals of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action in as many national and international institutions and programmes as possible since there were no plans for a Second Decade for Women. Problems and issues relating to women ought therefore to be considered and dealt with in the entire United Nations system after 1985. Moreover practical measures for application of the Declaration of Mexico, World Plan of Action and Programme of Action should be considered up to the year 2000.

43. The majority of Governments replying favoured an extension of the existing instruments, plans and programmes to a further period of implementation after 1985. One considered that there seemed to be no need to recommend new goals or new specific themes in the light of its view that the 1980 Conference subthemes should be retained for the purpose of review and appraisal of the Decade's achievements. Another did not consider a further decade for women to be desirable but proposed that the lines of action already undertaken be reformulated and possibly reoriented the better to attain concrete and practical objectives. A third Government felt that the goals and objectives of the 1980 Conference remained relevant to the Conference and consequently saw no requirement for a further plan or programme of action for the Conference. Rather the emphasis should be the further application and development of the aims and achievements of the 1980 Conference. While a decade was not a sufficient period for achieving full advancement of women, the existing World Plan of Action and Programme of Action contained useful recommendations for all to work on for the remainder of the century, although some readjustments in emphasis and reallocation of priorities would be useful. Another considered that there were no grounds for modifying the existing orientations offered by the current world economic and political situation. Thus, since the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action as well as the documents of the meetings of the non-aligned and developing countries, specialized United Nations agencies and other relevant bodies, contained recommendations of a long-term nature for giving effect to the objectives of the Decade, the forthcoming Conference should, when assessing their implementation in the framework of the general global situation, confirm them at the same time as the strategic basis for the further efforts of the world community.

44. In contrast one Government recommended that on the basis of the evaluation of progress so far achieved to be made by the Conference, a second United Nations decade for women ought to be proclaimed in order to continue and strengthen efforts made up to then. The primary goals of the Conference should be an evaluation of the Decade and the adoption of a strategy for achieving further progress in the post-decade period. That strategy should emphasize the problems that existed and formulate methods for overcoming them. Consequently, it considered that it would be valuable for the Conference to consider, encourage and recommend continued activities nationally, regionally and internationally as well as to discuss the continued responsibility of the United Nations. Possibilities for continued follow-up and evaluation and use of new and established channels for the sharing of experience should be examined, and a schedule adopted. Follow-up of the World Plan of Action with as precise goals as possible could be used as a tool in the continuing work for equality on a local, national, regional and global basis. In particular, the Conference should identify methods whereby the recommendations of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action could continue to be carried out in order that the global process that had been started continued and grew so that women who were now poorly represented in traditional international arenas would become more experienced in co-operation. A second Government felt that a decade was too short a period of time for the World Plan of Action to be effectively achieved and consequently it supported the view that the period be extended so that awareness of and concern for women's issues might be further nurtured and strengthened. In that connection, it pointed out that the setting up of national machineries had not yet been achieved in all countries and that only a few had fully fledged ministries responsible for the advancement of women.

45. One respondent considered that the holding of a world conference in 1990 would enable continued measurement of progress and tackling of problems. A second considered that a world conference to evaluate progress could be envisaged for 1995 or 2000 with, in the interval, regional conferences. That was considered to be sufficient to maintain pressure upon governments and to continue to alert public opinion.

46. One Government recommended the continued monitoring of the implementation of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action, and considered that one of the themes of the Conference should be the strengthening of regional consultations in that field.

B. Organizational matters

1. Pre-conference arrangements

(a) National level

(i) Preparatory committees and liaison arrangements

47. In response to paragraph 6 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26 that encouraged Member States:

"...to consider establishing national committees to assist, for example, in national-level preparations for the Conference, consultations on issues and themes and the preparation of national reports;"

many respondent Governments reported that such committees had already been or were being established or that such functions had been assigned to existing organizations.^{3/}

(ii) Ratification of or access to the Convention and other instruments

48. One Government, noting that the Convention could play an important role in abolishing discrimination against women in the national legislation of the States parties and in establishing the international principle of equality of men and women, recommended that Member States that had not yet done so, be urged to ratify or accede to it within the Decade. A second Government also felt that, by way of preparation for the Conference, efforts should be made to induce those governments that had not yet ratified the Convention to do so. A third respondent noted that the influence of specific instruments for achieving equal rights for women should be enhanced and that additional such instruments should be established.

(iii) The role of non-governmental organizations

49. A number of respondent Governments stated their support for an important role for non-governmental organizations in preparations for the Conference and at the Conference itself. One noted with satisfaction the increased support that grass-root movements were receiving from the United Nations system. Another respondent, referring to the Secretary-General's report (E/CN.6/1982/8), pointed out however that the lack of resources at the disposal of those non-governmental organizations should not be forgotten. If the international community were to rely more and more heavily on them in order to further its support of women, governments must assist them in their endeavours. That was true at the national as well as international level.

(b) Regional level

50. One respondent stressed the importance of regional activity to the end of the Decade. It considered that there should be a greater emphasis on regional consultation and preparation for the Conference, and results of those should be integrated into the work of the Conference. In keeping with the overall emphasis of the Conference, regional meetings should be workshops of specialists with experience in the areas of health, employment, education and staffing of women's bureaux. A second Government drew attention to the fact that, concomitantly with the meeting of a working group of OECD informal consultations had been held on 23 June 1982 on the subject of the Conference and possible priority themes for it.

51. One respondent felt that consideration should be given to the support and endorsement of the recommendations and resolutions of the relevant subregional follow-up meeting to the 1980 World Conference.

(c) International level

(i) The preparatory body and its secretariat

52. Several respondents specifically noted their support for the recommendations contained in paragraph 2 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26 that the Commission on the Status of Women act as preparatory body for the Conference. One of those Governments noted that it supported the notion that the substantive secretariat of the Conference be the Advancement of Women Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs in the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs. It strongly believed that, in order for that to be done without hampering the regular operations of the Commission on the Status of Women, the existing Secretariat machinery would need to be temporarily strengthened and, therefore, that sufficient resources must be allocated to that.

(ii) Documentation

53. Several respondents pointed out that it was essential that background documentation be ready well ahead of the time of the Conference in order to allow ample time for consultation. For that reason, it was hoped that sufficient time would be allocated in the first preparatory meeting to a discussion of organizational arrangements, especially those listed in (b), (c), (d) and (f) on page 12 of E/CN.6/1982/8. Another Government noted that review and appraisal should be carried out in the form of a penetrating analysis by experts, with results available to participants before the Conference began. The documents prepared for the 1980 Conference should provide a basis for measuring progress. Specialized agencies should be asked to document progress in respect of women's participation in development, with particular emphasis on agricultural development, industrial development, energy, food, water and sanitation, shelter, appropriate technology, functional literacy, population and primary health care. Another reply considered it important that national reports be planned in such a way that they could serve as instruments for evaluation. It noted that background documentation should be detailed and precise.

54. Having recommended that the Conference should emphasize the performance of the United Nations and its agencies in implementation of the United Nations Decade, one reply suggested that one preconference activity should be to examine and report on that. Referring specifically to the report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/1982/8) another respondent noted that it would be pleased to see more recognition and emphasis given in any future report to plans proposed by United Nations organizations and agencies and other international bodies, to mechanisms within the United Nations to integrate women's concerns and to analyse the impact of policies and programmes on women and programmes of equal opportunities and affirmative action for women within the United Nations system. A third Government proposed that a separate background document with specific recommendations to the United Nations system, including proposals to undertake administrative strengthening of questions related to women, should be worked out before the Conference.

55. Several respondents specifically supported the recommendation in paragraph 5 of ECOSOC resolution 1982/26 that a "forward-looking draft perspective on the status of women to the year 2000" should be prepared.

(iii) Resources

56. One respondent noted that the final costs of the Conference should be kept within strict limits and should not exceed the authorized budget.

2. In-session arrangements

57. A number of Governments recommended that there should be no presentation of formal oral statements on national conditions to the plenary of the Conference, but that national reports should be prepared but transmitted in advance to the Conference secretariat for prior circulation. In that way there would be more time for discussion of future oriented activities. One respondent felt that the documentation for the Conference, notably the results of an expert review and appraisal, should provide the basis for discussions. The results of regional consultations and preparations should be integrated into the work of the Conference.

58. One respondent considered it important to clarify the status of non-governmental organizations, especially women's organizations, in regard to participation in the Conference. It was of great significance that the non-governmental organizations were not only formally given the right to speak, but that proper time would be reserved for that purpose. In case of an "alternative" conference such as that held in 1980 it was necessary to establish closer communication between the main conference and the "alternative" one. The role of the women's organizations was of great importance and those organizations should feel that they were participating in the Conference as widely as possible. A second Government noted that the increased attention given to grass-root movements by the United Nations system made it natural that an "alternative" conference be held in 1985, and it supported the holding of such a conference. Another felt that both governmental and non-governmental organizations should contribute to the preparation of national reports.

Notes

1/ Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, Mexico City, 19 June - 2 July 1975 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1).

2/ Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14-30 July 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3).

3/ The secretariat of the preparatory body of the Conference will prepare a list of such national bodies and of liaison officers designated for the purpose of Conference preparation. This list will be circulated to all Permanent Missions, to interested non-governmental and inter-governmental organizations outside of the United Nations system and to focal points for the advancement of women within the United Nations system. It will also be available upon request from the secretariat.

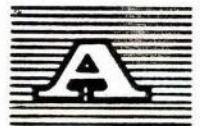
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ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY
FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO
REVIEW AND APPRAISE THE
ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE UNITED
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First session
Vienna, 23 February - 4 March 1983
Item 3 of the provisional agenda

PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

Views of non-governmental organizations in consultative status
with the Economic and Social Council
on their contributions to the Conference and on
possible issues and themes

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

Please add the following Non-Governmental Organisations to footnote on
page 8 1 / :

Category II : International Federation of Home Economics; World Movement of
Mothers; Bahá'í International Community.



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Corrigendum

Document A/CONF.116/PC.1/6, dated 7 December 1982, should bear the symbol A/CONF.116/PC/6; the cover page should be replaced by the cover page appearing overleaf.

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possible issues and themes

Report of the Secretary General

SUMMARY

This report has been prepared in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26 and consists of a consolidation of the views of non governmental organizations on their contributions to the Conference and possible issues and themes for it.

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First session
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CONSIDERATION OF ISSUES AND THEMES TO BE EXAMINED AT
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS
OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

CONSIDERATION OF ARRANGEMENTS TO BE MADE
IN PREPARATION FOR THE CONFERENCE

Views of non-governmental organizations in consultative status
with the Economic and Social Council
on their contributions to the Conference and on
possible issues and themes

Report of the Secretary General

This report has been prepared in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26 and consists of a consolidation of the views of non governmental organizations on their contributions to the Conference and possible issues and themes for it.

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1982/26 of 4 May 1982 on preparations for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, to be held in 1985, invited non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to submit their views on their contributions to the Conference and on possible issues and themes for the Conference, in writing, to the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, for consolidated presentation to the preparatory body.
2. Accordingly, non-governmental organizations that have actively collaborated with the United Nations on questions related to the status of women were asked to submit their views. A total of 15 organizations replied.^{1/} The International Women's Decade Committee, New York, and the Special Committee of International NGOs on Human Rights: Sub-committee on the Status of Women, Geneva, both held consultations on the subject and also submitted their views to the Secretary-General.

I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

3. In all the replies, the view was stressed that non-governmental organizations should participate in the Conference and in the preparations for it. It was considered that all the conferences convened by the General Assembly benefited substantially from active non-governmental participation, and that while separate activities by non-governmental organizations on the fringe of such conferences were useful, they were no substitute for direct access and contribution to the discussions in the conference proper. It was noted that the role of accredited observers from non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council was often misunderstood.
4. The hope was also expressed that non-governmental organizations would be invited to all preparatory meetings, including those organized by the regional commissions. It was also hoped that adequate provisions would be made for the seating of observers from non-governmental organizations in all the meetings and that adequate time would be allowed in the meetings for statements by them.
5. Many organizations considered that, besides being invited to give their views on issues and themes of the Conference called for in Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26, they should be invited to answer the questionnaire on review and appraisal so that the report could adequately reflect their responses. Some also regretted the fact that they had not been invited to submit their comments on the comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development called for in General Assembly resolution 36/74 of 4 December 1981.
6. All the organizations referred to the possibility of holding a meeting of non-governmental organizations either before the Conference, concurrently with it or both before and during the Conference, but no preference was indicated. It was pointed out that every effort should be made to involve more women from developing countries in such activities.

II. SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS

A. Themes for the Conference

7. While many organizations supported the themes of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, and the subthemes of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, held at Copenhagen from 14-30 July 1980, namely, Employment, Health and Education, they suggested that some other themes could be developed, such as "equality of opportunity", because in their view it was more realistic to have a broader goal than to set absolute targets that could be unattainable for reasons not wholly related to inequality. They supported unreservedly the priority need for development strategies to improve conditions for all people, in particular the most disadvantaged, but thought it unhelpful to ignore the widely differing political, economic, and social constraints that were currently to be found within and between the various countries. What was important was to ensure that, within the limitations imposed by such realities and diversity, women were not discriminated against. "Equality of opportunity" was a goal that women could pursue, individually and together, in their own ways and in their own settings, one that could range from participating in high-level decision-making to having a real voice in family affairs. It was the experience of those organizations that most women wished to go ahead not for themselves alone, or at the expense of men, but for the benefit of their families and communities, and on grounds of merit, not of sex.

8. Other organizations considered that the issue of peace was one of the most important themes, because living in a world without war called for an educational process in which women, the chief educators both in institutions and families, must be deeply interested and involved, and women should play a much greater role in every aspect of this issue.

9. One organization suggested that the theme for the Conference should be "full participation in changing societies", because participation required women to be equipped with valid skills and an appropriate education. Participation to them meant equal opportunities, total elimination of discrimination, a complete change in job classification and real partnership within the family. It also called for a new awareness of women's contributions, skills, abilities and potential; the acceptance of women as persons, as opposed to the "we" (men) "they" (women) syndrome.

10. In the view of one organization, another theme for the Conference should be "rural development", because it would underline the urgent need for policies to promote the viability of rural areas. It was thought that the following topics could be discussed under the main theme: the legal status of rural women; rural women as entrepreneurs, producers and managers; the implications of technology for rural women and their needs in relation to water, energy and production; rural communications and the media; changing roles within the family, particularly new opportunities and responsibilities; and collaboration between national machineries and women's organizations in order to speed development.

B. Issues for the Conference

11. Many organizations thought that the Conference should look to the future and that there should be no restatement of ideals and objectives. There was a general feeling that a second United Nations Decade for Women should be proclaimed. In that regard, attention should be paid to the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade (General Assembly resolution 35/56, annex), the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed and Countries,^{2/} the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (General Assembly resolution 34/80) and the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order (General Assembly resolution 3281 (XXIX)).

12. Many organizations considered that the Conference should focus on practical steps to accelerate the achievement of the goals of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year.^{3/} Both that and other mandates developed by the United Nations system provided sufficient guide-lines for Governments but practical steps were necessary to accelerate the achievements enumerated therein.

13. Some of the many issues elaborated on in the replies included those dealing with violations of the human rights of women, particularly in relation to the need for an opportunity to discuss what progress, if any, had been made in reducing the incidence of serious violations of the human rights of women.

14. One organization suggested that it was important to stress the need to ensure that de jure equality for women in all fields was in fact achieved, while another considered it was too optimistic to say that de jure equality for women had been achieved in almost all countries; both organizations agreed that equality was lagging behind in the area of practical application. It was pointed out that one of the most difficult and sensitive problems was that of changing attitudes. It was also pointed out that the presence of more women in decision-making positions throughout society would help, but not unless those women made decisions that took into account the situation or needs of their less powerful sisters.

15. It was considered that concrete proposals for the improvement of the status of women in development should be one of the main issues to be discussed at the Conference. It was also considered that development strategies must be appropriate to women's needs as well as to those of men and that some progress had been made in planning development so as to take more account of women's needs as partners in development. The concept of alternative development strategies was essential to the planning process, and the improvement of the status of women through their full integration into and participation in development was a necessary element of that concept. The way in which it was done should be carefully thought out so that tensions between men and women were not aggravated unnecessarily.

16. The view was expressed that it was essential to undertake analyses of the informal urban sector, of women in rural development (paying special attention to various aspects of food production, for example the use of machines by women) and of energy sources, as well as of the problems encountered by the wives of migrant workers who took over as heads of household. It was also suggested that the point that women were subsidizing economic development and growth should be emphasized, and that recognition of the value of unpaid work in the household would greatly contribute to improving women's self-image and confidence. That question should be dealt with when indicators and a statistical data base were being developed.

17. It was stated that many efforts to attain equality for women had focused on male dominance as a sexual characteristic. That had often obscured the economic and social basis for inequality and some consideration should be therefore given to how men could be mobilized in the cause of equality.

18. Special educational programmes and opportunities to participate in such programmes should be planned on a world-wide basis. That would encourage women to become conscious of their identity, resources and development so that they could develop to the maximum their potential as the rearers and earliest educators of future adults, both women and men, and thus influence their culture in the most positive way.

19. It was emphasized that the programme developed by the Conference should take into consideration the contributions to be made by the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, and by national governmental and voluntary structures; one organization referred, in particular, to the need to take special account of the expertise and activities of the International Labour Organisation, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization.

20. Because many of the social problems facing a society affected women disproportionately, it was considered that an action programme should be developed that would point up the impact on women of problems in such areas as housing, childcare, health, education etc.

21. One organization pointed out that, unless family planning were given parallel priority with health and development measures, women would often be unable to make full use of their hard-won educational and economic opportunities. Additionally, within both family-planning education and service programmes, increasing attention must be given to the special needs of adolescents, because it was now known that child-bearing in adolescence carried increased risks for both mother and child and could impair the development of both.

22. More emphasis needed to be given to the education of girls in order to prepare them better for a full life as women. Not only should the full range of educational opportunities be included but also vocational training and decision-making and community leadership skills. In fact it was considered that the traditional educational system and the attitudes it taught to both boys and girls should be re-examined in order to enable them to handle their new roles. The view was expressed that the Commission on the Status of Women should combine its efforts with those being made in connection with the International Youth Year to be observed in 1985 and should consider how girls and young women could be full participants and leaders in the theme of the Year: "Participation, Development, Peace".

23. Another area that should be considered by the Conference was that of communications vis-à-vis the role of women, particularly the question of who "controlled" the communication media at all levels and who the opinion-setters were who taught what "women's role" meant. It was pointed out that women should have access to communication channels and should be encouraged to learn to understand and master a variety of ways of communicating - formal and informal, technical and personal.

24. It was also suggested that more attention needed to be given to the difficulty of bringing about desirable change, especially in changing roles and customs that were generations old. It was pointed out that in poor rural areas only slow internal education could change inequality and it was thought that more co-operative work should be planned by international non-governmental organizations with grass-root membership who had the contacts in those areas but little funding.

25. Some organizations took exception to paragraph 18 of document E/CN.6/1982/8, in which it was stated that, in the currently depressed economic situation throughout the world, "more jobs can be given to women - but at the expense of men", which would "only increase tension within the national economy between male and female workers". They pointed out that the concept that mattered was that the best qualified person should get the job, whereas the above statement implied that a favour was being done and that women were being presented with a gift - that implication was unfair to women. It was believed that women's integration into development as a whole was very much conditioned by their status in the economic life of their country and by how that status was recognized in monetary and other terms. That was why it was essential to educate and train women so that they could open up income-producing activities for themselves, to encourage them to develop small industries, and to train them in efficient management. Efforts at self-reliance should not be confined to that sector alone.

26. Exception was also taken to paragraph 19 of the same document, in which it was indicated that education could only be provided to women at the expense of men. The point was made that there should be equality of rights in education and employment and that many "internal tensions" also existed among unemployed and underemployed women.

27. There was a suggestion that the concept "women and development" should be more clearly defined in view of the differences in the way the subject was perceived in developed and developing countries.

28. There was a proposal to conduct campaigns of "conscientization", a term coined by Paulo Freire, the Brazilian sociologist, to promote the cause of equality. The purpose would be to help people understand the impact of economic, social and cultural factors on their situation.

29. It was thought that the establishment of women's bureaux in ministries, or of ministries for women's affairs, should be carefully monitored because it could lead to marginalization.

Notes

1/ In category I: International Alliance of Women - Equal Rights, Equal Responsibilities; International Co-operative Alliance; International Federation of Business and Professional Women; International Planned Parenthood Federation and Women's International Democratic Federation; in category II: Amnesty International; Associated Country Women of the World; Christian Peace Conference; International Council of Jewish Women; International Federation of Social Workers; International Federation of University Women; OXFAM; World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts; World Young Women's Christian Association; and Zonta International.

2/ Report of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 1-14 September 1981 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.8), chap. II, sect. A.

3/ Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, Mexico City, 19 June-2 July 1975 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1), chap. II, sect. A.



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UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

First session

Vienna, 23 February-4 March 1983

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Provisional Agenda

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Preparations for the Conference
4. Publicity for the Conference
5. Provisional agenda for the second session of the preparatory body
6. Adoption of the report of the preparatory body on its first session

ANNOTATIONS

1. Election of officers

In accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission will elect from among the representatives of its members, a Chairman, one or more Vice-Chairmen and such other officers as may be required.

At past sessions, the Commission has elected, in addition to the Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur.

2. Adoption of the agenda

Rule 7 of the rules of procedure provides that the Commission shall, at the beginning of the session, after the election of its officers, adopt the agenda for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda.

Documentation

Provisional agenda (A/CONF.116/PC/1)

3. Preparations for the Conference

(a) Issues and themes

The Economic and Social Council, in paragraphs 7, 8 and 9 of its resolution 1982/26 of 4 May 1982, adopted on the recommendation of the Commission on the Status of Women, 1/ invited regional commissions, Member States, non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and intergovernmental organizations outside the United Nations system, to submit their views, in writing, on issues and themes for the Conference, for presentation to the preparatory body. Paragraph 10 further requested the Secretary-General to undertake interagency consultations on issues and themes for the Conference. The various views submitted are summarized in the reports before the preparatory body.

Moreover, in light of the views provided in response to those requests and experience gained during the Decade, the Secretary-General has suggested some approaches and strategies for implementing the goals and objectives of the Decade as well as some priority issues for consideration at the Conference in 1985.

(b) Provisional agenda and documentation for the Conference

Pursuant to resolution 1982/26, organizations of the United Nations system, and intergovernmental organizations as well as non-governmental organizations, in their responses to the request of the Secretary-General, have made suggestions regarding the agenda for the Conference and documentation, including basic documents, background documents and other reports. Suggestions in this regard are also contained in the report of the Secretary-General which will be before the preparatory body under this item.

(c) Rules of procedure

Since the General Assembly, at its thirty-seventh session, did not complete the formulation of standard rules of procedure for conferences, the preparatory body will have before it at its second session, a document containing draft rules of procedure for the World Conference, prepared by the Secretary-General, for its consideration.

(d) Preparatory meetings and activities

Member States, specialized agencies and other United Nations organizations, including regional commissions, and intergovernmental organizations as well as non-governmental organizations were also invited by the Secretary-General to express their views concerning preparatory activities for the Conference and procedures and arrangements at the Conference itself. The reports in this regard which are before the preparatory body, contain summaries of the views expressed.

The Secretary-General's report under this item also contains proposals regarding preparatory meetings and other activities to be undertaken prior to the Conference.

Documentation

Views of Member States (A/CONF.116/PC/2)

Views of regional commissions (A/CONF.116/PC/3)

Views of specialized agencies (A/CONF.116/PC/4)

Views of non-governmental organizations (A/CONF.116/PC/5)

Views of intergovernmental organizations (A/CONF.116/PC/6)

Proposals on the substantive and organizational preparations for the Conference: report of the Secretary-General (A/CONF.116/PC/7)

4. Publicity for the Conference

The Secretary-General has proposed an information programme to create public awareness before the Conference, as well as to highlight the preparatory activities. This report will be before the preparatory body for its consideration.

Documentation

Proposals for an information programme (A/CONF.116/PC/8)

5. Provisional agenda for the second session of the preparatory body

In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure, the Commission will approve its provisional agenda for the following session.

6. Adoption of the report of the preparatory body on its first session

The Commission will adopt its report to the Economic and Social Council.



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First session

Vienna, 23 February-4 March 1983

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Provisional Agenda

Corrigendum

Page 3, paragraph 3(d), Documentation

Line 4: for A/CONF.116/PC/5 read A/CONF.116/PC/6

Line 5: for A/CONF.116/PC/6 read A/CONF.116/PC/5

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First session
Vienna, 23 February-4 March 1983
Item 3 of the provisional agenda

PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

Results of consultations held by the regional
commissions on the issues and themes of the Conference

Report of the Secretary-General

Corrigendum

Document A/CONF.116/PC.1/3, dated 16 December 1982, should bear the symbol A/CONF.116/PC/3; the cover page should be replaced by the cover page appearing overleaf.

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First session
Vienna, 23 February-4 March 1983
Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

Results of consultations held by the regional
commissions on the issues and themes of the Conference

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

This report has been prepared pursuant to paragraph 7 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26, and is based on replies received from the Economic Commission for Europe, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Economic Commission for Africa.

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First session
Vienna, 23 February - 4 March 1983
Items 3 and 4 of the provisional agenda*

CONSIDERATION OF ISSUES AND THEMES TO BE EXAMINED AT
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS
OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

CONSIDERATION OF ARRANGEMENTS TO BE MADE
IN PREPARATION FOR THE CONFERENCE

Results of consultations held by the regional
commissions on the issues and themes of the Conference

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

This report has been prepared pursuant to paragraph 7 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26, and is based on replies received from the Economic Commission for Europe, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Economic Commission for Africa.

* A/CONF.116/PC.1/1.

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INTRODUCTION

1. In its resolution 1982/26 of 4 May 1982 on preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, the Economic and Social Council invited the regional commissions to conduct consultations, within existing resources, on issues and themes for the Conference and on organizational arrangements at the regional level to prepare for the Conference, and to submit the results of those consultations to the preparatory body.
2. The present report has been prepared in compliance with that resolution and at the time of completion of the report replies had been received from the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

SUMMARY OF REPLIES

A. Substantive matters

1. Economic Commission for Europe

3. ECE reported that it would endeavour to undertake research in the following areas: (a) the economic role of women in the ECE region (to be updated as soon as results of the 1980 census became available, especially regarding additional factors besides fertility and education that affected women's participation rates in the labour force, such as the state of development, the recent slowing of economic growth and the current cyclical downturn); and (b) monitoring of nuptiality and fertility trends in Europe in the 1970s and the comparative fertility study undertaken jointly by ECE and the World Fertility Survey. The ECE Conference of European Statisticians, at its plenary session in June 1982, had taken note of the Commission's proposal to contact statistical offices of its member States in the coming months to ascertain their views on the advisability of including in its programme of work a project on statistics and indicators on the situation of women and on the kind of work that Governments would like to include in such a project. The Conference of European Statisticians had agreed that the Commission should prepare a note on the results of its investigation for consideration by the Conference at its thirty-first plenary session, including proposed terms of reference for a possible meeting in 1983-1984 to discuss the proposed project. ECE was also currently exploring the possibility of initiating a new project on women in Southern Europe.

4. ECE indicated that it would report further on issues, themes and organizational matters for the World Conference.

2. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

5. ESCAP reported that it shared the views contained in the report of the Secretary-General on preparations for the World Conference (E/CN.6/1982/8), submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women at its twenty-ninth session. In particular, ESCAP concurred with the point made that expanded participation of women in the economy in the context of a world-wide economic

recession could bring about tension between male and female workers (ibid. para. 18). That factor would therefore need to be pursued on the basis of a close scrutiny of country-specific and sector-specific conditions, in line with clearly defined national objectives - keeping in mind especially the fact that the rationale for promoting the expanded participation of women in the economy and other fields of activity might lie in the intrinsic value of participation itself, as an objective of and approach to overall development and as a precondition for advancing women's socio-economic interest.

6. ESCAP concurred with the point made concerning the difficulty of providing education to more women in view of the current economic recession (ibid., para. 19), to the effect that educational objectives for women might often be attained at the expense of men, thus further contributing to the tension between the sexes. Considering, however, that many of the educational needs of women, as well as those of men, were for adult education in general and skills or job training in particular, which could be dealt with outside the formal education system through informal arrangements in communities or places of work, ESCAP suggested that measures could be devised to improve the level of education of women without unduly sacrificing the educational opportunities of men. To fill the need for educators or trainers, volunteers could be mobilized from universities and other educational institutions as well as perhaps from among the often under-occupied but educated women in the upper or middle classes. External technical assistance resources could also be brought into play. There were examples of countries where high levels of literacy were achieved precisely through that type of arrangement and resource mobilization. The creation of community-based educational opportunities through peer-group and co-operative approaches also offered considerable promise, although ESCAP was not aware that such an approach had been attempted anywhere to any significant extent. In that context, ESCAP felt that the educational goals and objectives for women elaborated in the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year^{1/*} were viable and attainable, regardless of the existing economic and resource context, and that they should be pursued to the fullest extent possible. In the ESCAP region, where so much of the development of women and the advancement of their status depended on their having access to formal and informal education, that particular issue was foremost in the mind of ESCAP.

7. With reference to the integration and participation of women in the development process as an alternative approach to development in the 1980s (ibid., paras. 20-22), ESCAP reported that it was not able to respond too specifically, although it wholeheartedly supported the basic tenet.

8. ESCAP stated that the delineation of the economic assumptions ranging from micro- and macro-efficiency to migration issues (ibid., para. 22) was not very clear. ESCAP, however, agreed in general that the participation of women in development was as fundamental as it had ever been. In the past, however, there might have been an over-emphasis on women's participation in the economic sector of development, with insufficient regard to the significance of their participation in the non-economic, qualitative aspects of development. Inasmuch as economic growth and development per se might not provide for the direct participation of women in the economy, although

*For the notes see page 9 below.

development in its comprehensive social and economic dimensions did so, there was no reason why the participation of women in development could not be conceived in a broader and more imaginative context. ESCAP had learned from past experience that women could participate in the economy in ever-increasing numbers and in a wider range of jobs without necessarily improving their individual and collective status because their participation had largely been in marginal occupations and subordinate positions. If anything, that had the effect of drawing greater attention to the fact that participation in the economy emphasized the overall subordinate and inferior status of women in society rather than improving it. ESCAP thus thought it was important that employment barriers and discrimination against women should be overcome.

9. Participation in itself, however, carried no guarantee for women's advancement. In the name of participation, many women might well have come to shoulder a double burden without necessarily enjoying double returns and could thus find their overall situation worse than ever. ESCAP suggested that not just participation but the conditions and the context of participation would be the real issues for women in the immediate future. By evolving a more balanced concept of development, which adequately incorporated both qualitative and quantitative objectives, avenues for participation by women could be opened in areas where women could make their contribution without necessarily displacing men in jobs or competing with them. Some of the examples that ESCAP suggested in that regard were the promotion of the quality of life in the family and community, the promotion of social values and their realization in all sectors of society, the promotion of peace at the national and international levels and the creation of a social climate in which a truly humanitarian, nurturing atmosphere prevailed. ESCAP concluded that those were objectives and tasks that must be pursued and implemented to achieve true development, but which had tended to be neglected because of the preoccupation with economic growth and development. Given the existing income distribution system, that might mean that many women participated without direct compensation by means of adequate wages. In so far as command over economic and financial resources was closely associated with influence, power and status in society, ESCAP concluded that it might be necessary to devise and promote alternative means of rewarding women for their participation in those areas.

3. Economic Commission for Latin America

10. ECLA reported that it had lately been working on two basic themes related to women. First, its Unit for the Integration of Women in Development had undertaken research on how to upgrade, through training, a country's capacity to formulate and implement policies, programmes and projects on women in development. On the basis of that research, a book was being distributed entitled Women and Development: Guidelines for Programme and Project Planning (E/CEPAL/G.1200). Secondly, ECLA was upgrading national and regional capability in the field of information, documentation and communication, as a first step towards the establishment of national and regional information centres. It had also updated the information available on the status and roles of women in the region, in a document entitled "América Latina: análisis de problemas sociales relativos a la mujer en diversos sectores" (E/CEPAL/R.316).

4. Economic Commission for Africa

11. ECA reported that it had already taken a number of steps in preparation for the Conference. It had brought to the attention of the third meeting of the African Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development, held at Douala, in the United Republic of Cameroon, from 15 to 17 March 1982, the need to consider such issues and themes as the integration of women in development, the violation of women's rights and the influence of the establishment of a new international economic order on the status of women, for review and appraisal as part of the Conference preparations.

12. The Co-ordinating Committee had agreed with that proposal, especially in the context of preparations for the proposed African regional conference. It was noted, however, that many African countries, even those particularly concerned with the advancement of women, were still not familiar with the Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa (A/S-11/14, annex I), and it would therefore be difficult to carry out a meaningful evaluation. The Co-ordinating Committee had, however, approved the proposal by the ECA African Training and Research Centre for Women that those issues should be referred to the ECA subregional committees on the integration of women in development and to the ECA multilateral programming and operational centres (MULPOCs).

13. The Co-ordinating Committee had also discussed the following issues related to Conference preparations at the regional and global levels: (a) the role of women in the alleviation of the food crisis; (b) displaced and refugee women and the issues of peace and development in Africa and the world; (c) national machineries for the integration of women in development (reviewed at both the national and subregional levels); (d) the educational development of young girls who interrupted their studies; (e) dissemination of the results of research on women and development; (f) the juridical status of women (including the struggle for their fundamental rights); (g) the struggle for the elimination of all forms of discrimination, based on the principle of the equality and the struggle of women victims of apartheid etc.); and (h) the professional development of African women (needs and trends). It had recommended that the ECA African Training and Research Centre for Women should analyse those issues and themes and submit their analysis to it for review at its next session.

14. ECA also reported that it had sent a mission to Kenya from 21 to 24 March 1982 to brief the Government both on the deliberations of the Commission on the Status of Women as well as on the meeting of the Co-ordinating Committee regarding the World Conference. Subsequently, the report of the Co-ordinating Committee had been submitted to the ECA Conference of Ministers at its eighth session, held at Tripoli from 20 to 30 April 1982, and the Conference had accordingly adopted resolution CM.8/17 on women and development action to the end of the Decade. In that resolution, the Conference of Ministers had decided that the Third Regional Conference should discuss progress in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action, with special reference to the role of women in alleviating the food crisis, refugee and displaced women, participation of women in the programme of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa, the legal status of women, women in rural areas, out-of-school girls and vocational training, the setting up of national machineries for the advancement of women, and the practical utilization of research on the status of women.

B. Organizational matters

1. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

15. ESCAP reported that the World Plan of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women contained enough objectives for the advancement of women to last for the rest of the century. What had been unsatisfactory up to now was their implementation. ESCAP noted that the World Plan of Action had not given sufficient attention to the methods, resources, whether material or financial, and expertise etc. needed to pursue them.

16. In its view, the forthcoming World Conference could well focus on measures for further implementing the Plan of Action; it suggested that the Conference might come up with world-wide quantitative and quantifiable targets for future action. ESCAP also suggested that the Conference might recommend concrete methods and specific activities for reaching the targets and might even propose the type and the scope of resources necessary to achieve them. Co-ordination and collaboration among the organizations and the agencies of the United Nations system and with the governmental and non-governmental bodies or organization concerned therefore needed strengthening. Without specific plans and the means of monitoring the implementation of recommendations emanating from the Conference, the likelihood of the Plan making a significant contribution to the progress of societies on behalf of women would be somewhat remote.

17. For its part, ESCAP indicated that it had embarked on a systematic inventory of the situation of women in the region and the status of implementation of the World Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Women and that it hoped to formulate measures for implementing the Plan of Action. It was hoped that the inventory would provide a solid contribution to the preparations for the Conference.

2. Economic Commission for Latin America

18. ECLA reported that its Unit for the Integration of Women in Development was engaged in the preparation of the Third Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development. The Conference, besides evaluating the progress achieved in the region with regard to the Regional Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, would have on its agenda an item on the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women. ECLA indicated that its Regional Conference would be the most appropriate forum for Latin American countries to express their views on the issue and said that its Third Regional Conference would most probably take place in March 1983, in which case its deliberations on the regional preparatory work for the World Conference would be presented to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirtieth session. Finally, ECLA stated that it was studying the proposed calendar of activities for the third biennial round of reporting for the review and appraisal of national level progress made in the implementation of the World Plan of Action and Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women. It would send its comments on the subject to the Secretariat as well as a report by its Unit on the Integration of Women in Development.

3. Economic Commission for Africa

19. ECA reported that at the third meeting of its Conference of Ministers, held at Rabat in March 1979,^{2/} resolution 365/XIV had been adopted, relating to the structure and mandate of the African Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development. In paragraph 7 of that resolution, it was stipulated that the Co-ordinating Committee should convene an African regional conference on the integration of women in development every three years. In that regard, ECA drew attention to the report of the third session of the Co-ordinating Committee, submitted to the ECA Conference of Ministers at its eighth session, and to Conference resolution CM.8/17, on women and development action to the end of the Decade. Regarding the organizational aspects of conference preparations for the World Conference, the Conference of Ministers had decided that the Third Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development, which would cover preparations for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, would be held in 1984.

20. The Conference of Ministers had also called upon member States, subregional committees for women in development, institutions and women's organizations to take appropriate steps to promote studies and action programmes in the areas referred to in paragraph 6 above; had requested the Executive Secretary of ECA to intensify his efforts to study the aforementioned topics in depth and organize an information network for the dissemination of all information concerning African women; had called upon the Executive Secretary of ECA, in collaboration with the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee, to begin immediately an investigation of the practical modalities for holding the Third Regional Conference and to report to the Conference of Ministers at its ninth meeting and to the Commission at its eighteenth session on the results of such investigations; had urged the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to intensify efforts to provide the North African subregional programme with resources similar to those made available to the other four subregional programmes for women; had requested the specialized agencies of the United Nations system and other donors to extend more substantial assistance to programmes for the integration of women in development; and had further requested the Executive Secretary of ECA to examine the possibilities and the means of accelerating the implementation of the subregional programmes through the decentralization of resources.

21. ECA stated that it would endeavour to meet its obligations in implementing the resolution of the Conference of Ministers and expressed the hope that the United Nations would contribute with both technical and material support towards the cost of the African Preparatory Regional Conference in 1984.

22. With regard to the inter-organizational programme for the United Nations Decade for Women and the question of collaboration, ECA affirmed that it fully endorsed joint endeavours among agencies, especially since the United Nations system was experiencing budgetary constraints in implementing programmes. ECA consequently noted that there was a need to reactivate the principles of interagency co-operation and to identify the principal areas in which such co-operation could be fostered. In this context, ECA cited the example of the African Training and Research Centre for Women, which was itself the result of joint endeavours by many agencies that had been involved both in the conception and the implementation of its programme (namely, the United Nations Secretariat, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations

Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Labor Organisation. At the regional level, ECA reported that it had established an interagency working group on women, which had already met twice.^{3/}

23. Concerning other inter-organizational projects, ECA stated that the results of two major studies that would be the outcome of interagency co-operation might be of interest to the Conference.

Notes

1/ Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, Mexico City, 19 June-2 July 1975 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1), chap. I.

2/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1979, Supplement No. 15 (E/1979/50 and Corr.1 and Add. 1), part II, sect. D.

3/ The first meeting took place in 1977, at the First African Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development, held in Mauritania, and the second meeting, of what has become known as the United Nations Inter-agency Working Group on the Integration of Women in Africa, took place in 1979 before and during the Second African Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development, held in Zambia. Thus, ECA has been in the vanguard of action by the regional commissions to link inter-organizational co-operation to conference preparation and follow-up.

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First session
Vienna, 23 February - 4 March 1983
Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

Views of specialized agencies, organs and organizations
of the United Nations system on preparations
for the Conference

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

This report has been prepared pursuant to paragraph 10 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26 and is a consolidation of the views of 24 specialized agencies, organs and organizations of the United Nations system on preparations for the Conference.

*A/CONF.116/PC.1/1.

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1982/26 on preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, requested the Secretary-General to undertake inter-agency consultations on themes and issues for the Conference with a view to presenting an inter-agency report to the preparatory body at its first session.
2. The current report has been prepared in compliance with that resolution and summarizes the views of specialized agencies, organs and organizations of the United Nations system. In addition the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Programme Matters), at its second regular session in October 1982, agreed that an inter-agency meeting to consider the preparations for the Conference should be held early in 1983, well before the first session of the preparatory body. Such a meeting has been scheduled prior to the meeting of the Commission as the preparatory body.

SUMMARY OF REPLIES

A. Integrated review and appraisal of the objectives of the Decade

3. UNDP noted that both the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year ^{1/*} and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women ^{2/} adopted at Mexico City and Copenhagen respectively, contained provisions for a periodic review and appraisal of the progress made towards their stated goals. It also noted that where appropriate the progress made in relation to the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade ^{3/} and the establishment of a new international economic order should be considered.
4. Within that comprehensive framework, UNDP suggested the interrelationship of such issues as the situation of poor women (in both urban and rural areas), the needs of women for and their potential to assist in the provision of basic services, without which they cannot effectively contribute to development (primary health care, water supply and sanitation facilities, energy, roads and transportation facilities, education and training); the role of women in food production and processing; and the role of women in the establishment of small-scale industries (in both urban and rural areas). UNDP concluded that it might also be of interest to undertake a study of the advantages and disadvantages of the establishment of special mechanisms for women's affairs at the national level and of the development of indicators to determine and monitor the role of women in society.
5. The World Bank stated that since the purpose of the Conference was to review and appraise the achievements of the Decade, such an evaluation should be the Conference's main theme, the framework being the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action. That evaluation would bring in also the strategy for the Third Development Decade and resolutions of other conferences, for example, the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, Vienna, August 1979 that were related to the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action. It consequently believed that such an evaluation

*For the notes, see page 22 below.

would help to identify whatever factors might have inhibited more rapid progress. The World Bank concluded that the World Plan of Action and Programme of Action provided an adequate basis for action, and the Conference should not be devoted to their revision, but rather, having identified the limiting factors, it should concentrate on proposing action to deal with those factors, especially vis-à-vis national decision-makers who must implement the recommendations.

6. Within that framework, the World Bank said that it expected priority issues to include overall employment, health conditions and availability of basic services in rural areas, agriculture and food production; women in decision-making positions (including positions in international agencies), and the situation of refugees (women and children). In addition to those topics, which related to the situation of women per se, the Bank suggested the following issues also merited the attention of the Conference: development of indicators for measuring progress, methodologies for integrating women into development planning; effective dissemination of information and exchange of experience; and ways to increase the effectiveness of national machinery, including specifically the machinery of non-governmental organizations.

7. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) replied that its programme on equality of educational opportunity for girls and women had been conceived in accordance with the spirit of the United Nations Decade of Women and its three themes: equality, development and peace. It said that that programme aimed mainly at using education to contribute to the achievement of those three themes and implied the Conference should similarly approach that issue on an integrated basis.

8. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) replied that the discussion at the Conference should be centred on the three goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: equality, development and peace, and the three subthemes: employment, health and education. It further commented that the appraisal of the implementation of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action would require studies based not only on statistical data, but also on qualitative analysis of the characteristic features of the female labour force, taking into account the economic and social circumstances prevailing in the 1980s as compared with the first part of the Decade.

9. The United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) also believed that the initial broad themes of the Decade, namely, equality, development and peace, should be retained during the Conference. INSTRAW indicated that, from the substantive point of view, those themes were still valid and would remain so for quite a long time. INSTRAW reported that the issue of women and development was the focus of much research and work at the national, regional and international levels, and equality and peace were basic components of programmes for the advancement of the status of women. Thus, it seemed logical to maintain, during the Conference, the same themes that launched the Decade. Noting in particular that the review and appraisal process was one of the main tasks of the Conference, INSTRAW suggested that the Conference should then seek to identify the elements that had prevented more rapid progress. INSTRAW concluded with the recommendation that the Conference should focus on specific aspects of the integration of women into development, such as the interrelationship between developmental efforts at the macro- and micro-level, taking into account the interdisciplinary and cross-cultural approaches.

10. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) stated that the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries held in Paris in September 1981 ^{4/} made a number of recommendations concerning the role of women. In that context, UNCTAD cited paragraph 19 of the Programme of Action for the least developed countries, which stated that "Within the framework of a transformation of rural life in its economic, social, cultural, institutional and human aspects, policies are needed that recognize the role of women in rural development and ensure their equitable access to productive resources, especially land and water resources and to inputs, markets and services."

11. UNCTAD further suggested that the preparatory activities for the Conference might include efforts to explore and develop possibilities for international co-operation between women in selected fields of economic and social development (e.g. commerce, production and trade, farming/fishing, and in urban and rural informal sectors). It also stressed the need for the Conference to treat the issue of an alternative development strategy related to the New International Economic Order and the structural adjustment and impact of that on women workers (North and South) and via economic co-operation between developing countries (ECDC).

12. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) recommended that, in addition to the priority issues indicated in the report to and discussion of the Conference preparations at the twenty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, ^{5/} there were several issues of primary concern to UNICEF, with varying degrees of interrelationships: (a) the relationship of women with the informal sector of the economy; (b) the intra-household allocation of tasks and the sexual division of labour with the implications for child care; (c) the interface between women's maternal and economic responsibilities; (d) the importance of vocational/skill training for women in relation to income generation opportunities; and (e) the life-cycle patterns of women, and the implications for their changing needs and concerns throughout life.

13. The World Food Programme (WFP) reported that it believed the Conference should concentrate on stock-taking, identification of lessons learned, and clear direction for future practical steps.

14. The United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) stressed the issue of the right of women to choose the number of children they bore and their spacing, and the interrelationships between fertility regulation patterns, the status of women, and their participation in development efforts.

15. The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) made a number of proposals to follow-up and interrelate the resolutions on women for world conferences, such as those on science and technology, aging, disarmament, and agrarian reform and rural development, which UNITAR believed should be taken into account in the preparations for the Conference.

B. Themes and issues for the Conference

16. In addition to the proposals to review and appraise progress in an integrated manner, there were a number of sectoral issues and themes that organizations recommended for high priority treatment by the Conference.

1. Women, agrarian reform and rural development

17. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) stated that the themes of the Mexico City and Copenhagen Conferences had been of a general nature, and FAO therefore suggested that a major issue for the Conference be women as agricultural producers. The majority of the world's women, it argued, were still involved in agricultural activities, but there was evidence that international, financial and technical assistance had bypassed, and in some cases, further marginalized that group. Rural women, it concluded, should therefore, receive priority attention at the Conference.

18. In that context, FAO recommended that the Conference should review the action required by Governments noted in the section on the integration of women in rural development of the Programme of Action adopted by the 1979 World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, with attention given to the following issues: equality of legal status; women's access to rural services; women's organization and participation; and educational and employment opportunities.^{6/} FAO suggested such additional issues for discussion as: women as food producers; land-settlement - effects on women; women and agrarian reform; post-harvest losses; women and rural households; women and water; and women and rural investment - financing factors and constraints.

19. The International Fund for Agricultural Development commented that while women in relatively advanced societies had been able to improve their status (although not to a degree commensurate with the rate of 30 years of rapid economic, social, political and technological progress), the improvement in the social and economic status of women in the least developed of the developing countries had been negligible. IFAD maintained that the most disadvantaged women had been those who shared the fate of the small and landless farmers in the least developed of the developing countries. While IFAD fully recognized that women should be involved in all aspects of life and participate in the decision-making process, it believed the Conference should address itself as well to the plight of women in rural areas of the developing countries and, particularly, to all aspects of the socio-economic structures that had impeded their progress. IFAD concluded that the Conference should give attention to practical measures and policies in that regard, as the conceptual aspects of the subject had been covered in previous conferences.

20. UNITAR suggested several issues such as the impact of agro-business on women's traditional work in rural areas; situation of rural women as it relates to changes in land distribution, technology, crop and production structures; the growth of urbanism, urban-rural links, the pauperization of the villages; the effects of contemporary agrarian development of alienation, landlessness, dependency and the breakdown of domestic and community solidarity. In addition, UNITAR stated that the Conference might also consider the situation of women in the transition from small commodity-producing peasant agriculture to large-scale collective farming and the access of the rural masses to land, credit, marketing facilities, extension services and decision-making processes.

2. Women, conservation and development

21. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) recommended that the Conference adopt the following issue: the role of women in conservation and development; UNEP indicated that that issue covered protection of forests, watersheds and associated wildlife etc., taking into account also the management of water, soil and other resources that were directly relevant to women and development.

3. Women and decision-making

22. UNITAR, UNFPA and the World Bank expressed the opinion that women and decision-making should be given priority attention along with other selected issues for the Conference. UNITAR said that in view of the importance to the improvement of the world-wide situation of women at various levels of having women in the professional ranks of the United Nations organizations and agencies, that subject should continue to be pursued in the context of the Conference. UNITAR, indeed, considered that overall issue as a matter for United Nations compliance with the objectives of the Decade.

4. Women as agents in and beneficiaries of development

23. Many organizations expressed the view that women as agents in and beneficiaries of development should receive a high priority in the Conference, and indicated specific aspects of the overall question.

24. UNCTAD drew attention in that regard to paragraph 23 of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, which added that:

"Women play an indispensable role in the development process. Appropriate measures must be taken to pursue the objective of strengthening women's equal participation both as agents and as beneficiaries in all sectors and at all levels of development planning, monitoring and implementation. Sufficient attention must be paid to women's access to property. The least developed countries should, within the framework of their development plans and priorities, and as an important contribution to the achievement of their development goals, formulate policies and programmes aimed at enhancing the role of women in the development process."^{7/}

25. INSTRAW replied that, should there be a consensus on having a subtheme, the Conference might wish to concentrate on more action-oriented developmental subjects that were of concern to women. In general, INSTRAW stated that the main emphasis of the Conference should be directed towards the developmental issues and their effects on women, and the alternative solutions to development problems that should take into consideration women's active participation and needs in society. It recommended, consequently, that the Conference might also deal with more specific topics than the previous two conferences, particularly with regard to the integration of women in development, and could also highlight the issue of women and the International Development Strategy, as well as the efforts to incorporate women into the framework of the policy of individual and collective self-reliance.

5. Women, education and training

26. UNESCO emphasized the importance of education and training in the achievement of the goals of the Decade and the implementation of the World Plan of Action, and implied that the Conference should treat that theme as a means of contributing to the achievement of equality, development and peace.

27. UNICEF indicated that vocational/skill training for women should be treated by the Conference in relation to income-generating opportunities.

28. UNCTAD drew attention to paragraph 26 of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, which stated that the programme for the development of education:

"...should combine the resources of school and out-of-school education, reducing disparities which operate to the disadvantage of rural populations and socially under-privileged groups, enhancing the cultural relevance of education and ensuring the preservation and enhancement of cultural identity and values as an essential part of national development etc. Due attention will be given to meeting the educational needs of women to enable them to develop their full potential."^{8/}

6. Women and employment, under-employment and unemployment

29. Under the subtheme employment, ILO replied that under "Employment, understood in its broadest sense, special emphasis should be given to the following questions which ILO considers to be particularly important in appraising the status of women:

"1. Analysis of the role of women in economic and social development and a better understanding of the important contribution of female labour to the prosperity and advancement of society.

"2. Evaluating basic trends in women's employment, taking into account in particular:

"(i) the impact of scientific and technological progress on women's employment and the quantitative and qualitative changes which have taken place in female labour. Studies should be carried out at the international, regional and national levels, in rural and urban areas, with due regard to the diverse historical, economical and social conditions;

"(ii) changes which have occurred in the division of labour and the constraints still affecting the traditional sex roles in society; various forms, direct and indirect, of discrimination still affecting women's employment and wages;

"(iii) underemployment and unemployment and their harmful consequences on the living and working conditions of working women;

"(iv) the special problems of women in the informal urban sector etc.

"3. Policies and measures to meet the specific problems of rural women (including measures taken to strengthen women's organisations and to facilitate the access of women to land and credit).

"4. Implementation of the international standards and national legislations concerning women workers, with special emphasis on developing legislation in regard to equality of treatment and opportunity in employment.

"5. Recent developments in vocational and management training of women and policies, strategies and measures to achieve opportunities for upgrading their skills at the scientific and technical levels.

"6. Policies aimed at ensuring a more equitable sharing of family responsibilities and their impact on women's employment patterns.

"7. Progress achieved in the elimination of discrimination against women in social security and towards the adoption of legislation to cater to women's specific needs."

30. UNITAR suggested that the Conference might treat such related questions as the following:

(a) The examination of the correlation between increased profit and wages in economic sectors dominated by men and the expansion of women's working hours in unpaid production;

(b) The ways in which women could protect their traditional workplaces when men's unemployment was increasing and the pressure upon those workplaces was increasingly heavy;

(c) The way in which both paid and unpaid work was to be distributed equitably between the sexes in a situation with widespread male unemployment.

7. Women and family planning

31. UNFPA wrote that the one element that was related to almost all the referred issues for the Conference was the right of women to choose the number of children they bore and their spacing. That right, UNFPA said, as well as the necessity to enable women to have access to the education and services required in order to translate that right into practice, was confirmed by the World Population Conference held in 1974 as well as by both the Mexico City and the Copenhagen Conferences. Therefore, the world conferences referred to had adopted specific resolutions on family planning. In view of that, UNFPA suggested that due consideration be given to the possibility of including family planning among the issues to be covered at the Conference.

8. Women and food production, consumption patterns and nutritional levels

32. The World Food Council (WFC) suggested that the Conference could make an important contribution to the struggle to overcome hunger and malnutrition by focusing on several major issues related to women and food production, consumption patterns and nutritional levels. In its activities generally, and most particularly with regard to national food strategies, the WFC had recognized that achieving greater food self-reliance and overcoming hunger problems in many developing countries depended on women because women made up a substantial proportion of the food producers in those countries and their impact on family consumption patterns and nutritional levels was pervasive. WFC concluded that it was therefore imperative that the role that women played in the food sector be acknowledged not only at the technical level of projects, but at the highest policy level of Governments.

33. WFP, in that regard, replied that the Conference should concentrate on several issues, including the contribution of women to development; sharing the benefits of development; identification of outstanding projects, programmes or activities demonstrating how to advance progress perhaps by sector; and via working groups on project design and delivery systems.

9. Women and health

34. The World Health Organization (WHO) replied that it considered the subthemes of employment, health and education were still valid, as health remained a priority issue for the integration and full participation of women in development. WHO affirmed that health was fundamental to all efforts in the economic, social, political and cultural fields. It believed that the principles that had been set at Mexico City and Copenhagen still held true, and although progress had undoubtedly been achieved, the objectives established by the two World Conferences had not been reached and efforts to achieve them should be continued. Finally, WHO said that it believed that a sharper focus on some issues under those subthemes could help to maintain the momentum of efforts and the visibility of major problems still facing women in the whole world.

10. Women and non-traditional activities

35. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) suggested that the Conference might wish to address itself to a theme concerned with the role of women in non-traditional activities, those that had heretofore been exclusively or at least largely the province of men. It said that one such activity had been civil aviation, an industry in which, since its inception, women had participated in a very limited way. ICAO, indeed, reported that women had played their part almost entirely on the administrative side, as secretaries, ticket agents, reservation clerks and flight stewardesses; they had rarely been found in operational or technical areas. However, it said that that situation, particularly in the developing world, was gradually changing.

36. ICAO wrote that the emergence of women into sophisticated and technological aviation activities had been observed and actively fostered by the technical assistance programme and that more and more women were being trained through fellowships to assume functions hitherto entirely male in such

technical aviation fields as air traffic control; air and space law; air transport; airfield administration; airfield engineering and maintenance; aeronautical information services; communications maintenance and operations; flight operations; accident investigation and airworthiness; aeronautical meteorology; aviation medicine, airworthiness and piloting.

11. Women, peace and disarmament

37. UNITAR cited, among several recommended priority issues for the Conference, the relationship between peace, disarmament and women's status, as well as the critical role of women in the preparations of societies for life in peace. UNITAR concluded that that theme was of particular importance in view of increasingly advanced arms technology, with its studied precision in eliminating life.

12. Women and protection from disasters

38. The Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO) expressed the view that all members of a community were entitled to the same protection from the possibility of avoidable disasters, the same preparedness for the unavoidable, and the same standard of relief after disasters. Perhaps, UNDRO suggested, if those same principles were applied to the wider issues affecting the status of women, more progress would be made. UNDRO concluded with the hope that the forthcoming Conference would achieve fully its objectives in that area.

13. Refugees and displaced women

39. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) proposed that the following be incorporated in the list of issues and themes for the Conference: refugees and displaced women: service concerns and programme plans, projects for economic and social self-sufficiency that would facilitate their participation in development, decision-making and other issues related to the improvement of their condition in countries of asylum.

14. Women and stages/cycles of life

40. UNITAR, UNICEF ^{9/} and the United Nations University addressed various aspects of the issue in their replies. UNITAR proposed that the topic of lonely women in old age be included under the overall item on women and development. It indicated that the principal cause of the problem was the fact that, world-wide, the life expectancy of women was greater than that of men. That was compounded, according to UNITAR, by many other factors such as improved public health schemes and that women tended to marry men older than themselves. It stated that, although women were currently employed during their productive years in a greater ratio than heretofore, in general, they were paid less than men. Thus their pensions were smaller than those of men, and furthermore, for women who had never been employed, if they survived their husbands they only received a fraction of the pension received during their husband's lifetime.

41. Although old age was not always accompanied by increased frailty and disabilities, UNITAR reported that there was that tendency, particularly in the presence of poverty or less than optimum nutrition. It said that the above factors were combined with the disappearance of the concept of the extended family (i.e. several generations living together under one roof) that had existed in pre-industrial societies. UNITAR concluded that the question of aging was looked at by the World Assembly on Aging as a "development issue" because the demographic pattern affected the national economy.

42. UNICEF expressed concern about another aspect of that problem. It hoped that in the planning of topics for presentation, due consideration would be given to the fact that women were not a homogeneous group; they should be differentiated not only by economic category, such as the landless, the migrant and the female head of household, but also by age category, hence the interest of UNICEF that due attention be given to the life-cycle concept on identification of issues and priorities along lines that distinguished between the adolescent female, the young woman ^{10/} mother, and the older woman.

15. Women, science and technology

43. UNITAR suggested that the Conference might treat three aspects of that question as below.

(a) Impact on women of the choice and utilization of technology

44. In most countries the choice and utilization of technology aggravated the existing disparities in earnings and socio-political efficacy between men and women. Changes in technology that accompanied modernization had, for the most part, led to a female concentration in domestic-related roles, non-market productive roles and labour-intensive activities. Men appeared universally to assume "women's work" when production changed from a subsistence to a market economy. At the initial stages of the industrialization process and at the lowest level of mechanization, e.g. the introduction of the tractor, men took over work formerly performed by women. For women, that translated into the loss of control over the means of production and over economic resources as well as reduced possibilities for the provision of food and care for their families. At current levels of industrialization in many developing countries, with the development of automation, computers and other micro-electronic devices, women often operated large and complex machines of a type to which they were not assigned prior to the development of automation. Indeed, high technology needed women. Women excelled in the type of work needed to produce and test micro-electronic devices. In the new biotechnical and genetic engineering fields there was a very high level of employment of women in all categories, not only the technical.

(b) The international distribution and use of scientific and technological resources, and women's status

45. Internationally the unequal distribution and use of scientific and technological resources, innovative capacity (research) and power had had severe implications for women's access, or lack of, to technology. The transfer of technology in many cases had worsened the employment and health

conditions of women; displacement of labour occurred, and foreign models of consumption accompanied such transfer. In certain large industries, new discriminatory labour practices had appeared in both rural and urban areas; increases in the employment of women, particularly in the urban context, had been due in great measure to an increase in the exploitation of the cheap, semi-skilled labour of young and unmarried women. Women's deteriorating conditions as a result of technology should be carefully analysed as a basis for the design and implementation of measures to redress those conditions. Moreover, technology's lack of success for women should be analysed and evaluated in industrialized as well as developing countries.

46. Consequently, UNITAR suggested that the priority issues and concerns addressed by the Conference might include such issues as:

(a) How women were particularly affected by contemporary processes related to science and technology, including planning and setting priorities for research and development, the choice, acquisition, adaptation, innovation, and application of science and technology for development;

(b) How women perceived technology and its consequences for society at various levels;

(c) How, on that basis, women could constructively contribute to technology selection, acquisition, adaptation, innovation, and application towards the creation of better life conditions for women, men and their dependants.

(c) Emerging technologies and the status of women

47. The emergence of new technologies, and the structural changes in society introduced thereby, should provide greater opportunities to correct existing imbalances unfavourable to women. The recent and rapid development of micro-electronic technology would, in the immediate future, lead to radical changes in the way in which goods and services were produced and distributed and the way in which information was managed and disseminated. The critical issues caused by that technological revolution were economic, social and political as well as technical. The revolution in micro-electronics was likely to be followed by one in materials technology, especially biotechnology. Some striking changes had already materialized in employment patterns in industrial and service sectors of industrialized economies because of the introduction of micro-electronic technology. In those economies the new technologies would make more obvious the inequitable manner in which development took place. For developing countries, the problems of providing meaningful work for the non-farm rural population would grow more acute. Environmental and social hazards would follow from the introduction and use of new techniques and products. Thus, UNITAR suggested that the Conference might address such issues as the impact on women's status of the production and use of those new technologies. It indicated that, most likely, many of those new techniques and products would be transferred through existing trade channels to the developing countries. UNITAR asked who would benefit from those new technologies.

48. In addition, UNCTAD considered that serious attention needed to be given to the examination of the implications of the technological dependence of women workers. Technological resources were indeed, UNCTAD reported, a combination of technology, embodied in capital goods, equipment and

instruments, and skills, embodied in human workers. UNCTAD indicated that the difference between the countries of the third world and the developed countries stemmed from the gap in levels of per person productivity, which, in turn, was a result of the differences in command over technological resources exercised by each worker. UNCTAD concluded that the same asymmetry found its reflection, both in the developed and developing countries, in the differences between male and female workers, and believed that policies that would strengthen the technological resources at the command of women workers would inevitably work towards reducing their technological dependence and strengthening their own participation in the national development effort.

16. Women, trade and commerce

49. UNCTAD stated that preparatory activities for the Conference might include efforts to explore and develop possibilities for transnational co-operation between women in selected fields, and indicated a first step might be to document systematically and understand more fully the actual contribution of women to economic activity, particularly in the field of commerce, in individual countries. That, UNCTAD recommended, could be followed by an equally careful and realistic assessment of their potential contribution.

50. UNCTAD further reported that the contribution of women to production and trade in many low-income developing countries appeared to be significant in certain sectors, including farming, fishing, and the rural and urban informal sectors. Usually self-employed women played a key role in maintaining and developing the trading sectors. UNCTAD related that women's key resource attributes in that regard were their basic business skills and their capacity for capital accumulation individually, but also through collective informal but binding arrangements, involving what were in effect compulsory savings and disbursement on a rotational basis. Under those monetary arrangements operated uniquely by women in developing countries, UNCTAD said the withdrawal of a lump sum, in turn, by each participant afforded her capital for financing a new or continuing business.

51. UNCTAD consequently suggested that it would be necessary to explore how those resources and development mechanisms, mainly unrecorded, might best be elaborated, firstly, in integrating women further into national development strategies, and secondly, perhaps in parallel, by exploring ways of developing co-operation between women across national boundaries. UNCTAD concluded that the particular importance of the question of the role of women in strategies of self-reliance (i.e. strategies of development based on the consumption needs of the mass of the people and on the maximum utilization of indigenous human and material resources) should also be stressed.

C. Preliminary views on follow-up strategies to the Conference

52. Several organizations submitted preliminary views on follow-up strategies to the Conference.

1. Relationship to other programmes of action adopted by United Nations world conferences

53. There were several suggestions that the results of the Conference, based on a thorough review and appraisal, should be related to other programmes of action adopted by recent United Nations world conferences.

54. In that regard, UNCTAD especially noted the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, and UNITAR recommended that the programmes of action in such diverse fields as agrarian reform and rural development; science and technology; disarmament; and the aging, be taken into account by the Conference. As cited above, the World Bank, UNDP, UNCTAD and INSTRAW especially cited the need to relate the Conference to the follow-up of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade 3/, and UNDP and UNCTAD additionally linked that to the establishment of a new international economic order. The review of replies from the International Telecommunication Union and UNFPA also revealed the need to relate the Conference to the follow-up to the World Communications Year (1983) and the World Population Conference (1984).

2. Identification of goals and targets to be achieved by the year 2000

55. Several organizations, proposed that rather than a new programme of action related to another United Nations decade for women, the Conference should draw special attention to the identification of goals and targets to be achieved by the year 2000.

56. In that regard, ILO considered that issues related to the employment of women should be given special attention when drawing up "Perspective 2000", which it believed should emphasize the ways and means of ensuring the right of women to participate in, and contribute to, economic and social development.

57. WFP, INSTRAW and several others emphasized that the Conference should base its future strategy on a thorough review and appraisal of the achievements of the Decade, and WFP emphasized the need for the Conference to identify goals and targets to be achieved by the end of the century, and the roles and responsibilities of governments in that connection.

58. While there were few other suggestions made on that subject, there nevertheless appeared to be a need for a discussion of the question of the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Meeting on the Advancement of Women, that Meeting was to be convened in association with the first session of the preparatory body to initiate an inter-agency dialogue on a forward-looking programme and its relationship to the other programmes of action and on the process of identifying goals and targets to be achieved by the year 2000.

D. Organizational matters

1. Inter-organizational communication and co-operation; needs and modalities

59. Several organizations stressed the need for inter-organizational communication and co-operation to better interrelate themes and issues as well as practical work to prepare for the Conference.

60. UNDP reported that it was consulting with other United Nations organizations concerning possible co-ordination and collaboration in the undertaking of evaluation studies on the results of development projects involving women. And UNDP indicated that it would be able to provide more detailed information on its contribution at the meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women in 1983.

61. The World Bank also reported that it was collaborating with an informal inter-agency group on a proposal for a joint assessment of the contributions of the participating agencies to the objectives of the Decade. It indicated that, in addition to the evaluation information the group hoped to generate, the methods and instruments might prove of interest for future use.

62. WFP cited the need for inter-agency co-operation and institutional arrangements for the advancement of women at both field and headquarters levels, distinguishing between policy and programme actions, in order to maintain progress, and called for the establishment of a working group on project design and delivery systems for the advancement of women, as a basic contribution to the preparations for the Conference and its follow-up.

63. Regarding inter-organizational communication and co-operation in the field of information (collection and dissemination as well as development education), UNICEF reported ^{11/} that it had co-ordinated the Sub-Group on Women and Development established under the aegis of the Joint United Nations Information Committee. The Group had produced several kits jointly with a number of United Nations specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations. UNICEF related that, so far, two kits had been produced: "Women and disability" and "Women, health and development", and that work was beginning on a third kit that would be concerned with women's economic role in terms of employment, unpaid work in the home and outside, appropriate technology, energy and income-generating activity.^{12/}

64. In addition, UNICEF stated that it had also been actively involved in the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Women and the International Drinking Water and Sanitation Decade, and in the Information Inter-Agency Working Group on Women, Population and Development, chaired by UNESCO.

65. UNITAR also referred to the importance of inter-organizational communication and co-operation, especially in the context of the improvement of the world-wide situation of women at various levels via the professional ranks of the United Nations organizations and agencies. UNITAR considered that that subject should continue to be pursued in the context of the Conference.^{13/}

66. Moreover, FAO reported that, under the auspices of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination Taskforce on Rural Development, FAO was analysing guidelines and check-lists on women in rural development issued by all United Nations agencies and organizations.

2. Contributions to the Conference and its preparations

(a) Women, agrarian reform and rural development

67. FAO submitted the following list of contributions it would make to the preparations for the Conference:

(a) A follow-up to the 1979 World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (WCARRD): women in agrarian reform and rural development. The analysis to include a report on FAO initiatives to implement the WCARRD Programme of Action and implications for rural women;

(b) Work on women and agricultural development by FAO: lessons learned and unresolved issues. It was the intention of FAO to focus on those technical areas in which it gave assistance in fields of forestry, fisheries and agriculture and their relevance for rural women.

68. Material for the contribution of FAO to the Conference could include:

(a) Guidelines and Checklists on Women in Rural Development. Under the auspices of the ACC Task Force on Rural Development;

(b) Report to the 1983 Committee on Agriculture, Follow-up to WCARRD: The Role of Women in Agricultural Production;

(c) Series of Women in Development Case Studies of FAO Projects. This is an analysis of a selected number of FAO projects as to factors which do or do not contribute to women's participation;

(d) Women and Food Systems Programme. A number of activities are planned within this new programme including surveys and project activities for selected countries;

(e) Demonstration Centres for African Women Farmers. As a direct follow-up to the 1980 Copenhagen World Conference - UN Decade for Women, FAO is planning the strengthening or establishment of demonstration centres for African women farmers, to encompass technical assistance for women's household and agricultural responsibilities;

(f) 1983 FAO Expert Consultation on Reaching Rural Women. The agenda will focus on the concerted action needed between policy-makers, women's bureaux, institutions, agencies and rural people if women are to be reached effectively. Case studies will be available.

69. The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) replied that it was prepared to assist the work of the Conference and it submitted a paper on women in rural development, which sets out measures being taken by IFAD in an effort to improve the status of women.

(b) Women, conservation and development

70. UNEP recommended themes on the topic of women, conservation and development.

(c) Women in decision-making

71. UNITAR submitted as its contribution to the preparations for the Conference the books ^{14/} derived from its research on women in management and decision-making.

(d) Women: agents in and beneficiaries of development

72. Within its resources and priorities, UNCTAD suggested that one area for possible action was an examination of an alternative development strategy linked to a new international economic order, and the consequent structural adjustment and the impact of women workers from the North and the South. UNCTAD reported that sometimes strikingly different implications for male and female workers made it desirable to include the sexual division of labour in any analysis of structural adjustment as it would affect commodity policy, trade, technology and economic co-operation between developing countries.

73. UNCTAD stated that an examination of development strategies for their effect on the progress women have made to date would contribute to more constructive documentation in preparation for future negotiations, setting priorities etc. A reconsideration of appropriate national and international machinery to promote women's integration in development and their full participation in debates on and negotiations for a new international economic order would be welcomed by UNCTAD. UNCTAD said it might be able to contribute by facilitating and arranging regional and interregional exchanges between female experts and women's organizations, within the context of, for example, economic co-operation between developing countries.

74. Referring to the possible contribution to the preparatory activities for the Conference, INSTRAW pointed out that according to its mandates its activities were totally geared to the issues related to women and development. According to the agenda of the Conference, it was prepared to contribute the output of a part of its programme to the Conference.

75. In that respect, INSTRAW highlighted in particular the contributions on: (a) the effects of the current international relationships on the role of women in development; (b) the policies of developing countries on individual and collective self-reliance as they referred to the integration of women in development; (c) indicators and data on women; (d) training guide-lines, manuals and modalities on issues related to women and development; and (e) publications and informational material on issues of relevance for women.

76. The preliminary suggestions concerning its contribution to the Conference were subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees of INSTRAW, as well as the availability of funds, since all its activities were entirely financed by voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund of INSTRAW.

(e) Women, education and training

77. UNESCO proposed the following documentation for the Conference: the document prepared for the review and appraisal of achievements in the framework of its programmes and activities since 1975, emphasizing the importance of education and training in the achievement of the goals of the

Decade and the implementation of the World Plan of Action, and those documents associated with its four types of activities: (a) research, studies and exchange of information; (b) training courses, seminars and meetings; (c) experimental projects and consultative services; and (d) collaboration with non-governmental organizations. Those documents would be primarily produced under the aegis of its programme on equality of educational opportunity for girls and women.

78. UNICEF reported that it would be happy to contribute to the conceptualization and formulation of underlying themes, and intended to have a delegation at the Conference that would include field and headquarters' staff.

(f) Women and employment, under-employment and unemployment

79. ILO reported that, as regards its contribution to the Conference, it had already agreed to analyse the replies to the United Nations questionnaire on the implementation of the subtheme "employment" of the Programme of Action, and to prepare the relevant section of the United Nations report for that Conference. In addition, it indicated that it would probably prepare a report on ILO activities to achieve the objectives of the Decade. ILO also said that it was envisaging submitting three technical contributions to the Conference: a study on the various forms of discrimination affecting women's employment, a document on maternity protection and a study on the impact of ILO technical co-operation projects on women. Finally, ILO concluded that more detailed information on the exact scope and content of its contribution would be communicated at a later stage.

(g) Women and family planning

80. UNFPA replied that, as for its substantive contribution to the preparations for the Conference, it would be happy to participate in the review and appraisal of technical papers, and the consultative activities, as appropriate.

(h) Women and food production, consumption patterns and nutritional levels

81. WFC submitted, as part of its contribution to the preparatory work of the Conference, two documents: (a) National Food Strategies to Eradicate Hunger;15/ and (b) Report of the World Food Council on the Work of its Eighth Session: Acapulco, Mexico: 21-24 June, 1982.16/

(i) Women and health

82. WHO indicated that it envisaged presenting a paper on health to the Conference, and that it would define the substance of the paper at a later date.

(j) Women and non-traditional activities

83. ICAO also expressed support for Conference preparations and noted especially its fellowship and training activities in that regard.

(k) Women, peace and disarmament

84. No specific indications were received on the issue of women, peace and disarmament of contributions planned for the Conference. The substantive secretariat for the Conference would contact other areas in the United Nations Secretariat that might be interested (e.g. the Centre for Disarmament; Centre against Apartheid; Centre for Human Rights, and the units concerned with such issues as Namibia and Palestine).

(l) Women and protection from disaster

85. No specific contributions were received on women and protection from disaster for the Conference, other than general comments from UNDRO.

(m) Refugees and displaced women

86. UNHCR reported that it intended to submit a paper for the Conference treating the issue of refugees and displaced women, which dealt with service concerns, programme plans and projects for economic and social self-sufficiency, participation in decision-making and other issues related to the improvement of the condition of such women in their countries of asylum as well as follow-up action taken by UNHCR on resolutions adopted in that field at the Copenhagen World Conference.

87. The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East replied that it would report at a later stage what progress it was making, when the themes and issues had been decided.

(n) Women and stages/cycles of life

88. UNITAR indicated that it was pleased to co-operate with the Conference secretariat, but made no proposals to follow-up its comments on lonely women in old age.

89. UNICEF, as cited in paragraph 42 above, made a general offer to contribute further to the conceptualization and formulation of such themes as women and life cycles.

90. The United Nations University replied that it had a research project on household, gender and age, and would report at a later stage when the first research results had been obtained.

(o) Women, science and technology

91. UNITAR made a general statement of intent to co-operate with the Conference secretariat.

(p) Women, trade and commerce

92. Regarding contributions to the preparations for the Conference on the topic of women, trade and commerce, UNCTAD indicated that it would consider the possibility of submitting a paper or papers, particularly concerning paragraph 22(b) of E/CN.6/1982/8 ^{17/} and perhaps paragraphs 23 and 24.

3. Organization of the Conference

93. Several organizations recommended a practical action-orientation to both Conference preparations and the Conference itself. The World Bank, for example, agreed with the comments at the twenty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women ^{18/} that it was important that the action that was proposed could feasibly be undertaken by the national decision-makers who must implement the recommendations.

94. The World Bank also agreed with the Commission that it was desirable that the Conference agenda remain flexible for as long as possible, and include both priority substantive and methodological issues.^{19/} In that context, based on the national follow-up orientation, the World Bank especially cited the need for the agenda to consider ways to increase the effectiveness of national machinery, including specifically the machinery of non-governmental organizations.

95. With regard to documentation for the Conference, the World Bank suggested that resources be concentrated on (a) an analysis of the review and a statistical annex, as comprehensive as possible; (b) short practical proposals for specific action on the critical factors; and (c) sound methodological papers (practice not theory) on indicators, development planning and national machinery. The World Bank concluded that those papers should be complemented by national and international reports.

96. Regarding the plenary debate, the World Bank recognized that while progress for women was an element of development progress in general, and could not be achieved in isolation from the political context, the World Bank ventured to express the hope that the Conference would be able to avoid diversion of time and effort into discussion of political ideologies. It suggested substituting written reports on national and international actions in lieu of oral reports, thus omitting the customary statements in the plenary sessions that had in the past added little and had primarily presented the same information as in the written reports. In that regard, the World Bank further proposed that "it would be innovative to eliminate this time-consuming and costly feature of international conferences; an equivalent amount might much more effectively be expended as a contribution to the Voluntary Fund for Women."

97. UNICEF, in addition to those points, proposed that special panels be formed at the Conference on several issues of primary concern to UNICEF.^{20/} Also, it expressed interest that the Conference agenda include sessions in which panelists could critically review the impact upon the lives of women of the different development programmes and projects that had been implemented over the past 10 years.

Notes

1/ Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, Mexico City, 19 June-2 July 1975 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1).

2/ Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14-30 July 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3).

3/ General Assembly resolution 35/36, annex.

4/ Report of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 1-14 September 1981 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.8), part one, sect. A.

5/ "Preparations for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women to be held in 1985", report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/1982/8) and Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 4 (E/1982/14, E/CN.6/1982/14), chap. IV.

6/ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Report of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, Rome, 12-20 July 1979 (Rome, 1979), pp. 11 and 12.

7/ Report of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries....

8/ Ibid.

9/ Since it concerned the interrelationship of issues and indeed a holistic approach, the reply from UNICEF was also cited in paragraph 15 above. The United Nations University, on the other hand, made no formal proposal, but indicated that it was doing research on an aspect of that issue: see paragraph 94 below.

10/ It should be recalled that one of the priority issues included in the Programme of Action was that of young women, and also, that 1985 will be International Youth Year.

11/ This data was contained in a report entitled UNICEF Advocacy and Information Dissemination Activities on the Participation of Women in Development 1980-1982 (29 June 1982), p. 9, prepared and sent by UNICEF to the Conference secretariat.

12/ The lead agency for the production of the kit on "Women and disability" was ILO; and for "Women, health and development", WHO; and currently the Advancement of Women Branch, Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, is the lead organization for the kit on "Women and the International Development Strategy". This work has implications for Conference preparations via the production of a series of kits on selected issues and themes as part of an overall information programme.

13/ The work of UNITAR has been in the area of research on the role of women in decision-making in the United Nations. This topic and the modalities thereof relate to the work of the Administrative Committee on co-ordination Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions Personnel, which will meet at Vienna in March, 1983, at the time of the seventeenth session on the International Civil Service Commission.

14/ The United Nations and Decision-Making: The Role of Women, 2 vols. (United Nations publication, Sales Nos. E.78.XV.CR/10 and E.78.XV.CR/11); The Situation of Women in the United Nations (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.XV.RR/18); and "The situation of women in the United Nations - revisited", UNITAR News, vol. 7, No. 1.

15/ Rome, United Nations World Food Council, 1982.

16/ WFC/1982/12.

17/ "Preparation for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women...".

18/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 4 (E/1982/14, E/CN.6/1982/14), chap. IV, para. 70.

19/ Ibid., paras. 77-88.

20/ See para. 12 in chapter II above for a description of these five themes, which UNICEF suggested to be the bases for special panel discussions at the Conference.

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COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY FOR
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND
APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

First session
Vienna, 23 February-4 March 1983
Items 3 and 4 of the provisional agenda*

CONSIDERATION OF ISSUES AND THEMES TO BE EXAMINED AT
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS
OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

CONSIDERATION OF ARRANGEMENTS TO BE MADE
IN PREPARATION FOR THE CONFERENCE

Views of inter-governmental organizations outside
the United Nations system on their contributions
to the Conference and on possible issues and themes

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

This report has been prepared pursuant to paragraph 9 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26 and is a consolidation of the views of inter-governmental organizations on their contributions to the Conference and on possible issues and themes for it based on the replies of eight inter-governmental organizations

*A/CONF.116/PC.1/1.

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Economic and Social Council, in paragraph 9 of its resolution 1982/26 on preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, invited non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and inter-governmental organizations to submit their views on their contributions to the Conference and on possible issues and themes for the Conference, in writing, to the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, for consolidated presentation to the preparatory body.
2. Accordingly, the views of inter-governmental organizations were sought by the Secretary-General and, at the time of completion of the report, replies had been received from the following: African Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP Group); International Centre for Public Enterprises in Developing Countries (ICPE); Commission of the European Communities; Commonwealth Secretariat; Council of Europe; Inter-governmental Committee for Migration; International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL); and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
3. The current report had been prepared to reflect the views of those inter-governmental organizations; the consolidated report on views of non-governmental organizations appeared in document A/CONF.116/PC.1/6.
4. It should be noted that the replies received from the secretariats of those inter-governmental organizations were not based on a survey by those secretariats of the views of their member states.

SUMMARY OF REPLIES*

A. Substantive aspects of the Conference

1. Issues and themes

5. The ACP Group suggested that preparations for the Conference should take into consideration the following: (a) the progress in the involvement of women in the development of science and technology; and (b) the relationship between the Programme of Action of the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and the establishment of the New International Economic Order.
6. The Commission of the European Communities suggested that the priorities to be set for the World Conference, which would conclude the United Nations Decade for Women: equality, development and peace, should be considered in the light of its new Community Action Programme for the promotion of equal opportunities for women (1982-1985) and its Council resolution of 12 July 1982 on the promotion of equal opportunities for women.^{1/} Therefore, it said that the World Conference, like the one held in the middle of the Decade in 1980 at Copenhagen, should concentrate on the subtopics of employment, health and education.

*Text of the replies is available from the United Nations Secretariat.

^{1/} Commission of the European Communities, OJ C No C 186 of 21.7.1982, p. 3.

7. The Commission of the European Communities stated that the report of the Secretary-General on preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women (E/CN.6/1982/8), which was submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women at its twenty-ninth session, contained some interesting guidelines on employment. However, in view of the Council resolution of 12 July 1982^{1/} it stressed that equal treatment of men and women as regards employment must govern policy in that field, whatever the economic situation might be. It followed that women's employment in the current economic situation deserved priority treatment. Moreover, it related that it was necessary to develop new strategies to ensure the position of women on the labour market even in an insecure economic situation. At the same time, priority should be given to the problem of integrating women into working life, particularly in connection with the new technologies.

8. In the health field, it recommended priority attention for the protection of workers, taking care that the principle of equal treatment of male and female workers was observed. It therefore suggested that it was desirable that special rules protecting women at work should be avoided and that such rules should be abolished where the concern for the protection that justified them in the past no longer applied. That implied, at the same time, adequate protection for pregnancy and motherhood. The final aim should be the best possible protection for workers against all the risks to which they might be exposed at the workplace and in their customary environment.

9. In the educational field, the Commission of the European Communities emphasized the importance of improving vocational training for women. That should enable women to take up jobs in which they had traditionally been under-represented, particularly in connection with the new technologies, and prevent too many of them taking up jobs that were insecure. Furthermore, the question of basic upgrading tuition specifically for women, including its psychosociological aspects, should not be forgotten.

10. In addition, it suggested that the place of women in society in general should be improved. In that respect, it said that the public authorities could provide a good example by improving the conditions and position of their female staff, particularly as regards career opportunities, and that proposals made on that matter deserved complete and unequivocal support. That meant, it related, first of all and as a matter of priority, that women be enabled to co-ordinate their family and occupational duties through a more equitable sharing out of family tasks and responsibilities.

11. Furthermore, it indicated that the problems of women in the developing countries in relation to development policy and the North-South dialogue should receive particular attention, and in that connection reference should be made to the community's actions and attitudes related to the North-South dialogue and to its development policy, including that at the regional level.

12. All in all, the Commission of the European Communities concluded that the Conference should be able to take stock of the situation and make it possible to draw up guidelines to improve the situation of women, whatever their position in society - even though that society was in a state of economic and social flux.

13. The Commonwealth Secretariat replied that the theme should remain employment, health and education, but the focus should be on evaluation, not

only of the achievements or failures of the Decade but also of the processes and mechanisms employed in efforts to effect change. The Commonwealth Secretariat indicated that the review of progress currently being undertaken would, no doubt, point up areas that required special attention. It suggested that among them were likely to be food production, employment, economic and social development indications as they related to women, the special problems of refugees, the aged and young women and women in Southern Africa, and it believed countries would also want to discuss and delineate various strategies to achieve disarmament and world peace.

14. The Council of Europe agreed with the retention of the subtheme of employment, health and education that was adopted by the 1980 World Conference. The Council suggested that the Conference could make a special reference to the participation of women in decision-making in all domains and at all levels, particularly with respect to mass communications, an area that was considered by the Council to be of particular importance at the regional level.

15. The Inter-governmental Committee for Migration indicated that the Conference should consider the subject of migrant women. It pointed out that the attention given during the United Nations Decade for Women to the difficult situation faced by migrant women gainfully employed in a foreign country and by those who were separated from their family members employed as migrant workers abroad deserved the attention of the Conference. The Committee noted such important aspects as equality of treatment and opportunity for migrant women, their changing role in society, social advancement, family reunion, difficulties of rearing children in a foreign country, and protection of the culture of the country of origin. The Committee also drew attention to the fact that refugee women, when they were resettled in a country, were a particularly vulnerable group.

16. ICPE referred to resolution 15 adopted at the 1980 World Conference, which concerned ICPE and recognized the growing role of the public sector and of public enterprises in developing countries as important factors of economic and social development of those countries, including their role and responsibilities for improving the situation of women. ICPE indicated that particular attention should be given by the Conference to issues and themes related to the integration of women in development through efforts aimed at the establishment of the New International Economic Order and implementation of the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade. It suggested further that attention be paid to the role and position of women in developing countries, especially regarding their participation in industrialization processes and policies as compared with rural development in those countries. ICPE also indicated that analyses should be made of the processes of transfer and development of science and technology to developing countries and of the practices of transnational companies in developing countries and their effects on the employment and composition of the labour force in those countries. ICPE concluded that other issues and themes should include: the problem of the participation of women in economic, political and public life in general, with particular reference to their role in decision-making at all levels; and the consistent application of international instruments related to women.

17. In general, OECD agreed with the views on alternative development strategies to promote the full integration of women in development (E/CN.6/1982/8, paras. 16-24). Concerning its own programmes on aid policies and those within its Development Centre, the OECD secretariat said that strategies were selected with a view to contributing to the improvement of the economic and social situation of the female population of developing countries.

18. In relation to the goals of the Conference defined as review and appraisal of what has been achieved since 1975, OECD reported that it had undertaken a review of policies for equality of opportunity under the auspices of its Working Party on the Role of Women in the Economy, with the documentation from its member country reports on the changing situation in such diverse fields as the legislation, regulations or collective agreements ensuring equal employment opportunities for men and women; the adoption of adequate policies to deal with the unemployment of women; the ways to measure and eliminate the concentration of women in a limited number of sectors and occupations; the means of reducing differentials in average earnings between men and women and of ensuring the application of the principle of equal pay for work of equal value; the arrangement of more flexible working time and working schedules for widening employment choice; the development of educational and training opportunities for girls and women; the analysis of the provisions of taxation, social security and child-support systems with regard to their effects on the allocation of time by men and women between paid employment and other activities; and the economic and social situation of migrant women in different countries.

2. Future action

19. The ACP Group cited the need for specific proposals for action beyond the Conference regarding the improvement of the status of women.

20. The Council of Europe stated its support of a second United Nations decade for women. It stated that while the problems confronting the advancement of women could not be solved in a decade, the United Nations Decade for Women had proven to be a valuable means of raising the conscience of the world on those problems and of stimulating governmental action. The Council suggested a new orientation for the Second Decade to define new models for society that would render necessary a redefinition of the respective roles allocated to men and women. In addition, the Council suggested that if a new Decade were not possible for that purpose, a proclamation of regional decades to permit the realization of particular objectives might be considered.

21. The Council of Europe further noted that it was important to proceed with the ending of the current Decade with an evaluation of the progress made and obstacles encountered in the implementation of the World Plan of Action adopted at Mexico City and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women adopted at Copenhagen. The Council pointed out that information on the difficulties encountered by Governments would be useful for the definition of future strategies.

22. ICPE suggested that in order to contribute to the understanding and successful implementation of the efforts to improve the status of women, the Conference might elaborate guidelines for further research in that field (see also paragraph 8 above), bearing in mind the results achieved so far and with reference to other activities and programmes dealing with developmental problems and the role of women.

B. Organizational aspects of the Conference

1. Relationship of inter-governmental organizations to the Conference

23. The Commonwealth Secretariat replied that with so many of the world's food deficit nations being members of the Commonwealth, particular interest was being taken in measures to increase food production. The Commonwealth Secretariat was seeking to assist countries to develop initiatives, which, recognizing women's important role, would contribute to the effectiveness of an enlarged Commonwealth Food Production programme.

24. Similarly, over the next two years, the Women and Development Division of its Secretariat would be focusing on issues relating to women and employment. Whereas health and educational issues had been given a great deal of attention, little effective progress had been made in the area of employment. It hoped that its work would contribute to a clearer understanding of the economic value of women's contribution to national growth and towards developing employment strategies and mechanisms for implementing those strategies in the formal and informal sectors.

25. The Women and Development Division would also be taking a special interest in the International Youth Year of the Commonwealth Youth Programme, and focusing on the employment possibilities for young women. It hoped to see similar emphasis on the concerns of young women reflected in the topics to be discussed at the Conference.

26. Further, it stated that if the Conference were to have lasting impact, nations needed to begin immediately addressing the issues, at every possible United Nations forum. To do so effectively, however, necessitated being in constant and close communication with the United Nations system.

27. It related that many of its members, being small island states, had but slight representation at the United Nations. If they were to participate fully in the activities leading up to and during the Conference, women's bureaux required a great deal of lead time to ensure that their input and concerns reached the relevant United Nations meetings. It asked whether it would be possible for the Commission on the Status of Women to support such action by publishing a calendar of United Nations events likely to have an impact on issues relating to women and indicating the type of input that might be required. It felt that countries would then more easily be able to brief their delegations or submit their concerns in writing.

28. Based on the experience of past meetings on the Decade, it concluded that many member nations of the Commonwealth had voiced two final concerns:

(a) Plenary speeches should be kept to a minimum so that the limited time available could be devoted to more substantive discussion;

(b) Mechanisms should be developed to effectively harness the experience of the non-governmental organizations for inclusion in the deliberations of the Conference.

29. The Commonwealth Secretariat assured the Preparatory Body that it remained anxious to assist in making the end of the Decade a meaningful and effective pointer to a future where equality, development and peace were no longer merely goals.

30. The Council of Europe reported that its views on the Conference were based on its own Programme of Action to Promote the Equality of Sexes. The Council drew attention to the permanent forum (where questions on the equality of sexes were debated) that had been established under the aegis of the Council of Europe (Committee on the Status of Women) and that brought together high-level representatives from national offices of 21 state members to exchange ideas, experiences and information on the advancement of women. The Committee served to evaluate and stimulate activities of the Council in that domain.

31. ICPE provided information in its internal organization with an indication as to how it could potentially related to the Conference. ICPE was a joint institution of developing countries dealing with public enterprise management questions that encompassed research, training, consultancy and documentation in the field of education and training, planning in public enterprises, financing, worker's participation in decision-making, transfer and development of technology, control systems and evaluation of the efficiency of public enterprises and the role of the public sector in developing countries. An integral part of the work of ICPE was the programme "Women as a Factor of Development and the Responsibilities of Public Enterprises in this Regard", which analysed the role and position of women in development.

2. Proposed contributions of inter-governmental organizations to the Conference

32. The Secretariat of the ACP Group offered to circulate relevant information on the Conference from the organizations of the United Nations system to the 63 member states of the ACP Group as a way of not only enhancing the efforts undertaken at the national, regional and sectoral levels, but also increasing the awareness of the important role of women in the economic, social, cultural and political affairs of the world community.

33. The Council of Europe, through its Committee on the Status of Women, indicated that it planned to regularly exchange points of views on the preparations for the Conference. That would give representatives from its 21 member states the opportunity to inform each other of the preparations being undertaken at the national level for the Conference. The Council indicated that it also planned to make other contributions to the Conference by: (a) undertaking a comparative study on national machineries set up by its member states to promote equality between men and women (to be completed in 1984); (b) undertaking a study of the situation of women in the political life of its member states (to be completed in 1983); and (c) organizing a seminar on the media and the equality of sexes (to take place in 1983).

34. The Inter-governmental Committee for Migration drew attention to the international seminar, which it organized in 1981, on integration problems of migrant and refugee women. It was attended by governmental officials and representatives of government and non-governmental organizations concerned with migration, particularly migrant and refugee women. A great many recommendations for action were adopted at that seminar and the Committee was currently considering the possibility of evaluating the results. For that purpose a preliminary survey might be carried out among the participants. The Committee indicated that if such an evaluation were undertaken the results would be forwarded to the United Nations.

35. ICPE indicated that it would present the results of its research in approaches to the integration of women in the development process in developing countries, with special reference to the actual and potential role of public enterprises in those countries, with the aim of identifying and suggesting concrete measures that should be incorporated into the management policies of public enterprises in particular and of the public sector in general. ICPE expressed the hope that the results of its research and the analysis of policy practices could form the basis of its contribution to the Conference.

36. INTERPOL reported that it would be prepared to make a contribution to the Conference in the form of two documents, one on female criminality and the other on a statistical survey of female police.

37. Finally, OECD indicated that its Working Party on the Role of Women in the Economy would, on the basis of national assessments, prepare a final report that would also include substantive studies on the trends in employment and unemployment of women in OECD countries; the causes and the measurement of the labour market concentration by sex; and the differential effects on men and women of social security systems and related fiscal systems. OECD concluded that that consolidated report would be submitted to the OECD Council at the end of 1983, with policy oriented conclusions on the different points under consideration. OECD said that it would put that report at the disposal of the Conference secretariat as soon as the report was available.

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THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND
APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

First session
Vienna, 23 February-4 March 1983
Item 3 of the provisional agenda

PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

Views of inter-governmental organizations outside
the United Nations system on their contributions
to the Conference and on possible issues and themes

Report of the Secretary-General

Corrigendum

Document A/CONF.116/PC.1/5, dated 14 December 1982, should bear the symbol A/CONF.116/PC/5; the cover page should be replaced by the cover page appearing overleaf.

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PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

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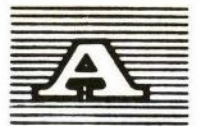
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SUMMARY

This report has been prepared pursuant to paragraph 9 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26 and is a consolidation of the views of inter-governmental organizations on their contributions to the Conference and on possible issues and themes for it based on the replies of eight inter-governmental organizations

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ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY FOR
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND
APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

First session
Vienna, 23 February-4 March 1983
Item 3 of the provisional agenda

PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

Views of Member States

Report of the Secretary-General

Corrigendum

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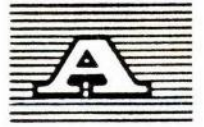
Views of Member States

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

This report sets out the views of Member States as transmitted to the Secretary-General in response to paragraph 8 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26. Sixteen replies were received. The views are grouped firstly according to the substantive matters of the Conference and secondly according to organizational matters.

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PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

Statement submitted by the International Federation of
University Women, a non-governmental organization in
consultative status with the Economic and
Social Council, category II

Corrigendum

In paragraph 6, add the word "no" before the words "use in solving specific problems relating to women", at the end of the paragraph.



UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN 1976-1985

EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE



PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE SECOND HALF
OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN:
EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

Extract from: Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14 to 30 July 1980. United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3.

A. PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE SECOND HALF
OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN:
EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

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Part One: Background and framework

INTRODUCTION

A. Legislative mandates

1. The mandates for the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace are as follows:

(a) General Assembly resolution 3520 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, in which the Assembly decided that in 1980, at the mid-point of the Decade, a world conference would be convened to review and evaluate progress made in implementing the recommendations of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, held in 1975 and to readjust programmes for the second half of the Decade in the light of new data and research;

(b) Economic and Social Council resolution 2062 (LXII) of 12 May 1977, in which the Council requested the Secretary-General to prepare for the consideration of the Commission on the Status of Women, at its twenty-eighth session, a report outlining a programme of concrete action for the second half of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace;

(c) General Assembly resolution 33/185 of 29 January 1979, in which the Assembly decided upon the subtheme, "Employment, Health and Education", for the World Conference and recommended that the Conference should place emphasis on elaborating action-oriented plans for integrating women into the developmental process, particularly by promoting economic activities and employment opportunities on an equal footing with men, through, inter alia, the provision of adequate health and educational facilities;

(d) General Assembly resolution 33/191 of 29 January 1979 by which it was decided that the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace would be held in Copenhagen.

B. Objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace

2. In 1975, International Women's Year, a World Conference was held in Mexico City which adopted the World Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, 1976-1985, and the Declaration on the Equality of Women and their Contribution to Development and Peace. The principles and objectives proclaimed at the Mexico City Conference for the Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace are still relevant today and constitute the basis of action for the Decade. They were further reaffirmed by a number of United Nations regional, sectoral and international meetings as well as by the social and economic recommendations of the Conference of Non-Aligned and Developing Countries on the Role of Women in Development held in Baghdad in May 1979, which were endorsed by the sixth summit of Heads of State and Government of Non-Aligned Countries.

3. Equality is here interpreted as meaning not only legal equality, the elimination of de jure discrimination, but also equality of rights, responsibilities and opportunities for the participation of women in development, both as beneficiaries and as active agents. The issue of inequality as it affects the vast

majority of women of the world is closely related to the problem of underdevelopment which exists mainly as a result of unjust international economic relations. The attainment of equality pre-supposes equality of access to resources and the power to participate equally and effectively in their allocation and in decision-making at various levels. Accordingly, it should be recognized that the attainment of equality by women long disadvantaged may demand compensatory activities to correct accumulated injustices. The joint responsibility of men and women for the welfare of the family in general and the care of their children in particular should be reaffirmed.

4. Development is here interpreted to mean total development, including development in the political, economic, social, cultural and other dimensions of human life, as also the development of economic and other material resources and also the physical, moral, intellectual and cultural growth of the human person. The improvement of the status of women requires action at the national and local levels and within the family. It also requires a change in the attitudes and roles of both men and women. Women's development should not only be viewed as an issue in social development but should be seen as an essential component in every dimension of development. To improve the status of women and their role in the process of development, such development should be an integral part of the global project for the establishment of a New International Economic Order based on equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest and co-operation among all States.

5. Without peace and stability there can be no development. Peace is thus a prerequisite to development. Moreover, peace will not be lasting without development and the elimination of inequalities and discrimination at all levels. Equality of participation in the development of friendly relations and co-operation among States will contribute to the strengthening of peace, to the development of women themselves and to equality of rights at all levels and in all spheres of life, as well as to the struggle to eliminate imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, zionism, racism, racial discrimination, apartheid, hegemonism, and foreign occupation, domination and oppression as well as full respect for the dignity of the peoples and their right to self-determination and independence without foreign interference or intervention and to promote guarantees of fundamental freedoms and human rights.

C. Nature and scope of the Programme of Action

6. In compliance with the mandates given above, the present Programme of Action has been drawn up for the second half of the Decade, 1980-1985, to promote the attainment of the three objectives of equality, development and peace, with special emphasis on the subtheme - namely, employment, health and education - as significant components of development, taking into account that human resources cannot achieve their full potential without integrated socio-economic development. The Programme aims at strengthening comprehensive and effective strategies to remove obstacles and constraints on women's full and equal participation in development, including actions to solve the problems of underdevelopment and of the socio-economic structure which places women in an inferior position and to increase their contribution to the strengthening of world peace.

7. The following Programme of Action, formulated at the mid-point of the Decade, recognizes that considerable efforts have been made by the majority of countries

in furtherance of the objectives of the Decade, but that progress has been insufficient to bring about the desired quantitative or qualitative improvements in the status of women. On the assumption that the three main objectives of the Decade - Equality, Development and Peace - are closely interlinked with one another, the purpose of this Programme of Action is to refine and strengthen practical measures for advancing the status of women, and to ensure that women's concerns are taken into account in the formulation and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade.

8. The present Programme focuses on ensuring women's increased participation in the realization of the objectives of the World Plan of Action. The recommendations seek to indicate the interrelated nature of actions that need to be taken simultaneously on several fronts such as those related to world economic issues for the International Development Strategies for the Third United Nations Development Decade and the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Establishment of the New International Economic Order thus elaborating the approach adopted in the World Plan of Action. In particular, the World Plan of Action gives high priority to improving the conditions of the most disadvantaged groups of women - especially the rural and urban poor and the vast group of women workers in the tertiary sector. This Programme gives high priority to improving the conditions of the most disadvantaged groups of women, particularly those disadvantaged because of socio-economic and historic conditions, with emphasis on rural and urban poor and on the subtheme: employment, education and health. An attempt has also been made to recommend practical measures to be incorporated in all aspects of the development of society.

9. Although the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year 1/ already contains a comprehensive list of measures necessary to achieve those objectives, it is evident, and has been further borne out by the review of progress made over the past five years, that they cannot be achieved in such a short span of time and that periodic reviews are needed to strengthen the strategies and objectives of the Plan in line with major world developments. Therefore, the possibility of a second decade could be envisaged for the period 1985-1995. The recommendation to hold another conference in 1985 has already been made by two of the regional preparatory meetings - those of the Economic Commission for Western Asia and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

1/ See Report of the World Conference on International Women's Year, Mexico City, 19 June-2 July 1975, United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1, document E/CONF.66/34, chap. II, sect. A.

I. HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

A. The roots of inequality of women: the problems of development and equality of participation of women and men in development

10. The causes of the inequality between women and men are directly linked with a complex historical process. The inequality also derives from political, economic, social and cultural factors. The form in which this inequality manifests itself is as varied as the economic, social and cultural conditions of the world community.

11. Throughout history and in many societies women have been sharing similar experiences. One of the basic factors causing the unequal share of women in development relates to the division of labour between the sexes. This division of labour has been justified on the basis of the childbearing function of women, which is inherent in womanhood. Consequently, the distribution of tasks and responsibilities of women and men in society has mainly restricted women to the domestic sphere and has unduly burdened them. As a result, women have often been regarded and treated as inferior and unequal in their activities outside the domestic sphere and have suffered violations of their human rights. They have been given only limited access to resources and participation in all spheres of life, notably in decision-making, and in many instances institutionalized inequality in the status of women and men has also resulted.

12. The inequality of women in most countries stems to a very large extent from mass poverty and general backwardness of the majority of the world's population caused by underdevelopment which is a product of imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism and also of unjust international economic relations. The unfavourable status of women is aggravated in many countries, developed and underdeveloped, by de facto discrimination on the grounds of sex. 2/

13. It can be argued that the predominant economic analyses of labour and capital insufficiently trace the linkages between production systems in world economics and women's work as producers and reproducers; nor is the subjection, exploitation, oppression and domination of women by men, sufficiently explained in history. Women are not simply discriminated against by the productive systems, but subject to the discrimination that arises by virtue of being the reproductive force.

14. While women's childbearing function and their traditional nurturing roles are respected, in many countries there has been little recognition of women's actual or potential contribution to economic activity. The role of women within the family, combined with a high level of unemployment and underemployment of the population in general, often results in priority being given to the employment of men in economic activities outside the family household.

15. These cumulative processes of discrimination within and outside the family characterize the dual oppression that women suffer on the basis of their sex and

2/ Which in a group of countries is called sexism.

social class. Poverty and underdevelopment have sharpened and continue to sharpen these inequities.

16. The effects of these long-term cumulative processes of discrimination have been accentuated by under-development and are strikingly apparent in the present world profile of women: while they represent 50 per cent of the world adult population and one third of the official labour force, they perform nearly two thirds of all working hours, receive only one tenth of the world income and own less than 1 per cent of world property.

B. Review of progress achieved in the first half
of the Decade: lessons for the future

17. The review and appraisal of progress achieved during the past five years indicates that the integration of women into development has been formally accepted by most Governments as a desirable planning objective. Many countries have made significant efforts, undertaken a number of activities and measures and established institutional and administrative mechanisms to integrate women in development.

18. The accomplishments of the first half of the Decade include sensitizing planners and decision-makers to women's needs and problems, conducting research and building a data base on women, and promoting legislation safeguarding women's rights. However, with the general exception of the countries with advanced social services, serious problems, such as inadequate allocation of financial resources, lack of skilled personnel, and so on, continue to exist in many countries. This constraint is to a considerable extent - especially in developing countries - due to the general economic problems, such as scarcity of resources and/or under-utilization of existing resources. In many cases it reflects the priority Governments accord to issues concerning women. Another major constraint facing such mechanisms is their limited mandates. Thus, several existing mechanisms do not have strong executive and implementing authority. Similarly, the terms of reference given to such mechanisms tend to restrict them to welfare activities traditionally associated with women and thereby reinforcing stereotyping of women's roles and attitudinal prejudices. The sensitizing task of these special mechanisms has, as yet, insufficiently resulted in an actual integration into policy planning and implementation by Governments and international organizations of the question of sharing all responsibilities between the sexes.

19. The review of legislative enactments and provisions reveals that a significant number of Governments reported new constitutional and legislative provisions which guarantee or promote equal rights of women and men. However, legislative provisions are not always matched by adequate enforcement measures and machinery. In many countries specific measures have been taken to redress past discrimination and to promote equal opportunities for women, especially in the fields of education and employment.

20. In the developed market-economy countries significant progress has been made in establishing national machineries, while achievements in the subtheme areas of education, health and employment are impressive. In many countries, new legislation has ensured the legal rights of women in social, economic and political aspects of national life. The percentage of women in positions of policy formulation has increased significantly. Women have joined the labour force in

increasing numbers; enrolments have achieved parity in secondary, university and graduate education in many nations, and expansion of primary health care has reached most rural areas of the various market-economy countries. Current studies on work of comparable value, occupational segregation and valuation of household work are positive signs of further progress in the second half of the Decade. Acknowledgement of the double burden has enabled women and men to move forward to challenge existing stereotypes and to develop social programmes aimed at effecting full equality of women and men.

21. In the developing countries, despite their resource constraints and the adverse effect of the world economic structure and the world economic situation, initiatives have been taken for integrating women into development, including the establishment of national machineries and legislative enactments and efforts to overcome prejudices against women. The economic contribution of rural women to agriculture and national development is increasingly being recognized in national and rural development plans and policies. Research and studies have been undertaken to identify the critical needs of women and to formulate and implement programmes and projects for them. In many developing countries efforts have been made in the public sector to increase the participation of women and representation at the decision-making levels. There has been an increase in the enrolment of girls in educational institutions at different levels, an increase in the availability of health care to women and efforts have been made to improve the work conditions and the employment needs of women.

22. In the countries with centrally planned economies a further advancement of women took place in various fields. Women in those countries actively participated in social and economic development and in all other fields of public life of their countries, including the active struggle for peace, disarmament, détente and international co-operation. A high level of employment, health, education and political participation of women was achieved in countries with centrally planned economies, in which national mechanisms are already in existence with adequate financial allocations and sufficient skilled personnel.

23. Women in all countries love peace and women all over the world have conducted active struggles for peace, disarmament, détente and international co-operation against foreign aggression and all forms of foreign domination and hegemony. Women have played and can play an active role at the national and international level to strive for détente and to make it a continuing and universal process of an all-embracing scope so that the goals of the Decade might be achieved.

24. The review and appraisal of progress achieved during the past five years indicates that in many countries the situation of women in the so-called "backward" sectors has worsened. In particular, it has worsened with respect to the conditions of employment and education for women in the rural and the so-called marginal urban sectors. In many countries the actual number of female illiterates is increasing. In fact, illiteracy rates for the female population appear to have increased and are projected to increase in several countries. In terms of the percentage of enrolment that women constitute of the total enrolment, at the first, second and third levels of education, progress in the participation of women has been made in most countries; however, declines have been reported by several in female participation at the second level. It appears that, in many countries, only in the higher and middle socio-economic strata did women gain some significant increases in educational opportunities. However, this improvement has not been followed by a parallel increase in levels of employment, even in certain developed

countries and in those developing countries with higher industrialization rates. In employment, there is evidence of increasing numbers of women being forced into unemployment or being transferred outside the formal sectors of the economy into the peripheral labour market in the developed countries and into the informal sectors of subsistence agriculture, handicrafts, and so on. This move from the formal to the informal market is evidenced by estimates of the International Labour Organisation and projections for over-all activity rates in the economies of the developing countries.

25. In many instances, transfer of inappropriate technology has worsened the employment and health conditions of women; displacement of labour occurs, and foreign models of consumption accompany such transfer. In certain large industries, some of them operated by transnational corporations, new discriminatory labour practices have appeared in both rural and urban areas, while in the urban areas increases in the employment of women have been largely the result of an increase in the exploitation of cheap, semi-skilled labour of young and unmarried women, related to increases in the migration of young women to the cities.

26. In many countries, women have not been integrated into national development plans. Where special programmes have existed, they have failed for the most part in achieving significant results, owing to their narrow focus on stereotyped sex roles which have further increased segregation based on sex.

27. Finally, the current world economic crisis has contributed to the worsening of the situation of women in general. Women's employment in industries which have high levels of female labour has been negatively affected by protectionist measures. In developing countries the negative impact on women is even greater than in developed countries.

28. There have been some significant achievements in the implementation of a number of recommendations of the World Plan of Action both at the regional and at global levels in the first half of the Decade. Of particular significance was the establishment of the Voluntary Fund for the Decade for Women and the preparatory work leading to the establishment of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women. A joint interagency programme for the advancement of women was prepared and regional programmes were implemented in accordance with the regional plans of action adopted in Mexico. Several United Nations organizations were involved in these activities, including the United Nations, regional commissions, UNICEF, UNDP, UNCTAD, UNIDO, UNFPA, ILO, FAO, UNESCO and WHO. It is apparent that such programmes can be strengthened and that greater efforts could be made to introduce a more multidisciplinary approach in these programmes. In a number of conferences held under the auspices of the United Nations system, linkages were established between women's status and the priority areas of concern, including population, food, water, primary health care, education, rural development and agrarian reform, employment, industrialization and over-all development.

29. The review of implementation of the objectives of the second United Nations Development Decade as well as of the progress of negotiations on the establishment of the New International Economic Order shows that hopes and expectations in connexion with the International Development Strategy and establishment of the New International Economic Order have not been fulfilled. Instead of a gradual resolution of the world economic situation and encouragement of accelerated economic development of developing countries, the crisis in the world economy has become more

acute. This has affected developing countries in particular and, because of the real economic and social situation in these countries, it is women who are most adversely affected. The international development conditions have deteriorated and become an even more limiting factor for the development of developing countries, specially restricting the implementation of the objectives of the World Plan of Action.

30. The lessons for the future to be learnt from this review are many. First, it proves that any measures for women isolated from the major priorities, strategies and sectors of development cannot result in any substantial progress toward attaining the goals of the Decade. Second, legislative and developmental action, unless accompanied by positive and concerted action to change attitudes and prejudices, cannot be fully effective. Third, mere provision of equal rights, development services and opportunities will not, by themselves, help women to benefit from them without simultaneous special supportive measures, e.g. legal aid, earmarking of benefits, information and knowledge, institutional innovation etc.

31. The three main objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women - equality, development and peace - are closely interlinked with one another. Progress towards any one of these has a beneficial effect on the others. In turn, failure in one sphere has a negative impact on the others. Since the primary objective of development is to bring about a sustained improvement in the well-being of the individual and of society and to bestow benefits on all, development should be seen not only as a desirable goal in itself but also as a most important means of maintaining peace and of furthering equality of the sexes. However, the present world is by no means tranquil and there exist factors detrimental to peace. Women in some countries are still suffering from wars of aggression.

32. Thus, the universal strengthening of world peace and international security, struggle against foreign interference, aggression and military occupation, respect for national independence and sovereignty, the curbing of the arms race, the achievement of the goals of general and complete disarmament and a reduction of military budgets, the achievement of détente, the establishment of the New International Economic Order and increased co-operation among States, on the basis of equality, will advance the economic, social and cultural development of countries and the situation of women, while still recognizing their special vulnerability. Consequently, it is only under conditions of peace that it is possible to move forward to the full implementation of the other two objectives of the Decade.

33. In accordance with their obligations under the Charter to maintain peace and security and to achieve international co-operation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, bearing in mind, in this respect, the right to live in peace, States should help women to participate in promoting international co-operation for the sake of the preparation of societies for a life in peace.

34. Similarly, a close relation exists between the world economic situation, development and the strengthening of international peace and security, disarmament and a relaxation of international tension. It is imperative that resources released as a result of disarmament be used for promoting the well-being of all nations and contribute to bridging the gap between developed and developing countries, thus increasing favourable conditions for improving the situation of all members of society. In this context particular attention should be given to the advancement of women and the protection of mother and child.

35. The lack of progress in the establishment of the New International Economic Order has had a direct effect on the socio-economic situation of women. Recent studies on the impact of international economic problems on the employment and working conditions of women show that in fact the adverse effects on the wage levels and job stability of women are more extensive than on those of men. For example, women are the first to lose their jobs on plantations that produce crops for export and in the textile, clothing and electronics industries, which are more sensitive to price fluctuations and to protectionist measures recently introduced by some developed countries.

36. The realization of all the aims mentioned above would provide new possibilities for a more intensive promotion of the status of women. An improvement in the status of women is of over-all national importance, and responsibility for this rests upon the State and all sectors of society. Such an improvement can be realized only if it is carried out in accordance with national needs and conditions, as a sovereign right of each country, without any country imposing its own model.

37. In the traditional and agricultural sectors, the effects of such factors, when associated with rapid displacement and changes in women's basic tertiary activities and a lack of appropriate compensatory measures and especially with the lack of corresponding efforts for the integrated development of rural areas and more intensive integration of women in such development, are even more detrimental. In other words, the lack of access to land, credit and financial and technological resources worsens the impact of rapid displacements in the work activities of women.

38. On the one hand, the recent expansion of capital- and technology-intensive and large-scale agricultural estates, often operated by transnational corporations, adversely affects women's work in basic tertiary activities, such as those related to small-scale urban, semi-rural and agricultural trade, which are crucial income-generating activities and are essential for community self-reliance. Indeed, in many cases this process has actually jeopardized food production and the distribution of food and basic subsistence goods. On the other hand, in the modern sectors of developing economies, although the expansion of industries operated by transnational corporations has in certain cases increased employment opportunities for women, it has nevertheless also brought new problems both for women and for over-all development. Care should be taken so that the redeployment of industry in the developing countries is not used as a means of providing a cheap labour force, especially women, or that the redeployment of obsolete and "dirty" industries is not carried out in the developing countries. Industrialization should be carried out in accordance with the over-all national aims, priorities and aspirations of the developing countries, as a part of a process which will contribute to the transfer of technology to the developing countries. Women's right to participate in and benefit from the industrialization process on equal terms with men must be secured.

39. In fact, there has been some concern about future trends in export oriented industries and their impact on employment in developing countries. Such industries are said to be more sensitive to the needs of the international market than to those of the host countries. Although important for creating employment and providing foreign exchange earnings, in other respects their impact on the domestic economy is minimal, since virtually all their input is imported and all their output exported. The Governments of host countries seem to view such enterprises, for the most part, as short-run solutions to the problem of generating employment, but for

development in the long term Governments prefer industries that will engage highly skilled workers. If such long-term plans are actually realized, the employment of women in labour-intensive manufacturing might only be a temporary phase in the industrialization of developing countries.

40. As part of the industrialization and development process, activities of indigenous companies and corporations also have an impact on women and their employment options. Although, in some cases, cottage industries and other forms of small industry are replaced or absorbed by larger entities, these corporations often have a multiplier effect on female employment. Under some circumstances the employment options of women are narrowed by corporate development, while in other instances women thus displaced are eventually absorbed into the newly established larger industries.

41. The processes described above demonstrate that, while traditions, customs and practices greatly hinder the advancement of women, some serious constraints to the economic participation of women in national development are international in nature and derive from the pattern of relationships between developing and developed countries.

42. In many countries, at the national level, a comparison of the performances of men and women in every sector of economic and social development shows that the wide gap between the economic opportunities available to men and those open to women has not been reduced in proportion to the increases achieved in over-all economic growth, regardless of the levels of development, which vary from country to country, the intensity of the world economic crisis increasingly affecting working people in general. Even in countries where significant increases in general wage employment were obtained, women have failed to share equally in this increase, while men, due to greater job security, have developed opportunities for sustained employment in the labour force, learned skills and increased their relative wages. Women constitute a substantial and growing proportion of the underemployed sector of the population, especially in the area of intermediary services and activities of the so-called tertiary and informal sectors. In those sectors women workers, like men workers, are often underpaid and receive for the most part extremely low wages; they are also subjected to a high degree of job instability and have, in most countries, no legislative protection, and existing labour organizations do not always pay sufficient attention to their needs and demands. Moreover, in most countries, new incentives designed to improve their commitment to the labour force, such as occupational mobility, education or training and infrastructure assistance in the areas of credit and finance, have been inadequate.

II. CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

A. The need to include new data and strategies concerning the participation of women in development in the Third United Nations Development Decade

43. The sharpening of the world economic crisis in many countries during the latter half of the Second United Nations Development Decade requires an in-depth reassessment of established strategies and imposes the need for undertaking additional and comprehensive measures, at national and international levels, with a view to the strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade. The shortfalls of the Second United Nations Development Decade have been linked to major

problems related to external debts, insufficient increases in food production (a factor that has also affected industrialization) and inadequate levels and patterns of industrialization. Those failures were said to be further intensified by the low capacity of many countries, particularly developing countries, for absorbing their constantly increasing unemployment. Moreover, the major failures in productivity have been linked not only to key international factors but also to inadequate and/or non-existent national policies aimed at maximizing the training and utilization of human resources. In this respect, the need for an in-depth reassessment of strategies concerning the mobilization of women (approximately 50 per cent of the adult world population) has been consistently emphasized in recent studies and policy-oriented analyses, particularly at the regional and local levels. The discussion of women's issues at a recent conference on an area of priority in the new international economic order - namely, the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development - has forged a new consensus and action proposals in this area.

44. These new developments are of particular relevance in overcoming the alarming shortfalls in the agricultural sector, where women constitute a large proportion of the labour force. In order to promote integrated rural development, to improve productivity in the food and other agricultural commodity sectors, the wages, conditions of employment and training of women, as well as their access to credit, land and infrastructural technology in rural areas, should be significantly improved; technologies adapted to the needs of rural areas should be developed and made accessible to women. Conditions where internal migration is the only possibility for employment could be eliminated by generating productive employment and development through more uniform geographical distribution of economic projects and social services. To this end, such adverse effects of technology transfer to rural women as may exist and such effects of migration as are adverse to women should be diminished.

45. The International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade should formulate goals, objectives and policy measures which would contribute to the solution of international economic problems and sustained global economic development, including the accelerated development of developing countries and the reduction of the existing gap between developing and developed countries. It is therefore necessary to expedite the establishment of the New International Economic Order. This goal cannot be achieved unless the inequality between men and women is eliminated. In the formulation and review of strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, full consideration should be given to the conceptualization and review presented in the present Programme of Action as well as in the background documents before the World Conference. Furthermore, this new strategy should also include ways and means of developing new data that can more adequately measure the participation of women in the development process in every sector and at every level in order to provide a systematic and effective basis for the establishment of new national, regional and international policies to maximize and evaluate the utilization of the resources of women and the involvement of women as equal participants in social life and economic development - this being a pre-condition for the successful development of each and every country.

B. The interrelationship of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women and the subtheme of the World Conference: "Employment, Health and Education"

46. The experience of the Decade has clearly revealed that the objectives of equality and peace cannot be realized without an unequivocal commitment at national, regional and global levels to women's integration in all aspects of development. The objective of development, which incorporates the principle of socio-economic and political equality, is closely related to stability and peace, which is more than an absence of violence within or between countries. In selecting the subtheme of the World Conference: employment, health and education, it was recognized that these interrelated aspects of development are of crucial concern to the advancement of women. The principles of the right of women to work, to receive equal pay for work of equal value, to be provided with equal opportunities for training and education were clearly stated in the World Plan of Action. It was also stressed that the full participation of women in development required that they should be given adequate and equitable access to health, nutrition and other social services including family planning and child care facilities. In all countries there is need for continuing attention to the implementation of these principles. For the remainder of the Decade, they should be given a high priority in Governments' planning and programmes. The level of development depends upon international conditions and national efforts towards integrated development particularly in the fields of employment, health and education, these being fields of exceptional significance for the under-developed sectors, of which women constitute the major segment. In fact, the sectors of employment, health and education, especially for women workers in the agricultural and industrial sectors of the economy, offer a stark index of the levels and quality of development in any given country. As reproducers of the labour force, women's socio-economic and health conditions are crucial determinants of the prospects for development. Their employment and educational opportunities not only reflect the extent to which a given society offers women the possibility to develop their full potential and eliminates inequalities but also the extent to which countries are maximizing their endogenous technical and economic resources, especially in times of acute economic crisis which threaten world stability. The strengthening of regional commissions by adequate institutional arrangements which would also ensure intersectoral programming and co-ordination of activities for women is essential. The improvement of linkages among the organizations of the United Nations system with a view to co-ordinating implementation where there are separate programmes is also essential.

Part Two: The Programme of Action at the national level

III. NATIONAL TARGETS AND STRATEGIES FOR THE FULL PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

A. National strategies for accelerating the full participation of women in economic and social development

47. The improvement of the status of women requires action at the national, local and family levels. It also requires a change of men's and women's attitudes towards their roles and responsibilities in society. The joint responsibility of men and women for the welfare of the family in general and the care of their children in particular should be reaffirmed.

48. Governments should explicitly state their firm commitment to accord high priority to legislative and other measures for accelerating the equal and full participation of women in economic and social development with a view to eliminating the existing inequalities between men and women in all sectors.

49. National strategies should as a matter of urgency integrate women into their efforts towards the New International Economic Order and a new international development strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade by:

(a) Studying and identifying new areas for national projects that would accelerate socio-economic growth and at the same time enhance the socio-economic participation of women by fostering economic and technical co-operation among countries;

(b) Providing advisory services for accelerating national self-reliance in co-operation with United Nations organizations; also ensuring that women assist in determining that technology transfer has a positive impact on the socio-economic situation and health of women, as well as on their working conditions;

(c) Providing women in the most disadvantaged sectors of the population with the ways and means of increasing their access to infrastructure, basic services and appropriate technology in order to alleviate the heavy workload imposed by the basic requirements and demands of their families and communities, women should also be provided with opportunities to gain new skills and with job opportunities in the construction and maintenance of the above-mentioned services, as well as in other sectors;

(d) Adopting measures to make equal opportunities for development and services available to women in rural areas and to women in urban areas by reversing processes of unequal economic growth, implementing special investment and incentive programmes in disadvantaged sectors, controlling mechanisms for the transfer of resources from one sector to another and, where possible, preventing the rural sector from being impoverished to the advantage of the urban sector.

50. Governments should, where appropriate, design certain special transitional strategies and establish, compensatory mechanisms aimed at achieving equality of opportunity in education, employment and health as a means of overcoming existing inequalities in national administration, the educational system, employment, health services and the like, it being clearly understood that the special strategies are designed to correct imbalances and discrimination and will be phased out when such imbalances and discrimination no longer exist.

1. National development plans and policies

51. Governments should undertake the following:

(a) The establishment of qualitative and quantitative targets for the second half of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace; projections for the planning cycles of 1985-1995 should be made where appropriate, and reviews conducted in 1985 and 1990. These should especially seek to remove the gap between the attainments of men and women, between rural and urban women and between all women in underprivileged population groups, and other women in all sectors and particularly in the fields of employment, health and education;

(b) Systematic and sustained linking of efforts to integrate women into national development planning and policies, particularly in the sectors of employment, education and health, and in the allocation of adequate material, technical and personnel resources within each sector of national development;

(c) The establishment of appropriate arrangements for monitoring and evaluating the extent to which women participate in and benefit from both general and sectoral development programmes. Reliable data should be collected and technical services provided for periodic reviews of the progress made at all levels of society in every major sector of the national development programmes; targets should be established along with the allocation of physical and financial resources in every development programme, in order to ensure a more just distribution of benefits to women;

(d) The development and improvement of infrastructural technology, basic services and incentives, particularly for the rural sectors of the population and the urban poor; women should be given equal rights of land ownership, equal access to credit and financing, basic sanitation, safe water and energy resources, and the skills to maintain and build community self-reliance. Special attention and additional services should be given to women in the area of health;

(e) Initiate where necessary, as a result of socio-economic conditions, processes of integral agrarian reform, which will subsequently make it possible to implement measures for promoting the development of women in rural areas:

(i) To mobilize women, particularly poor women, in rural and urban areas;

(ii) To organize learning and productive activity and access to needed developmental services and inputs (e.g., education, primary health and child care, skill development, credit and marketing facilities);

(iii) To organize working women, including those in the unorganized sectors, for protection against exploitation, for socio-occupational mobility through education and training and necessary supportive services for children;

(f) Systematic efforts to promote and assist grass-roots level organizations as one of the instruments of development;

(g) The establishment of incentives and concrete programmes for increasing the participation of women in decision-making processes at all levels and in all spheres of national development;

(h) Wherever possible time-tables should be established for the achievement of particular objectives;

(i) Where appropriate, initiate consultations between government and employer and employee organizations as well as community groups to examine and improve conditions for women workers.

2. National machinery

52. Where it does not exist, national machinery preferably at the highest level of government, where appropriate, should be established. By national machinery should be understood not only the establishment of central institutions at the national level but furthermore, where appropriate, the establishment of a comprehensive network of extensions in the form of commissions, offices or posts at different levels, including the local administrative level because of its better capacity for dealing with specific local situations, as well as working units in the relevant branches of administration, in order to ensure the effective implementation of action programmes ensuring the equality of men and women with a view to:

(a) Upgrading its capacity and role in national development plans;

(b) Achieving a more central location within the existing institutional arrangements for the formulation and planning of and strict compliance with policies and programmes and for monitoring their implementation and evaluation;

(c) Conceptualizing women's problems in an integrated manner within each sector of development and at the same time developing effective methodologies, policies and mechanisms for affirmative action, where appropriate, to ensure an integrated approach;

(d) Ensuring the full participation of women in measures taken by government or other agencies.

53. Effective institutional links between national machinery and national planning units as well as national women's organizations, should be established with a view to:

(a) Increasing their decision-making powers;

(b) Increasing their technical, financial and personnel resources;

(c) Advising on new approaches to accelerate the full participation of women in every sector of the development process, according to national priorities;

(d) Drawing up national programmes for women in the priority areas of employment, health and education so as to make possible their full participation at the national level. These should also aim at intensifying over-all efforts to promote technical co-operation among countries and development in the areas of science and technology, water and energy resources among others, in line with the strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and the programme of action for the New International Economic Order.

54. Women should be represented on the basis of equality in all bodies and institutions dealing with development so as to be able to influence national policies at their inception - all this with a view to advancing the status of women and their participation in development.

55. The national machinery should increase the participation of grass-roots organizations, such as women's and youth associations, rural workers' organizations, community organizations, religious groups, neighbourhood associations, as well as trade unions, both in decision-making and in the implementation of projects and in this regard should serve as a liaison unit between appropriate government agencies and grass-roots organizations.

56. The national machinery should implement effective programmes aimed at ensuring that women participate in and benefit from the implementation, at the national, regional and international levels, of the relevant recommendations of such major conferences as the World Employment Conference, the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, 3/ the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, 4/ and the International Conference on Primary Health Care. 5/

57. The national machinery should also provide appropriate channels of communication between women's organizations and other organizations, in order to:

(a) Help women's groups to obtain financial and technical assistance from international and bilateral funding sources;

(b) Provide reliable data on the socio-economic and political participation of women to both governmental and non-governmental organizations, including those that act as formal and non-formal educational agencies, with a view to sensitizing society to the importance of the contribution to be made by women to development and informing the public of the obstacles to equality of opportunity.

58. To ensure that the national machinery serves its purpose, it is advisable to carry out studies and interdisciplinary research on the actual status of women, drawing on the experience already acquired in some countries with women's studies programmes.

3. Legislative measures

59. All remaining discriminatory legislative provisions in the social, economic and political spheres and in penal and civil codes should be examined with a view to

3/ See Report of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (WCAARD/REP), transmitted to the General Assembly by a note by the Secretary-General (A/34/485).

4/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, Vienna, 20-31 August 1979 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.I.21).

5/ Report of the International Conference on Primary Health Care, Alma-Ata, 6-12 September 1978 (UNIDO/IOD.255).

repealing all laws and regulations discriminating against women with regard to rights concerning nationality, inheritance, the ownership and control of property, the freedom of movement of married women, the custody of children and the like, or which inhibit their effective participation in or planning, implementation and evaluation of economic transactions.

60. Governments should develop programmes to inform women of their legal rights and should point out ways in which women can use these rights. Where appropriate, Governments should establish commissions to assess women's legal rights and the establishment of priorities for legislative measures and to identify, specify and classify the necessary legislative measures that have not yet been enacted.

61. In countries where large sections of the population are governed by customary law, Governments should carry out investigations into the degree of protection or oppression and amount of discrimination experienced by women under customary law, in order to deal with or reject such practices by statutory legislation at an appropriate time.

62. Governments should implement the provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

63. Procedures should be provided - or, where they already exist, strengthened - for effectively implementing social legislation, especially that affecting parents.

64. The protection of the social function of parenthood and of maternity should be guaranteed in legislation. Both in the public and in the private sector, the definition of maternity leave should be understood to be the period which is required by expectant mothers for the protection of their health before childbirth and by mothers for the recovery of their health after childbirth. Recognizing that the raising of children is a joint responsibility of parents and the community at large, efforts should be made to provide for parental leave, available to either parent.

65. Legislation should also be enacted and implemented in order to prevent domestic and sexual violence against women. All appropriate measures, including legislative ones, should be taken to allow victims to be fairly treated in all criminal procedures.

66. Educational and informational programmes on the socio-economic implications of laws should be launched among various professional groups, especially the legal and judicial professions, in order to prevent, where possible, the law from being applied inequitably.

67. Programmes of counselling and legal aid should be developed and implemented to enable women, especially those in the disadvantaged sectors, to have effective protection through legislation. Broad programmes to publicize legislation should also be implemented to make women and, in particular, those in the poorest sectors aware of their rights and obligations and of the institutional guarantees therefor.

68. The necessary steps should be taken to ratify or accede to all international instruments of the United Nations and its specialized agencies that deal with women's rights, in particular the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. Those affecting the poor, such as those concerning the rights of rural and agricultural women workers, are particularly important.

4. Participation in the political and other decision-making processes, and participation in efforts to promote international co-operation and strengthen peace

Participation in the political and other decision-making processes

69. Every effort should be made to enact, before the end of the Decade, legislation guaranteeing women the right to vote, to be eligible for election or appointment to public office and to exercise public functions on equal terms with men, wherever such legislation does not already exist. In particular, political parties should be encouraged to nominate women candidates to positions that give them the possibility equally with men to be elected.
70. Governments and the organizations concerned should foster knowledge of civil and political rights, promote and encourage political organizations which carry out programmes involving the participation of women and implement broad programmes for the training of political officials.
71. Governments and political parties should, where appropriate, establish goals, strategies and time-tables and undertake special activities for increasing, by certain percentages, the number of women in elective and appointive public offices and public functions at all levels, in order that women should be equitably represented.
72. Special governmental instructions should be issued for achieving equitable representation of women in the different branches of Government and in departments at the national, state and local levels. Special activities should be undertaken to increase the recruitment, nomination and promotion of women, especially to decision-making and policy-making positions, by publicizing posts more widely, increasing upward mobility and so on, until equitable representation of women is achieved. Reports should be compiled periodically on the numbers of women in public service and the levels of responsibility in their areas of work.
73. Women should be equitably represented at all levels, especially the senior levels, in delegations to international bodies, conferences and committees dealing with political, economic and legal questions, disarmament and other similar issues. Governments should encourage and support increased employment of women at all levels, technical and professional, in the Secretariat of the United Nations and its subsidiary organs and specialized agencies.
74. Where special qualifications for holding public office are required, they should apply to both sexes equally and should relate only to the expertise necessary for performing the specific functions of the office.
75. Special attention should be given to ensuring that formal or informal practices which result in de facto discrimination against women in the selection of candidates for political office or in their exclusion from formal decision-making, particularly in bodies such as public councils, boards or informal committees, should be eliminated.

Participation of women in efforts to promote international co-operation and strengthen peace

76. Women of the entire world should participate in the broadest way in the struggle to strengthen international peace and security, to broaden international co-operation and develop friendly relations among nations, to achieve détente in international relations and disarmament, to establish a new economic order in international relations, to promote guarantees of fundamental freedoms and human rights, and in the struggle against colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, apartheid, foreign domination, foreign oppression, foreign occupation. High priority should be given to providing training and educational opportunities at all levels. These might include university or college courses, lectures on international affairs, panel discussions, conferences, seminars and other educational activities.
77. Solidarity campaigns with women struggling against colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, racial discrimination and apartheid and for national independence and liberation should be intensified; such women should receive all possible assistance, including support from agencies of the United Nations system as well as other organizations.
78. The efforts of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to strengthen international peace and security should be intensified in every way. The active participation of women in the activities of such organizations should be supported. Exchanges between the national organizations of different countries in favour of international co-operation and the strengthening of peace should be promoted.
79. Intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations should examine more comprehensively the consequences of disarmament for social and economic development in general and for improving the status of women in particular. The results of such studies should be made available to as many women and men as possible and must be given practical effect.
80. In view of the importance of eliminating international inequities, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations should continue to study the impact of the activities of transnational corporations on the status of women and to make use of the results of such studies in practical programmes.
81. Governments should also be made aware of the results of such studies so that they realize and prevent the negative effects on the status of women which are caused by the activities of transnational corporations, as is the case in South Africa where transnational corporations sustain the system of apartheid by their investments.
82. Support should be provided by all women of the world in proclaiming solidarity with and support for the Palestinian women and people in their struggle for their fundamental rights. Moral and material assistance should be extended by the United Nations system to help Palestinian women. Specific programmes and projects should be carried out to fulfil that aim.

5. Measures relating to education and the dissemination of information

83. Independent organizations, including women's organizations at the national, regional and international levels, should study the ways in which the mass communications media, including the news media and advertising, treat the status of women and women's issues. Evidence that women are being treated in a sexist or demeaning way should be brought to the attention of the media concerned for correction.
84. Every effort should be made to encourage the fullest and most active participation of women at all levels of policy-making and decision-making within media organizations. Governments should use the opportunities they have by way of appointments to regulatory bodies and broadcasting networks to ensure that women are equally represented in senior decision-making.
85. Special efforts, for example, training programmes to sensitize media personnel at all levels, should be made to ensure that women are portrayed as persons in their own right and that the portrayal of women and women's issues reflects women's rights, needs and interests.
86. Educational programmes and campaigns using the media should be instituted in order to eliminate prejudices and traditional attitudes that limit the full participation of women in society. Such campaigns should also inform women and men of their rights and ways of exercising them. Women's organizations and other non-governmental organizations, political parties and trade unions should play an active role in the process of educating women politically in order to increase their capacities for participation in decision-making bodies. Special attention should be given to the role the media can play in reaching the migrant women. Women should also have access to training in the use of various forms of the media, in order to be able to present to as wide a public as possible their own perceptions of their needs, ideas and aspirations.
87. Governments should encourage the mass media to support the increased involvement of women in efforts to strengthen international co-operation and peace and to broadcast programmes that make women more aware of the activities and positions of their Governments in vital questions of international affairs, thus enabling them to fulfil their roles in strengthening international peace and security and in opposing colonialism, racism, racial discrimination, foreign aggression and occupation and all forms of foreign domination.
88. Special campaigns should be undertaken to encourage the increased participation of women and girls in rural community and youth development programmes and in political activities.
89. The mass media should promote the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, as well as other international, regional and national programmes for women, so that the public is made aware of such programmes and thus participate to a greater extent in their implementation.
90. Bearing in mind the fact that one of the impediments to promoting the status of women lies in social attitudes and the evaluation of women in society, the mass media offer great possibilities as one means of promoting social change. They can

help remove prejudices and stereotypes, accelerate the acceptance of the new role of women in society and promote their role as equal partners in the process of development.

91. In all fields of activity, the mass media should become one of the basic means in society of overcoming the contradiction in, on the one hand, the presentation of women as passive, inferior beings having no social significance and, on the other hand, an accurate picture of their increasing role and contribution to society at large. The mass media should also recognize that both parents have equal duties and responsibilities for the training and education of children and for household duties. Governments, as communicators, in preparing communications to or about their countries should ensure that the contents reflect government commitment to status of women issues and concerns.

6. Improvement of the data base

92. All data-collecting agencies should give a sex and age breakdown of any information they gather, wherever relevant.

93. Some of the concepts and analytical tools of research, particularly those relating to economic processes - evaluation, labour, work, employment, social productivity, household, family and the like - should be re-examined so as to improve tools for the analysis and conceptualization of the economic and social roles of women within the home and outside.

94. Priority should be given to research concerning those groups of women that have been neglected in social research - namely, rural workers in agriculture and allied activities and working women in the underprivileged sectors of society. These are women who, far from being the dependants they have generally been assumed to be, have always had to perform multiple roles in order to ensure the survival of their families. For better evaluation of development programmes, access to and utilization of data need to be ensured.

95. National and regional indicators should be developed and improved for determining the degree to which women have actually been participating in development, as a means of measuring their actual contribution to the development process. A set of statistical indicators should be established by which progress towards equality between the sexes can be monitored. In establishing such a set of indicators, Governments will need to take into account the current state of their country's statistical development as well as their individual policy priorities. A system should be devised for placing a monetary value on unpaid work, in order to facilitate its reflection in the gross national product.

96. The level of economic growth in general and the sectoral structure of that growth should be established so as to determine employment openings. Data on the composition of populations (e.g., age structure and the relation between rural and other sectors of a population) should be collected so that the need for employment openings, health services and education can be identified.

97. Current statistical operations and practices should be reviewed to ensure that they are free from sex-based stereotypes.

98. Where appropriate, permanent advisory committees to national statistical authorities should be established to improve the quantity and relevance of data

pertaining to the situation of women, their participation in development and equality between the sexes. The work of such advisory committees may be supplemented from time to time by the organization of larger meetings of users and producers of statistics to address specific issues of mutual concern.

99. Research and testing of new or revised concepts and classifications should be designed or expanded to improve the usefulness and relevance of the statistics needed to describe the role and status of women, their participation in the development process and equality between the sexes. Such research and testing, whether carried out by the national statistical services or by university or other research groups, would need to involve both the users and producers of such statistics and would need to encompass both methods and procedures for data collection and those for the analysis and presentation of data.

7. Role of non-governmental organizations

100. There should be mutual co-operation between Governments and non-governmental organizations, women's and youth groups, employers and workers unions, voluntary agencies, community organizations, including religious groups, the mass communication media, political parties and the like, in implementing the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the Decade.

101. Governments should take account of the activities of non-governmental organizations and should support, where appropriate, the efforts of all relevant organizations, institutions and other associations concerned with the welfare and status of women.

102. Governments should recognize the importance of the role of women's organizations, encourage and assist them and provide them with financial and other assistance, particularly at the grass-roots level, to enable them to perform their functions which include activities such as:

(a) The mass mobilization of women and, in particular, poor women in rural and urban areas;

(b) The provision of all development services and facilities (education, health and child care, expansion of credit and marketing capabilities and facilities, information on social, political and economic rights, etc.);

(c) The establishment of organizations for women workers in non-trade-union occupations both in rural and urban areas as a means of protecting them against exploitation and providing the necessary auxiliary child care services.

103. With regard to the follow-up of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, Governments should:

(a) Make possible the publication and dissemination of the results of the World Conference and of the Forum of non-governmental organizations;

(b) Enable non-governmental groups to become involved in the realization of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the Decade;

(c) Consider the role and resources of non-governmental groups in the implementation of international, regional and national plans for the improvement of the situation of women;

(d) Consider as a plan for the future, and establish strategies for their implementation, the input and particular recommendations of non-governmental groups;

(e) Give financial resources to non-governmental groups so that these groups can make a contribution towards the implementation of the Programme of Action.

104. Non-governmental organizations should support governmental efforts by:

(a) Investigating the problems of different groups of women;

(b) Assisting and promoting organizations of women at the grass-roots level, especially those established among poor and uneducated women to promote learning and productive and other developmental activities;

(c) Providing liaison services for such groups with educational and other development agencies;

(d) Promoting attitudinal change among men and women;

(e) Promoting solidarity among women's groups;

(f) Influencing and informing the mass media and political groups;

(g) Developing new analytical methodology;

(h) Launching programmes and activities to serve, in particular, rural women;

(i) Promoting public acceptance of family planning, including sex education;

(j) Informing their members of government policies and development plans as well as of international standards and programmes for improving the situation of women.

Grass-roots organizations

105. In accordance with the regional plans of action and with a view to implementing the World Plan of Action, Governments and agencies on other levels should, where appropriate, promote the establishment of grass-roots organizations of women as an integral part of their over-all development efforts and should provide adequate financial and personnel resources for such efforts to succeed. Such grass-roots organizations of women will serve as forums for women to develop self-reliance and will eventually enable women to obtain real access to resources and power and to shoulder greater socio-economic and political responsibilities within their communities and their societies.

B. Objectives and priority areas for action taken in connexion with the subtheme of the World Conference, "Employment, health and education"

Introduction

106. The objectives and priority areas of action for improving the employment, health and education status of women in every country should be promoted within the over-all context of national planning and development for the whole population. Improvement in the condition of women in these areas is also instrumental in the development of the country. Furthermore, the improvements in any one of these sectors also affect the situation in other sectors. Recognition of this interrelated nature of the programmes is essential if their effectiveness is to be maximized. Socio-cultural values should not suffer as a result of physical economic development. Therefore, integrated and innovative programmes and new methodologies should be explored.

107. The programmes should also invariably include measures for building the capacities of women themselves by their training and information programmes and by their organizing themselves, with the assistance of Government and other socio-political forces, to make full use of new opportunities, policies and programmes.

108. Labour policies and action taken in favour of women workers should form part of over-all employment policies and measures for the entire working population, men and women alike, with a view to overcoming the problems that affect women only and preventing measures of protection which discriminate against them. Employment policies for underprivileged population groups, such as urban fringe groups, the low-income sector and indigenous population groups, should include references to the specific situation of women workers.

1. Employment

Objectives

109. To promote full and equal opportunities and treatment for women in employment, bearing in mind that this requires that both women and men have the possibility to combine paid work with household responsibilities and the caring for children. To ensure that women and men receive equal remuneration for work of equal value and equal educational and training opportunities in both rural and urban areas, so that women may obtain more highly skilled employment and become integrated into the development of their countries with a view to more rapid and balanced growth in agriculture, industry and other non-traditional sectors, with the aim of ensuring better over-all working conditions for women, achieving more rapid and balanced growth in both agriculture and industry and integrating women in development.

110. To increase and promote employment opportunities for women as part of national efforts to bring about a more just international economic order, with a view to achieving national self-reliance, increasing economic and technical co-operation among developing countries and the full utilization of the labour force for their own benefit and promoting the socio-economic development of their own countries.

111. To improve the working conditions and occupational mobility of women workers in the lower and middle levels of the sectors in which the majority of women work.

112. To ensure equal rights and opportunities for the gainful employment of rural women both in agricultural and non-agricultural jobs under proper working conditions, improve the capabilities and productivity of rural women workers, increase food production, diminish migration in countries where this is necessary and whose population policies contain explicit provisions to this effect, promote rural development and strengthening of self-reliance programmes; to extend labour and social security legislation to women working in agriculture.
113. To promote effective policies for increasing employment opportunities, to improve existing ones and enable women to obtain jobs involving more skills and responsibility, particularly at the managerial level, in all sectors of the economy, to promote occupational mobility for women, in both rural and urban areas, by encouraging the provision of maternity protection, child-care facilities, technical training and health protection, with a view to achieving the industrialization targets for the third United Nations Development Decade.
114. To facilitate paid employment of women by encouraging increased involvement of males in sharing domestic and child care responsibilities.
115. To take measures for the implementation of legislation relating to working conditions for women.
116. To formulate and implement national and local training and employment programmes and projects which take particular account of the need to give women access to gainful economic activity and to improve their employment situation in priority areas for the economic and social development of their countries.
117. To adopt measures for ensuring that women's entry into certain sectors of the labour market does not result in lowering the working conditions, remuneration and status of those sectors.
118. To promote technology that will improve the labour productivity of women while decreasing their work time and to guarantee that women workers are the ones who benefit from such an improvement.
119. To review implicit and explicit job evaluation criteria with a view to overcoming difficulties and obstacles to the job advancement and careers of women.
120. To ensure that, in all sectors, the economic returns from women's work accrue directly to them.

Priority areas for action

121. Special action should be taken to institute programmes which would inform women workers of their rights under legislation and other remedial measures. The importance of freedom of association and the protection of the right to organize should be emphasized, this being particularly relevant to the position of women in employment. Special measures should be taken to ratify and implement in national legislation the relevant conventions and recommendations of the International Labour Organisation concerning the rights of women as regards access to equal employment opportunities, equal pay for work of equal value, working conditions, job security and maternity protection.

122. Information programming should be instituted aimed at making women, especially those in the rural areas and in socio-economically disadvantaged groups, aware of employment opportunities and of the opportunities for education, training and skill acquisition.
123. Measures should be taken to ensure that development agencies in different sectors of national planning include larger numbers of women in their staff as a matter of policy and, as part of that policy, allocate resources to programmes for women's employment and training, the provision of supporting services and other essential inputs.
124. Legislative and/or other measures should be adopted and implemented which guarantee women protection against any sexually-oriented practice that endangers a women's access to or maintenance of employment, that undermines her job performance and thus threatens her economic livelihood.
125. Legislative and/or other measures should be adopted and implemented to secure for men and women the same right to work and to unemployment benefits, as well as to prohibit, through inter alia the imposition of sanctions, dismissal on the grounds of pregnancy or of maternity leave and discrimination in dismissals on the basis of marital status. Legislative and other measures should be adopted and implemented to facilitate the return to the labour market of women who have left it for family reasons and to guarantee the right of women to return to work after maternity leave.
126. Measures should be taken to ensure on a basis of equality of men and women the right to protection of health and to safety in working conditions, including the safeguarding of the function of reproduction. Special protection should be provided to women during pregnancy in types of work proved to be harmful to them.
127. Measures should be taken to ensure that migrant workers enjoy equal treatment and access to vocational training as nationals of the host country, and to improve the status of women who, in the process of migration, accompany the migrant workers as members of their family.
128. Ways should be investigated in which the unpaid work in the household and in agricultural tasks which women and men perform can be recognized and reflected in official statistical data collections.
129. Urgently needed infrastructure services should be developed and provided, such as adequate housing, safe water, energy and child care centres, for families and poor communities in rural areas and urban slums, in order to alleviate the workload traditionally imposed on women in their performance of tasks essential for the survival of their communities, and to increase their levels of gainful employment and productivity, it being understood that the benefits of higher productivity should accrue to women workers and their families.
130. Where appropriate, flexible formal or informal training programmes should be designed and implemented for women in non-traditional areas in order to widen their employment opportunities and to enable them to generate income through the production of goods and services.

131. The access of women to special technical training programmes should be increased and women so qualified should be helped to obtain jobs suited to their individual skills; legislative measures should be enacted and appropriate legal assistance provided to prevent exploitation based on sex, race, age, marital status or motherhood in both the traditional and modern sectors. In addition, measures should be taken to ensure that women are introduced, on the same footing as men, to new types of training in the advanced technologies which are now being widely developed.

132. Measures should be taken to provide for part-time workers levels of remuneration and social security benefits which are proportional to those of full-time workers, and the same levels of working conditions and standards of protection.

133. Where necessary, measures should be taken to develop and/or accelerate much-needed changes in policies in the tertiary sector, which includes the informal subsectors of small-scale trading, domestic services and the like in both urban and rural areas, especially by (a) extending the coverage of labour legislation, in particular for domestic services workers; (b) guaranteeing the right to organize trade unions and other appropriate organizations, such as credit and marketing co-operatives controlled by the women concerned; and (c) increasing access to managerial and technical training and to financial resources, credit facilities and other inputs in order to improve the working conditions of women and increase their occupational and educational mobility as well as their productivity and economic returns.

134. Measures should be adopted which guarantee that, when transfers of technology take place, account is taken of the factors of production available in the country to which the transfers are made in order to avoid any labour force disruptions, which usually affect women more severely. Research should be promoted on appropriate endogenous technology which takes account of national characteristics and, in particular, those of developing countries. New programmes and appropriate policies should be developed concerning industrialization and the transfer of technology aimed at maximizing benefits and preventing adverse effects from the transfer of technology on both the employment, training, health and nutrition of women and over-all development. Standards should be instituted to ensure that technologies transferred are safe for utilization and recipient countries are alerted to the hazards of particular forms of technology.

135. Studies should be carried out on the policies, programmes of action and expanding operations of transnational corporations to ensure that they offer greater employment opportunities for women and to prevent their negative effects.

136. The access of women workers to recreation and culture should be increased since their double workload prevents them from having enough necessary free time; it is therefore essential that household chores and family care should be shared by men, and special emphasis should be placed on the obligation of couples to share household tasks with a view to facilitating the access of women to gainful employment.

137. Measures should be taken to ensure that in economic recessions the employment market is not less accessible to women than to men. Measures taken under social legislation concerning unemployment should not directly or indirectly lead to

inequality between women and men. Retraining facilities should be provided for unemployed women, preferably in growth sectors.

138. To ensure that women and men are able to harmonize their occupational activities with their family life, child-care facilities and amenities for adolescents should be provided, the length of the working day reduced, and flexible working hours introduced.

139. The number of women at the decision-making level in both national and international workers' organizations and advisory bodies should be increased at least until the proportion corresponds to the number of women carrying on an occupation.

140. Equal employment opportunity programmes should be developed to promote the access of women to all levels of management and decision-making positions and effective programmes should be devised that will promote the access of women and girls to non-traditional skilled trades.

2. Health

Objectives

141. To improve the physical and mental health of all members of society through:

- (a) An improvement in the health status of girls and women, as a necessary aspect of over-all socio-economic development;
- (b) The formulation of demographic policies;
- (c) An improvement in health care for women throughout their life cycles;
- (d) The increased participation of women and men, not only as beneficiaries of the promotion of health but also in the formulation and implementation of policy decisions regarding health at community and national levels;
- (e) Studies of the causes of diseases, the establishment of clinical and epidemiological research programmes and the organization of services to deal with national problems;
- (f) The development of policies and programmes aimed at the elimination of all forms of violence against women and children and the protection of women of all ages from the physical and mental abuse resulting from domestic violence, sexual assault, sexual exploitation and any other form of abuses;
- (g) Training human resources for health programmes of the required quantity and quality;
- (h) The inclusion of the mental health aspect, as well as programmes for curbing the abuse of alcohol and drugs, in over-all health programmes for women.

Priority areas for action

142. Promote primary health care with the participation of the communities as the overriding health priority and as a fundamental vehicle for achieving the health goals and objectives of the World Plan of Action.
143. Give high priority to meeting the health needs of women within primary health care, with particular attention to the special needs of women in rural and depressed urban areas and monitor health programmes in order to secure that women's health needs are properly met.
144. Formulate official policies to involve women in the planning and execution of health programmes at all levels, particularly to increase the participation of women at decision-making levels.
145. Ensure accessibility for all women to maternal health care (including care during pregnancy and childbirth and post-natal care), nutrition (including measures to control nutritional anaemias), family planning, prevention and treatment of infectious diseases - including sexually transmitted and non-communicable diseases - and parasitic diseases, through the establishment of a comprehensive family health, nutrition, and health education network, in order to give women better access to health care.
146. Develop, implement and strengthen child welfare and family planning programmes and family planning information for inclusion also in school curricula for girls and boys on safe and acceptable fertility regulation methods so that both men and women can take the responsibility for family planning, to promote the health, safety and welfare of mothers and infants and to enable women to exercise the right to decide freely and responsibly for the number and spacing of their children. Family planning should be facilitated as one means of reducing maternal and infant mortality where high risk factors prevail, such as high parity, too frequent pregnancies, pregnancies at the extremes of the reproductive age, and the frequency and danger of secretly performed abortions.
147. To promote the physical and mental well-being of women, provision should be made for additional research over the next few years to facilitate analysis and assessment of the status of women.
148. Develop programmes to improve the training and utilization of community health workers, especially women, traditional medical practitioners and birth attendants and elderly village women; support women in their contribution to primary health care both within the family and the community, particularly with reference to self-care and self-reliance in health.
149. Draw the attention of doctors and other health professionals to the health needs of women in general, not only in relation to pregnancy and childbirth; emphasize preventive medicine and the need to share responsibility and decision-making with professionals in other disciplines and with women themselves.
150. Establish official incentive policies to give women greater access to training in the medical professions and in health-related research in accordance with local and national needs.

151. Develop simple economic, social and cultural indicators in order to obtain better data on trends in morbidity and mortality among women and their access to and utilization of health services. Establish a national basic health information system to provide up-to-date and reliable indicators of prevailing conditions, future trends and resource productivity.
152. Give high priority to the formulation and implementation of food and nutrition policies based on the needs of women, particularly pregnant and lactating women, and those of women and children of lower socio-economic status in both rural and depressed urban areas; establish educational programmes through vocational schools and community agencies to improve the quality, availability, preparation, preservation, rational use of and distribution of food, especially locally grown food.
153. Protect the health and safety of women and their families from contamination, spoilage and adulteration of foods, harmful additives and preservatives, mislabelling, deceptive packaging and irresponsible promotion of foods of low nutritional value and of breast milk substitutes. High priority should be given to the enactment and enforcement of comprehensive legislation, where appropriate, and the creation of appropriate standards of safety, health, product information and quality, including standards for the preparation, preservation, packaging and labelling of foods and other products sold in the markets. Women and men should be instructed as to the right and hygienic use of such products. Information as to the right to such protection should be widely disseminated through schools, the media, and village and community organizations.
154. Develop explicit programmes at national and local levels to improve hygiene, sanitation and access to safe water supplies and shelter as fundamental bases for good health.
155. Develop policies to ensure a safe working environment both in the home and in the work place and provide appropriate technology to relieve the workload of women. Carry out specific studies on labour hygiene and safety, particularly in branches of activity in which the health of women might be affected.
156. Introduce legislation aimed at eliminating occupational health hazards likely to affect reproductive functions, reducing environmental pollution, and controlling disposal of toxic chemicals and radioactive waste.
157. Promote extensive health education programmes, including special efforts to encourage positive traditional practices, especially breastfeeding, and to combat negative practices detrimental to women's health.
158. Formulate specific programmes for the prevention of maternal and infant mortality, giving priority to depressed rural and urban areas and to most vulnerable population groups.
159. Encourage the formulation and implementation of social support measures such as maternity and parental leave, child care, breastfeeding breaks etc. to enable women and men to carry out parental roles in the optimal and healthiest manner.
160. Direct special attention to the needs of elderly women, women living alone and disabled women.

161. Establish programmes giving full medical attention to adolescent women, since adolescence is a critical time in women's biological and psychological development and also involves a change in their relationship to the social environment in which they live.

162. Prevent mutilation practices which damage women's bodies and health.

163. Promote research into the extent and the causes of domestic violence with a view to eliminating it; take measures to eliminate glorification of violence against and sexual exploitation of women in the mass media, literature and advertising; provide effective help for women and children who are victims of violence, e.g. by the establishment of centres for treatment, shelter and counselling victims of violence and sexual assault.

164. Formulate a plan of action for the protection of women against abuse of alcohol, tobacco and drugs and also excessive use of certain medicaments, principally by informing them of the hazards these substances present for them and their children.

3. Education and training

Objectives

165. To provide equal access to educational and training opportunities at all levels of all types for girls and women in all sectors of society, thus enabling them fully to develop their personalities and to participate on an equal footing with men in furthering the socio-economic aims of national planning and to achieve self-reliance, family well-being and improve the quality of life.

166. To contribute to a change in attitudes by abolishing traditional stereotypes of men's and women's roles and stimulating the creation of new and more positive images of women's participation in the family, the labour market and in social and public life.

167. To take into consideration in educational programmes and methodologies the special perspective of education for non-violence, mainly with regard to relationships between women and men.

168. Include in educational programmes and methodologies a special emphasis on education against violence, particularly violence in relationships between women and men.

169. To provide for women and girls innovative programmes and methodologies which stimulate creative development, promote the right to freedom and develop the ability to communicate through the eradication of illiteracy, while at the same time upgrading functional skills and basic information about employment and health-related matters as well as their political, economic and social rights.

170. To establish transitional links between school life, apprenticeship and working life, whenever possible, in order to ensure for women and girls better interaction between education, training and employment.

171. Formulate and implement education programmes with final-year courses adapted to the specific needs of the economic and social development of the country, designed to improve and increase the access of women to gainful employment and give them opportunities to take part in non-traditional activities.

172. To increase the opportunities and facilities which promote participation of women in science and technology through education and training in these fields.

173. To devise means of encouraging girls to stay at school longer and to ensure that courses chosen by girls are in a range of fields including the professions, management, economics and the sciences which will enable them to achieve positions of influence in the decision-making process.

Priority areas for action

174. Education, specifically literacy, being a key to national development and a major requisite for improving the status of women, efforts should be made to establish targets for the abolition of differentials in the literacy and educational attainment rates for girls and boys within over-all national efforts to increase literacy and education for the whole population.

175. National educational accreditation and equivalency programmes should be designed to encourage the return of women and girls who have dropped out into the formal education system.

176. Promote education programmes for children, particularly those of pre-school age, as well as young people, aimed at strengthening women's contribution to society and at changing the traditional roles assigned by social and cultural norms to women and men.

177. Establish targets for the expansion of educational opportunities and facilities for women, including courses and institutions with adequate personnel and materials, for which resources have been earmarked.

178. Provide new formal and extracurricular education to enable women to combine their household duties with the opportunity to improve their educational level.

179. Encourage, through legislation, free and compulsory education for girls and boys at the primary level, with the provision of assistance to establish co-education when possible. Provide trained teachers of both sexes and, if necessary, transportation and boarding facilities.

180. Increase the enrolment of female students in education courses and, in particular, in science, mathematics and technical courses, and in management training courses in the areas of science and technology, especially by encouraging them to enrol in such courses.

181. Provide for equal access to all levels of general education, vocational education, and training for all types of occupations, including those traditionally accessible to men, and to new training schemes and other facilities such as on-the-job training, scholarships, inexpensive boarding and lodging facilities and accessible child care arrangements, ensuring equal job opportunities after completion of vocational education or training for both entry and re-entry, after a period of absence, into occupational activities.

182. Examine curricula and learning materials with a view to removing sex-bias and the stereotyped portrayal of the roles of girls and women and promote the development of non-sexist resources and curricular materials.
183. Establish targets for the nation-wide implementation of the learning materials developed to optimize the potential of women for countries which have started the work since 1975.
184. Include courses on women's issues in university degree programmes.
185. Develop programmes at the secondary, tertiary and adult education levels to encourage a basic understanding of human rights, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other relevant instruments. Such courses should stress the fundamental importance of the elimination of discrimination on the basis of race and sex.
186. Train guidance counselors and teachers to assist girls and boys in choosing occupations according to their personal capacities and not according to stereotyped sex roles.
187. Design and promote teacher training courses to alert teachers to the stereotyped assumptions which inhibit choice in school subjects and to the need to widen the options available to women and girls in their future training and occupational choices. Provide, whenever possible, counseling services for the benefit of parents, teachers and pupils as well as for workers and employers.
188. Encourage parity of men and women in teaching and administrative positions at all levels of education.
189. Identify the situational constraints on different culturally or socially underprivileged target groups (e.g. girls of school age who are not attending school, illiterate adults or adults who are engaged in home responsibilities and need additional or diversified education, working women of different age groups in rural and urban areas, mature women and immigrant women) and formulate and implement programmes for such groups.
190. Monitor programmes and take measures for improving the data on drop-out rates of girls and women and their causes, and on course content and levels of skills acquired, in order to facilitate the introduction of remedial or accelerated measures and to generate greater commitment to the policy objectives within the system.
191. Where appropriate, provide for particular target groups, giving priority to those needing them most, counseling and supportive services and certain necessities (child care, earning and learning schemes, transport, clothing, books, supplementary nutrition, reading centres, special tuition in basic subjects such as mathematics, scholarships and stipends and the like), on the basis of situational analyses, and include resources for such services as priority items in educational budgets.
192. Provide for education for women in the context of life-long education in all major development sectors, in developed and developing countries, and take specific measures for obtaining the necessary funds and personnel.

193. Promote instruction and interdisciplinary research on women and the implications of the goals of the Decade as an input to the educational process, particularly in institutions of higher and teacher education, in order to draw on the experience acquired in some countries with women's status and to eliminate all attitudinal and conceptual biases and prejudices, especially those relating to class, that hinder understanding of the role and situation of women.

194. Urge Governments to encourage women to enrol in all their technical institutes and to promote, through every means available to them, the establishment of intermediate technical courses.

C. Priority areas requiring special attention

1. Food

Objectives

195. To enhance and stimulate the key role performed by women in all phases of the process of food production and their contribution to the economic and social development of their countries, at the same time raising their status.

196. To ensure proper planning of the agricultural production sector so that the agricultural output covers as a matter of priority the supply of products that are socially and nationally necessary for the nutrition and food requirements of women in rural areas.

Priority areas for action

197. Governments should adopt the necessary measures to:

(a) Promote the incorporation of women in all phases of the agricultural productive process, including post-harvesting processing, up to and including the marketing of products;

(b) Provide women with the necessary skills and appropriate technology to enable them to participate better in the process of subsistence food production;

(c) Establish a link between food production and food consumption processes by providing information on the nutrients required for the development of the population and in particular of children and by making rural women aware of the need for proper nourishment. Eliminate inappropriate consumption patterns which have developed as a result of ignorance or manipulation by commercial advertising;

(d) Promote the participation of women, especially in rural areas, in agricultural policy-making, leading to the production of basic foods for family and national consumption;

(e) Ensure access to and use of appropriate technological model of agricultural production for both sexes without distinction;

(f) Stimulate the participation and full voting rights of women in co-operatives and other forms of organization relating to the production, processing, distribution, marketing and consumption of basic food products;

(g) Ensure access for women in conditions of equality with men to financing mechanisms covering all phases of production, up to and including the marketing of food products;

(h) Support forms of marketing of basic foods for family consumption which will be conducive to the opening up of priority markets for the sale of their products.

2. Rural women

Objectives

198. Enhance the effective contribution of rural women to the economic and social development of their countries in cases where they are hampered by their inadequate access to appropriate technology, by the inadequate social infrastructures in rural areas and by the double workload they bear through their participation in working the land and their performance of household duties.

199. Improve the living conditions of women in rural areas, and to this end:

(a) Acknowledge the contribution which women make to the economic and social development of their countries, and take steps to ensure that rural women participate equally and effectively in the development process as beneficiaries and as agents for change by affording them participation as policy-makers, organizers and implementers of development programmes;

(b) Give rural women at all levels access to formal and non-formal courses in leadership and decision-making, as well as to programmes that teach skills appropriate to their lifestyle and skills which could be utilized, if necessary, for paid employment;

(c) Provide rural women with basic human needs, including clean water supplies, effective sanitation, adequate food and nutrition, basic health services, shelter and appropriate fuel supplies. They should have access to formal and non-formal education programmes, which should be available at minimum cost and inconvenience to already overburdened women. They should also have assured access to technology at all levels, particularly in relation to food storage and preservation, transport and marketing and labour-saving tools and devices;

(d) Provide rural women with access to improved transport and communication systems, and to all forms of media;

(e) Extend to all rural women free and equal access to credit facilities where these are available;

(f) Aid donor countries and recipient Governments should consult on ways of developing programmes at the village level for involving local women in their planning and implementation. Care should be taken to ensure that development assistance programmes do not exclude women from technological training.

Priority areas for action

200. Governments should adopt the necessary measures to:

- (a) Eliminate from legislation on rural development, where necessary, provisions that discriminate against women;
- (b) Make rural women aware of their rights so that they can exercise and benefit from them;
- (c) Ensure access for rural women to the use, enjoyment and development of land, in conditions of equality with men, by according to women the same practical and legal rights as those of men in access to ownership and the use and management of land, in the production of goods from land by means of agriculture or grazing and in the disposal of any such products or of the land itself;
- (d) Allocate sufficient financial resources to carry out research, especially field research, which will provide a sound basis for initiating, expanding and strengthening concrete and integrated actions aimed at promoting the development of rural women and their integration in economic and social activity in rural areas;
- (e) Examine carefully the possibility of devising statistics which measure rural women's contribution on an equal basis with men's, including labour in the sphere of agricultural production, unpaid family labour and food production for family consumption, as well as monitor the impact of development so that negative and unforeseen consequences, such as increased workload and loss of income earning opportunities, can be identified;
- (f) Provide rural women with the appropriate technology and suitable training enabling them to improve and promote their traditional small-scale in-home industries;
- (g) Encourage the participation of rural women, in all forms of social organization of labour, with a view to their achieving, inter alia, control over their wage levels, participation in the production process and greater equality in working conditions;
- (h) Foster the effective participation of rural women in the cultural, political, economic and social activities of the community;
- (i) Create and strengthen the necessary infrastructure to lighten the workload of rural women, through, inter alia, the application of appropriate technology but ensuring that such measures do not result in occupational displacement of women;
- (j) Design and carry out literacy and training campaigns for specific rural areas, promoting the effective participation of women in such campaigns;
- (k) Improve employment opportunities for women in agricultural and non-agricultural jobs in rural areas by providing training and ensuring an adequate allocation of material, technical and financial resources, so as to provide an alternative to migration to urban areas and ensure a balanced development in the other social services with a view to narrowing the existing development gap between rural and urban sectors, thereby preventing migration and its harmful consequences;

(l) Examine and strengthen rural women's participation and contribution in and benefit from development and diversification of the forest economy;

(m) Establish special schemes to provide basic education for children and adults in remote, sparsely populated or very underprivileged rural areas, for example, by setting up children's hostels which provide board and lodging;

(n) Increase rural women's access to rural services by broadening the range of agricultural training and extension programmes to support women's roles in activities of agricultural production, processing and marketing and by increasing the number of women in the training and extension programmes of development agencies at all levels;

(o) Promote the processing of agricultural products by national, community, State or mixed enterprises; create jobs for rural women and families in the agro-industrial sector; and design and implement national plans for the development of the agro-industrial sector and rural industries.

3. Child care

Objectives

201. To develop or extend government-supported early childhood services appropriate to the individual family's needs.

202. Enable women, and especially working women, to discharge their responsibilities with regard to their children, and combine their work outside the home with their responsibilities as mothers. Special efforts should also be made to enable fathers to assume their share of family responsibilities.

Priority areas for action

203. Governments should adopt the necessary measures to:

(a) Include provision of community-based, work-based and work-related child care services, out-of-school hours and holiday care, crisis care and care for those families engaged in shift work;

(b) Improve the existing services by improving the competence of the persons providing them, the quality of the services provided, health conditions and the material aspects of the services;

(c) Create new services suited to the needs and conditions of working women and undertake the necessary studies to determine the real nature of those needs;

(d) Provide the necessary services at the lowest cost so as to match the resources and possibilities of women with limited incomes;

(e) Involve mothers in the planning of those services, and in their provision and assessment on a continuous basis so that they can be developed;

(f) Encourage child care centres in shopping centres to cater for occasional care needs.

4. Migrant women

Objective

204. Migrant women, including wage earners and the family of migrant workers, should have the same access to education, training, employment and support and health services as the national population.

Priority areas for action

205. Governments should adopt the necessary measures to:

(a) Provide language and literacy training facilities in the community and at the work place. Access to these courses should be facilitated by income maintenance and child care services;

(b) Provide orientation and information programmes, including information on employment and training to all migrant women, in their own languages where necessary, to assist them in settling into the host country;

(c) Establish vocational training and counseling programmes, where necessary, including interpretation services;

(d) Ensure that social support and health services provide interpreters or bilingual workers;

(e) Encourage and assist union and employer organizations to inform migrant women about industrial legislation, procedures and rights;

(f) Provide culturally appropriate child care services to meet the needs of migrant and minority children and their families;

(g) Ensure migrant women, on a basis of equality with the national population, general education and vocational/professional training. Measures should be taken to improve the level of education and training of migrant women through language and literacy courses upon arrival in the host country. Special education and training facilities should be provided for marriageable daughters of migrant workers who are of compulsory school age but who for various reasons do not attend school in the host country. Special attention should be given to reaching migrant women, for instance through the mass media, notably radio. Supplementary training and special guidance is necessary for social workers and teachers. In most cases these will, of necessity, have to be women;

(h) Ensure, on a basis of equality with the indigenous population, equal health care for migrant women. Measures should be taken to improve the health status of migrant women, paying special attention to stress-related ailments caused by differences in cultural, social and religious conditions. Provide additional training for domestic health care work on the differing cultural and religious attitudes migrant women may have towards health and ill-health.

5. Unemployed women

Objective

206. Governments should take steps to ensure that unemployed women have access to secure employment.

Priority areas for action

207. Governments should adopt the necessary measures to:

(a) Provide formal and non-formal training and retraining to equip unemployed women with marketable employment skills. Such training should include personal and vocational development programmes;

(b) Guarantee to unemployed women social security benefits, adequate accommodation, and medical services on the basis of individual need.

6. Women who alone are responsible for their families

Objective

208. Governments should ensure that women who alone are responsible for their families receive a level of income sufficient to support themselves and their families in dignity and independence.

Priority areas for action

209. Governments should take the necessary measures to:

(a) Provide training and retraining for secure employment through programmes which should include income maintenance, child care, parental leave and personal and vocational development programmes;

(b) Assist women who alone are responsible for their families to obtain secure and appropriate accommodation;

(c) Guarantee favourable access to finance and credit, medical and health services.

7. Young women

Objective

210. Promote specific government policies for the education, health and employment of young women so that, in view of the role they play in revitalizing and carrying on systems of behaviour, attitudes and values, they receive the guidance and support they need, during the time when they are planning their future lives, to act wisely in crucial situations, such as the adoption of values and attitudes; the choice of a husband; the birth and raising of their first child; access to their first job; and election to office.

Priority areas for action

211. Governments should take the necessary measures to:

(a) Give special attention to the education of young women, who are the only human resource with a possibility of bringing about change in the future, with a view to ensuring that they are consciously involved in social and political development; that they enjoy and exercise the right responsibility, deliberately and willingly to found a family; and that they are given more and better opportunities to take part in the process of production;

(b) Give priority attention to young women in matters relating to food and health in general in order to improve the living conditions of present and future generations and to permit the exercise of the right to health.

Part Three: The Programme of Action at the international
and regional levels

IV. INTERNATIONAL TARGETS AND STRATEGIES

212. International targets and strategies both at the regional and the global levels should be based on a clear recognition that peace, security and national independence are essential prerequisites for an environment wherein the rights, responsibilities and roles of women can be promoted and the three objectives of the Decade - equality, development and peace - can be attained.

213. The perpetuation of global economic inequalities and economic dependence, which are the product of an economic system that is unfair and incompatible with the development of countries, slows down the process of development of all nations, particularly of the developing countries, and inhibits the full utilization of the material and human potentials of those countries, including women. The elaboration of an international development strategy for the third United Nations Development Decade, formulated within the framework of the new international economic order and directed towards the achievement of its objectives, is thus of fundamental importance for the achievement of the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women. It is essential to establish goals envisaging the assumption by women of full economic, political, cultural and social responsibility.

214. Progress towards disarmament can greatly contribute to the achievement of an adequate economic, social and cultural environment and enhance the development process through the reallocation of resources, particularly to the developing countries.

215. One of the concerns of the international community has been the need to restructure and reformulate the policies of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system so that it can help speed up the establishment of the New International Economic Order, the development of developing countries, and the promotion of the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women.

216. The restructuring has taken into account the need for decentralization of certain activities and the strengthening of regional programmes, particularly in the areas of economic and technical co-operation, in advisory services and training and research, data collection and analysis. The past few years have also witnessed the formulation by the regional commissions of regional plans of action for the integration of women into development and programmes aimed at implementation of some of their provisions. Of utmost importance, however, is the need to integrate women at both regional and global levels into the priority areas mentioned above in a programme of concerted and sustained international action for the second half of the Decade and beyond, until the plans to attain women's integration in development are fully implemented.

217. Member States are increasingly looking to the United Nations and to organizations in the United Nations system to take more dynamic international action in promoting women's full and equal partnership in development, both as contributors and beneficiaries. This is evidenced by the increasing number of resolutions, plans and policy declarations. Commensurate with the need for more dynamic programmes and policies is the need for co-ordination of activities of the various organizations in the United Nations system as well as the appropriate institutional arrangements, within them, involving, wherever necessary, structural

transformations. There is also a need for the development of relevant methodologies for integration of women in all their programmes and activities. In line with the integrated nature of the development process itself and with the need to reduce both isolated actions and overlapping of activities, the Programme of Action aims also at greater cohesiveness and co-ordination of efforts of the various organizations.

218. The Programme seeks to outline essential strategies and broad areas for international action. International action in this context includes regional action. However, some recommendations are addressed specifically to regional commissions and to other organizations concerned in the United Nations system for action at the regional, subregional and national levels in order to assist Governments and supplement national programmes.

V. INTERNATIONAL POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES

219. All organizations in the United Nations system, in closer co-operation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, should support efforts towards establishing, strengthening and implementing national, regional and global programmes aimed at women's integration in development, revising and redefining, if necessary, development concepts, objectives and policies to achieve it. These programmes at the international level should take into full consideration the essential linkages in the development process at national, subregional and international levels, and with adequate communication between institutions and machineries related to women and major planning units at all these levels.

220. In order to achieve the targets envisaged for the third United Nations Development Decade, all development planning should take due account of the potential contribution and the interests of women. This consideration will lead to more appropriate development programmes which will increase productivity, whilst at the same time guarding against the possibility of any adverse impact which the transfer of technology and the redeployment of industry may have. Development projects should strongly emphasize the indigenous capabilities of the developing countries and enhance their creative capacity.

221. New approaches should be developed for increasing the mobilization of women's resources both for advancing their socio-economic status and increasing productivity. To this end, they should offer, inter alia, special incentives to develop co-operative movements, particularly among women of the poorer sectors of society, aimed at developing co-operative technology enterprises for community self-reliance in water, energy, health, sanitation and housing, day care centres, and other basic services.

222. Multilateral and bilateral development and other organizations as well as non-governmental organizations working in the field of development should continue to provide development assistance to programmes and projects of developing countries which promote women's integration and participation in all aspects of the development process, also within the framework of technical co-operation among developing countries. In this connexion efforts should be made to utilize fully locally available expertise in project design and implementation and to ensure greater quality in the project results through, among others, flexible

implementation procedures. These programmes and projects should inter alia focus on efforts to strengthen developing countries' capabilities to plan and implement programmes for women, including capabilities to develop alternative technology, research and the application of renewable sources of energy.

223. The United Nations Voluntary Fund for the Decade for Women should continue to intensify its efforts to give special support to women most in need, and to encourage consideration of women in development planning. Contributions to the Voluntary Fund will need to be greatly increased during the second half of the Decade if demands now being made on its resources are to be adequately met. Adequate development funds should be available for activities specific to the acceleration of the full participation of women in economic and social development at national, regional and international levels.

224. Studies should be undertaken by the United Nations organizations concerned to identify new ways and means of facilitating the integration of women, especially of the poor sectors of society, into the mainstream of development, including women workers in agriculture and industry. The ILO, in co-operation with bodies such as UNCTAD, UNIDO and FAO, should develop studies to assess the working and employment conditions of rural women with a view to assisting Governments to revise national and international policies concerning wage and labour policies, as well as trade agreements and prices of those commodities where women's and men's wages are adversely affected by and also affect the exchange earnings of the developing countries as obtained from the export of such commodities. UNESCO, in co-operation with other United Nations organs and organizations concerned, should continue to prepare studies and sponsor projects with a view to assisting Governments to assess progress made and obstacles that women face in gaining access to and enjoying primary, secondary and post-secondary educational opportunities and to contribute to the development of research and teaching about women at the university level and in non-formal education. WHO, in co-operation with United Nations organs and organizations concerned should continue to assess progress made and obstacles women face in gaining access to health care, particularly progress in the development of primary health care.

225. The United Nations Secretariat should undertake a comparative compilation of national legislative measures which are aimed at promoting sex equality. Such a compilation would assist in the introduction of new laws designed to integrate women into all fields of activities by generating ideas and exerting persuasion. The compilation should be issued within the framework of the United Nations Legislative Series.

226. International and regional organizations should provide assistance, if requested, to national machineries for women, for improving their capabilities and resources to accelerate integration of women in the development process and take up programmes and projects for them.

227. In the framework of bilateral development co-operation efforts should be made, in conformity with national priorities, to strengthen national programmes aimed at the full participation and integration of women in all aspects of development, including participation of women at the grass-roots level. In all bilateral development activities women should participate in the preparation and implementation of programmes and projects.

228. The eleventh special session of the General Assembly on economic development should take into full account the women's role in economic development; the forthcoming United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, the programmes for the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, and other forthcoming international conferences should also take into account issues of particular interest to women.

229. The United Nations and its organizations should, in co-operation with national Governments, develop strategies for increasing women's participation in the social, economic and political life, ensuring full and effective participation of women in all sectors and at all levels of the development process, including planning, decision-making and implementation, and, in keeping with these objectives, seeking to:

- (a) Reduce the burden on women of tasks traditionally performed by them in the home and in food production and child care through appropriate technology and a fair division of labour between women and men;
- (b) Counteract factors which tend to keep girls and women out of schools and training centres;
- (c) Create new employment and occupational mobility opportunities for women;
- (d) Increase the economic returns to women for their labour, and implement the principle of equal pay for work of equal value;
- (e) Recognize the important contribution of women to economic development, raise the productivity of women's labour for their own benefit and the benefit of their own families, and at the same time undertake appropriate structural changes to prevent women's unemployment;
- (f) Recognize the vital role of women in agriculture and guarantee them equitable access to land, technology, water, other natural resources, inputs and services and equal opportunities to develop their skills;
- (g) Promote equal participation of women in the industrialization process, counteract possible negative effects of industrialization, and ensure that scientific and technological development will benefit both women and men;
- (h) Ensure women's active participation in and access to primary health care, in the light of their specific health needs.

230. International programmes and policies - including regional ones - are grouped into five areas. Each is covered below in a separate section.

A. Technical co-operation, training and advisory services

231. Technical co-operation programmes for women should be conceived in the context of over-all development and not as welfare programmes.

232. Technical co-operation activities should be directed towards assisting and complementing Governments' efforts aimed at enhancing the development of human resources particularly among the most disadvantaged groups of population with a special emphasis on women.

233. All organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, should:

(a) Review existing and proposed plans and projects in this area with the aim of integrating the issues of concern to women in all programmes and projects in order to improve the effectiveness of those projects as well as to improve the status of women;

(b) Encourage and support Governments and non-governmental organizations, including research institutions, in elaborating appropriate technology projects and in identifying ways in which women can participate in and contribute to the effectiveness of development projects and improve their own economic and social condition;

(c) Organize seminars and workshops on the issues related to women and development and ensure that the topic of women and development be included in the substantive discussions of international conferences;

(d) Assist Governments in organizing more training courses with the assistance of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) for improving women's planning, technical and managerial skills in different fields, especially of functionaries implementing programmes and policies for women. Promote fellowships and other special educational and training programmes to increase the capacity of women workers and planners so that they can gain better occupational and social status;

(e) Assist national and regional programmes benefiting women in rural areas. Programmes for women should be viewed as an investment in the process of development and women should be included as active participants in the design, planning and implementation of projects in all sectors and not simply as beneficiaries of services;

(f) Ensure that technical co-operation, training and advisory services by the organizations of the United Nations system are in conformity with national objectives and with policies outlined in the World Plan of Action and the Programme for the Second Half of the Decade.

234. UNDP should intensify its efforts to encourage and assist Governments to find innovative approaches to achieve their development goals through incorporating and benefiting women by:

(a) Instructing resident representatives to advise Governments on issues in country programmes of particular interest to women, and to monitor regularly existing programmes and promote project development, co-ordination and co-operation among United Nations and other organizations so as to further the achievement of the goals of the Decade;

(b) Continuing to promote regional, subregional and national projects through regional commissions, national machineries for women and research and training centres, especially activities leading to the introduction and development of new programmes in order to achieve the integration of women in development;

(c) Continuing its support for the Voluntary Fund for the Decade for Women.

235. Governments should formulate, as part of their development co-operation policies, guidelines for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women.

1. Mobilization of human resources

236. Efforts should be intensified within the programmes of organizations of the United Nations system to involve more men in programmes for attitudinal change in all the relevant sectors, particularly employment, health, education, rural development and political participation. Men should be involved in health programmes to ensure that the responsibility for improving the situation of their families and communities is not the sole responsibility of women.

237. The effective participation of women, particularly in the developing countries, in the programmes of organizations in the United Nations system should be encouraged, including their participation in interregional and regional seminars and meetings.

238. Women at all levels, especially those from grass-roots organizations, should be encouraged to play a more effective role at the decision-making level in international organizations.

239. United Nations organizations and Member States are urged to take the necessary measures to increase the proportion of women by nominating and appointing women, particularly from developing countries, for posts in decision-making levels in secretariats and expert bodies. Member States are also urged to increase the proportion of women on their delegations to all United Nations meetings, including meetings of preparatory committees for international conferences and to prepare women to take an active role in such conferences. In this regard, Member States in co-operation with United Nations bodies should make arrangements for the inclusion of items on women's issues in the agenda of such conferences.

240. Measures should be taken to reinforce efforts of Member States, specially developing ones, to develop and strengthen endogenous capabilities and capacities for the elaboration of policies for science and technology and for their application to the solution of problems of development, with special emphasis on the disparities in the access of women to scientific and technical education and training.

2. Assistance to women in southern Africa

241. The recommendations are addressed to United Nations organizations, the specialized agencies, Governments, international and regional intergovernmental organizations, women's and anti-apartheid groups, non-governmental organizations and other groups.

242. The assistance provided will be channelled through the southern African liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity. It is divided into the following categories of assistance:

(a) Legal, humanitarian, moral and political assistance to women inside South Africa and Namibia persecuted under repressive and discriminatory legislation and practices and to their families and to women in refugee camps;

(b) Training and assistance to integrate women into positions of leadership and support within the national liberation movements in the struggle for liberation;

(c) Training and assistance for women to play roles in all areas after liberation in the reconstruction of their respective countries;

(d) International support for and co-operation with the southern African women's struggle;

(e) To disseminate information about apartheid and racism and its effects on women in southern Africa in particular, and to involve all women in efforts to eradicate apartheid and racism and to promote and maintain peace;

(f) To assist in the strengthening of women's sections where they already exist in the national liberation movements and the creation of such sections where they do not currently exist as a means of accelerating the achievement of equal opportunity for women and their full integration in national life. Such women's sections through the national liberation movements should, in consultations with the United Nations organizations, the specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, determine and make known their policy and programme priorities.

243. To call on Member States of the United Nations which have not yet done so to ratify the 1973 International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid.

3. Assistance to the Palestinian women inside and outside the occupied territories

244. The United Nations organizations, the specialized agencies, United Nations organs and funds, Governments, international and regional intergovernmental organizations and other groups are called upon to provide assistance in consultation and co-operation with the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people:

(a) To undertake studies and research pertinent to the social and economic conditions of the Palestinian women with a view to identifying their specific needs and to formulate and implement relevant programmes to meet their needs and to develop resources and potentialities of women;

(b) To provide legal, humanitarian and political assistance to Palestinian women in order to allow them to exercise their human rights;

(c) To establish, expand, and diversify educational and training programmes for Palestinian women with particular emphasis on expanding technical and vocational training;

(d) To safeguard and promote the Palestinian heritage and values as the core of the educational content with a view to preserving the Palestinian national identity.

(e) To eliminate all restrictive legal and social measures that hinder Palestinian women from having access to available employment opportunities and equal pay for equal work, and to provide them with equal training and employment opportunities so that they can contribute effectively to the formation of an integrated Palestinian labour force;

(f) To assist materially and technically women's organizations and associations, and to provide support to the General Union of Palestinian Women with a view to develop their institutional capabilities to undertake extension programmes, adult education and literacy programmes for women and child care services;

(g) To formulate and implement integrated health and nutrition programmes; to train Palestinian women in the various medical and paramedical professions and to strengthen existing health services provided by the Palestinian Red Crescent, particularly those related to maternal and child care;

(h) To collect and disseminate information and data about the effect of Israeli occupation on the social and economic conditions of the Palestinian women and their struggle for achieving self-determination, right of return, and right to national independence and sovereignty.

4. Assistance to women refugees and displaced women the world over

245. Humanitarian assistance to and resettlement of refugees, regardless of sex, race, religion or national origin, and wherever they may find themselves, is an international responsibility which all nations concerned should help bear. Because the overwhelming proportion of refugees are women, who generally suffer more radical changes in role and status than male refugees, the United Nations and other international organizations are urged to address themselves specifically to the problems and vulnerabilities of women.

246. The following recommendations are addressed to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and, within their competence or special interest, the organizations of the United Nations system, specialized agencies, international, regional and intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, women's groups and all other relevant institutions, competent associations, and Governments.

247. The United Nations High Commissioner and other bodies mentioned in paragraph 246, as appropriate, in assisting women refugees, are requested to formulate specific programmes relevant to them in all phases of refugee life: relief, local integration, resettlement, and voluntary return to their homes. All Governments concerned are invited to help, thereby easing the burden on countries of first asylum in particular. Third countries should be urged to receive refugees for resettlement without discrimination on the basis of sex or lack of qualifications. There is a particularly urgent need for senior level responsibility for the special needs of refugee women, including monitoring, in the UNHCR and other agencies and organizations involved in refugee relief. These programmes should also apply to displaced women, wherever appropriate.

248. It should be recognized that in refugee situations and of displaced persons, women and children form the bulk of the refugees and have particular needs. Therefore special efforts are necessary to ensure their survival and well-being,

and to prevent their abuse and exploitation. The traditional disadvantages of many women in society are intensified in refugee situations as well as for displaced persons. This must be recognized in formulating any programmes of assistance. The assistance provided through the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees or through bilateral intergovernmental channels as far as resources permit should include the following categories of assistance:

(a) Legal, humanitarian and moral assistance to women refugees ensuring for them the fullest respect for their human rights in accordance with the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to prevent exploitation of their ignorance of their rights and of their comparatively weak position;

(b) Special relief efforts directed to refugee women and children, and particularly to handicapped persons, to ensure that available aid reaches them;

(c) Assistance and counselling to women refugees at an early phase of their arrival in the country of asylum, with emphasis on the development of self-reliance;

(d) Special health care measures and health counselling, including family planning services on a nationally acceptable and voluntary basis for women refugees, as well as supplemental feeding programmes for pregnant and lactating women, provided through means relevant to their culture and traditions, and by women medical workers where necessary;

(e) Training and educational programmes, including orientation, language and job training, designed to facilitate the necessary adjustments of women refugees to their new life and the preservation of their cultural links with their country of origin;

(f) Special national and international efforts to facilitate family reunion and support for tracing programmes;

(g) Skill development programmes for refugee women so that they may learn to employ their potential for income-earning activity;

(h) The UNHCR should encourage Governments in whose territory abuses of women refugees take place to bring to justice the perpetrators of such abuses. Host country Governments should be encouraged to allow sufficient international personnel in refugee camps to discourage exploitation or any attacks upon women refugees.

249. Assistance should be provided in strengthening the counselling programme for women refugees, both in rural settlements and urban centres, and the design of special social work programmes to reach women refugees, where such programmes do not at present exist. Special orientation programmes should be provided for women refugees awaiting resettlement in third countries.

250. The role of women refugees in the operation and administration of refugee camps should be substantially expanded, including distribution of food and other supplies, and the design of training and orientation programmes. The UNHCR is urged to develop policies which actively involve refugee women in self-help programmes in an effort to utilize their skills and talents fully.

251. The United Nations system should give high priority in its public information activities to the need to assist refugee women and children the world over.

B. Elaboration and review of international standards

252. Every effort should be made by the United Nations and organizations in the United Nations system to encourage Governments:

(a) To sign and ratify or accede to 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, so that it will come into force at an early date within the period of this Programme;

(b) To sign and ratify or accede to, if they have not yet done so, all conventions of the United Nations and specialized agencies which relate to women. 6/

253. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women should keep under review the reporting systems under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women once it comes into force. The Commission on the Status of Women should keep under review the reporting system for the implementation of the World Plan of Action and the implementation of the Programme for the Second Half of the Decade.

254. The United Nations and organizations in the United Nations system should, in the formulation of international standards in areas where they do not exist, take into account the needs of women.

255. The specialized agencies should submit reports on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities, when requested to do so, and should attend the meeting of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women when invited to do so.

256. Measures should be taken by bodies and organizations in the United Nations system, particularly UNCTAD, UNIDO, the Centre on Transnational Corporations, the International Labour Organisation and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to include specific provisions relating to women in the international codes of conduct for transnational corporations and on the transfer of technology aimed at diminishing any adverse effects of redeployment of industry and technology.

C. Research, data collection and analysis

257. The United Nations, the specialized agencies, and the regional commissions should give high priority to undertaking multisectoral and interdisciplinary action-oriented research in relevant and important areas where information does not already exist on the ways of integrating women in development, with a view to formulating development objectives, strategies and policy measures responsive

6/ See, for example, Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments, New York, United Nations, 1978; and International Labour Organisation, International Labour Conventions and Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, United Nations, New York, 1979; and International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

to the needs of women and men. Such research should utilize existing institutions such as the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women as well as more use of joint institutions which deal with questions concerning status of women. The research should be aimed at developing effective methodologies of planning for women's development and at evaluating the participation of women in the informal sectors of the economy; the health status of women; the double burden of working women and data on the degree of absence of women because of maternity, educational opportunities or lack thereof for women, in particular factors contributing to illiteracy, full access of women, including drop-outs among the female population, to all types and all levels of education; the conditions of the female-headed household; the participation in the formal sectors of the economy; political participation and the nature of the contributions of women's organizations. Emphasis should also be given to fuller and more systematic analysis of all the interrelationships between women's roles in development and demographic phenomena. Research should also be conducted on employment opportunities projected for a period of five or ten years after the Decade for Women, and on training/educational programmes that will meet the need for the specific work force so identified.

258. Taking into consideration that international migration has become an enduring process in the labour market, the special problems of migrant women, as related to their economic functions, legal and social status, difficulties arising from language barriers and the education of the second generation deserve special attention. The ILO, in co-operation with bodies such as UNESCO, FAO and WHO, should continue and develop studies to assess the employment, health and educational conditions of migrant women with a view to assisting Governments in reviewing their national and international policies concerning employment, social security, housing, social welfare policies, and the preservation of the cultural heritage as well as the use of mass media as supportive channels of information for migrant women.

259. The United Nations, in close collaboration with specialized agencies and regional commissions and on the basis of the work done by INSTRAW, should prepare and make available compendiums of statistics on women, containing the most recent data, time-trend analyses where available, as well as national and international measures designed to improve the situation of women. The Directory of International Statistics, prepared by the Statistical Office, Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, should include a special section indicating where relevant data exist by which progress toward equality between the sexes can be monitored.

260. The Sub-Committee on Statistical Activities of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, in agreement with INSTRAW, should, as soon as possible, include in its programme of work consideration of statistics relating to women and develop short- and long-range goals for improving the quality and relevance of data pertaining to the conditions of women. Such discussions should include plans to update data concerning women with a particular emphasis on the development, evaluation and updating of estimates and projections of the participation of women in all areas of national life.

261. The United Nations should, in close collaboration with the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and national Governments encourage statistical operations and practices that are free from sex-based stereotypes and appropriate

research methodology that would have relevance to the participation of women in development and equality between the sexes.

262. The United Nations, with the concerned specialized agencies, should pay special attention to the industries in which the overwhelming majority of employees are female, analyse the causes of their existence and the possibilities of new technological patterns leading to deep changes in the respective branches.

263. At the regional level the regional commissions, in collaboration with the specialized agencies, should:

(a) Assist the countries of the region to establish indicators by which progress toward equality between the sexes can be monitored. In establishing such a set of indicators, Governments should be advised to take into account the social and cultural realities of the country, the current state of the country's statistical development as well as their individual policy priorities;

(b) Prepare for each region an inventory of social, economic and demographic indicators relevant to the analysis of the status of women in the region. For a better evaluation of development programmes, the utilization of, and access to, such data should be ensured;

(c) Assist countries in the development of surveys carried out as part of the national household surveys capability programme, including batteries of questions of special relevance to the participation of women in development and equality between the sexes;

(d) Increase their level of investment in long-range fundamental research on women and development, without violation of national priorities, so as to provide a sound scientific base for development planning.

D. Dissemination of information and experience

264. The respective specialized agencies of the United Nations, during the second part of this Decade, should give special consideration to the conditions of work of women, including the problems of working hours and working norms for women, and bring their conclusions to the attention of member States.

265. The United Nations and UNESCO should ensure the inclusion of women in the current work undertaken in preparation for the new international information order as both recipients and participants in information systems in which their problems and issues are considered. In the definition of new communication policies the participation of women and their positive and dynamic image must be emphasized.

266. The United Nations system should ensure that women's issues form an integral part of the existing international information systems and data banks (such as AGRIS, INRES, INTIB, DIS), particularly the Information System Unit within the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, in order to facilitate free exchange of experience and knowledge among international organizations and their member States.

267. The Joint United Nations Information Committee in carrying out its responsibilities for programmes of social and economic information should:

(a) Ensure that its annual plans of action take into consideration issues and topics of particular interest to women, matters which particularly affect women, as well as their participation in information activities such as press, publications, radio programmes, film and television projects, reportage of field trips, seminars, etc.;

(b) Advocate that an information component be built into projects such as those assisted by the Voluntary Fund for the Decade and by other organizations of the United Nations system, and which would be disseminated by the Department of Public Information, specialized agencies etc.;

(c) Ensure that guides and directories of the United Nations Information Centres contain relevant data and information about programmes and activities of the United Nations relating to women.

268. The United Nations and other organizations in the United Nations system such as UNCTAD, UNDP, UNFPA, UNEP, UNIDO, UNICEF, UNITAR, the ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO, and WFP, should include in their publications, media support activities, training programmes and seminars etc., specific guidelines on issues and topics of particular interest to women and those in which women could be successfully integrated. In particular, United Nations agencies concerned with development, education, employment, health, population, food production etc., should increase their information output on matters affecting women, especially in developing countries, with emphasis on reaching mass audiences in rural and isolated regions and countries where women tend to be cut off from the main media channels.

269. In its programme on major political, economic and social issues as well as on human interest stories, United Nations radio should include contributions and participation of women in all these areas. The present weekly radio programme on women should be continued through the Decade or longer as the need may be, with adequate provision being made to adapt it in different languages and distribute it more extensively. Co-production agreements between United Nations visual service and local networks to expand the number of films on United Nations topics should include co-production with women producers in developing countries on films related to women's issues.

270. The United Nations should issue booklets, pamphlets and publications with periodic progress reports on Decade activities and encourage the exchange of information and experience between women in Member States through study visits and the distribution of publications. The United Nations Handbook on the New International Economic Order should include data and information on aspects of women's participation. The Development Forum and other publications should contain items related to the Decade. The United Nations Information Centres should improve their library materials on women and disseminate information on women more actively, especially in developing countries. Information on women should be on the agenda of meetings of the directors of the Centres throughout the Decade.

271. The United Nations and organizations of the United Nations system dealing with development should strengthen their information components relating to women in development and highlight the communication component of development projects. Well-documented and built-in communication components should be included in all development programmes or projects for the integration of women in development, and more adequate evaluation of the uses of media in development support to spread knowledge and increase the possibility of transfer. The United Nations and

organizations of the United Nations system should collect and disseminate information on training programmes in development communication with special reference to programmes for women.

272. Information including detailed bibliographies of studies and other materials produced by the United Nations and its specialized agencies on women in the development process should be widely distributed to member nations and appropriate private research organizations to facilitate access to such information.

E. Review and appraisal

273. The United Nations system should continue to carry out a comprehensive and critical biennial review and appraisal of progress achieved in implementing the provisions of the World Plan of Action and of the Programme for the Second Half of the Decade. The central role in the carrying out of this review and appraisal should be played by the Commission on the Status of Women. The reporting system as well as the measures for dissemination of information should be designed for the effective use of the result of monitoring by all bodies concerned.

274. The Commission on the Status of Women and the Branch for the Advancement of Women should be strengthened by resetting priorities within existing budgetary resources. The integrated reporting system should be improved, as should the Commission's ability to consider communications and the capacity for publicizing its work.

275. With a view to achieving the full integration of women into the over-all development planning of the United Nations, the review and appraisal of progress made in implementing the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the Decade should be part of the procedures for the review and appraisal of progress made in the implementation of international development strategy for the third United Nations Development Decade.

276. The specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system as well as other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned should consider the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the Decade and assist in its implementation.

277. The existing special mechanisms within the United Nations bodies and existing specialized agencies should be strengthened to implement the Programme of Action, to increase the incorporation of women's needs into all their programmes and activities and also to increase women's participation in and benefit from those programmes and activities.

278. The secretariats of all organizations within the United Nations system as well as of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned should amend their recruitment, training, promotion and remuneration policies as necessary in order to ensure equal treatment and status for men and women employed by the organizations whether as temporary, fixed-term or permanent employees or as consultants. Such organizations should, when requesting data on women's employment from member countries with a view to publication, provide and publish comparable data on the situation as regards women's employment within the organization concerned.

279. Guidelines should be established wherever they do not already exist for the study of programmes and projects in respect of their likely impact on women, and measures should be taken for monitoring and evaluating such programmes with respect to their benefits to women.

280. Co-ordination and co-operation among the specialized agencies and United Nations bodies should be effected by increasing use of the Inter-Agency Programme for the Decade for Women and of the Branch for the Advancement of Women.

281. The regional commissions in their periodic reviews and appraisals submitted to the Economic and Social Council should report fully on specific aspects of the situation of women in every sector of their development programmes on the basis of replies to the questionnaire on the implementation of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the Decade. These should be supplemented by appraisals of specific sectors undertaken by the regional commissions and specialized agencies, reports of relevant regional meetings of the United Nations and other documents and independent research.

282. Regional commissions should submit reports regularly to the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat on this Programme as part of the over-all review and appraisal of the World Plan of Action. There should be a close co-ordination of the regional programmes for the advancement of women with United Nations Headquarters to ensure a better use of resources.

283. Regional commissions should ensure that the high-level regional intergovernmental and expert meetings which they periodically convene should include, in their over-all periodic appraisal, an assessment of the situation of women as a fundamental prerequisite for planning action programmes to meet the objectives of the third development decade and the New International Economic Order.

284. Special efforts should be made by the United Nations and regional commissions to assist Governments of Member States which have difficulty in providing resources to complete the questionnaire and submit data required for the review and appraisal.

VI. REGIONAL POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES

285. The international policies and programmes outlined above have clear application at the regional level and should also be regarded as regional priorities. In addition, the regional commissions, in co-operation with the regional offices of the specialized agencies, have specific responsibilities to provide assistance to Governments and non-governmental organizations for developing policies, strategies and programmes for the second half of the Decade in the light of the review and appraisal of progress achieved in the first half.

286. The strengthening of appropriate regional action programmes for women should be based on the development of co-operation between the countries of the region with the aim of promoting the principle of self-reliance. The formulation of regional policies and programmes is a multidimensional process requiring the adoption of action-oriented measures that are both bilateral and multilateral in scope and which require an increase in financial, technical and personnel resources

to implement effectively regional programmes and priorities. To this end, regional commissions should adopt the following measures:

(a) Integrate the recommendations of this Programme into the work programme of their respective sectoral units so that its implementation contributes to the development strategy of the third United Nations Development Decade;

(b) Promote fellowship and other special training programmes, particularly in the tertiary sectors which comprise the majority of the female labour force both in rural and urban areas, so that women can improve and/or gain occupational and socio-economic status;

(c) Strengthen the information and data collection systems with a view to providing better analysis of data on the situation and work of women, including, in particular, improved national, regional and subregional reviews of progress achieved in the implementation of this programme of action; and providing a basis for more effective advisory services to Governments regarding programmes for women;

(d) Intensify their activities in promoting adequate national social infrastructure allowing women and men to discharge their dual role in the family and in society;

(e) Undertake "skilled womenpower" inventories at national, subregional and regional levels so that trained women can have equal opportunities to be recruited in jobs related to main areas of the development process at national, regional and international levels.

Institutional arrangements

287. Measures should be taken for:

(a) Strengthening the offices of the regional commissions by recruiting women for posts at a high level of decision-making and responsibility. Such posts should include those of programme officers provided for in regular budgets and not only from extrabudgetary sources, and responsible for implementing the programmes for the second half of the Decade. The regional commissions should establish posts at a high level to co-ordinate and implement policies and programmes relating specifically to the status of women;

(b) The reinforcement of the regional centres for research and training.

1982/26. Preparations for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering that the General Assembly, in its resolution 35/136 of 11 December 1980, decided to convene in 1985, at the conclusion of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, a world conference to review and appraise the achievements of the Decade,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 36/126 of 14 December 1981, in which the Commission on the

Status of Women was requested to give priority at its twenty-ninth session to the question of the preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, with a view to submitting to the Assembly at its thirty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, specific proposals on that question,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 35/10 C of 3 November 1980, by which the Assembly decided that preparatory committees should be established for special conferences only if that function could not be appropriately performed by an existing intergovernmental organ,

Emphasizing the importance of undertaking at the conclusion of the Decade a critical review and appraisal of progress at international, regional and national levels in the achievement of the goals of the Decade—equality, development and peace—and the subthemes of education, health and employment, and the obstacles encountered in the implementation of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year³⁷ and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women,³⁸ and also of developing a forward-looking perspective on the status of women,

Emphasizing also the need to identify the most effective strategies and methods of work at the international level and to establish priorities for the United Nations system,

Bearing in mind the positive response of many Governments to the World Plan of Action, in the form of national mechanisms or legislation,

Also bearing in mind the need in the coming years to realize the full potential of those mechanisms or legislation to enable women to maintain and consolidate gains made during the Decade,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women,³⁹ to be held in 1985,

1. *Decides* that the Commission on the Status of Women shall be the preparatory body for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women and shall operate on the basis of consensus, and invites the widest possible participation by Member States in the deliberations of the preparatory body;

³⁷ *Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, Mexico City, 19 June–2 July 1975* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1), chap. II, sect. A.

³⁸ *Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14–30 July 1980* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3 and corrigendum), chap. I, sect. A.

³⁹ E/CN.6/1982/8.

2. *Recommends* that the Commission on the Status of Women, acting as the preparatory body for the Conference, should meet at Vienna in extraordinary session in 1983 and again in 1985 with conference preparations as the sole item of the agenda, and that its thirtieth regular session, in 1984, should be extended to allow additional time for conference preparations;
3. *Decides also* to recommend to the General Assembly that the Advancement of Women Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat should serve as the secretariat of the preparatory body, as well as of the Conference;
4. *Recommends also* that the General Assembly should make the necessary budgetary allocations, in the light of the proposals made by the preparatory body at its first session, to enable the Advancement of Women Branch to perform those duties;
5. *Recommends further* that, with a view to the achievement of the goals of the Decade, a forward-looking draft perspective on the status of women to the year 2000 should be prepared by the preparatory body for consideration by the Conference based on the experience gained in the implementation of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women;
6. *Encourages* Member States to consider establishing national committees to assist, for example, in national-level preparations for the Conference, consultations on issues and themes and the preparation of national reports;
7. *Invites* the regional commissions to conduct consultations, within existing resources, on issues and themes for the Conference and on organizational arrangements at the regional level to prepare for the Conference, and to submit the results of those consultations to the preparatory body;
8. *Invites* Member States to submit in writing, by 1 July 1982, their views on the proposed goals and specific themes of the Conference so that the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs can prepare a report based on those views by 31 January 1983, for consideration by the Commission, in its capacity as preparatory body, at its extraordinary session in 1983;
9. *Also invites* non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and intergovernmental organizations to submit their views, in writing, on their contributions to the Conference and on possible issues and themes for the Conference to the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, for consolidated presentation to the preparatory body;
10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake interagency consultations on issues and themes for the Conference with a view to presenting an interagency report on the question to the preparatory body at its first session;
11. *Decides* to consider at its first regular session of 1983, in connexion with the question of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its first session as preparatory body for the World Conference.

*23rd plenary meeting
4 May 1982*



UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



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24 February 1983

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN,
ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY FOR
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND
APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

First session

Vienna, 23 February-4 March 1983

Item 3

PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

Statement submitted by the International
Alliance of Women

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is circulated in accordance with paragraphs 29 and 30 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV).

1. The non-governmental organization named above urges that the question of the extent and type of physical, sexual and other forms of abuse of women in families and institutions should be considered as an item on the agenda of the Conference. There has been a constant endeavour by the International Alliance of Women since its Congress resolution in 1979 to publicize this evil as widely as possible.
2. As the United Nations Secretariat, when introducing the subject "Battered Women and violence in the family" at the twenty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, pointed out that a systematic survey of national experience in this field would be necessary, the International Alliance of Women has sent a questionnaire on this subject to its 68 affiliates. The International Alliance of Women wishes to present the results of such research to the Conference and suggests that the Advancement of Women Branch and other non-governmental organizations concerned with the matter should also be invited to present material on this subject. This might encourage, at all levels, such positive action as:
 - (a) Educational training for partnership and elimination of discriminational traditions against women;
 - (b) Protective measures, e.g. shelters, treatment centres and legislation to enable women to react to abuse;

- (c) Achievement of women's economic independence by equal education and job training in order to enable them to leave the offender and obtain gainful employment;
- (d) Prosecution of persons practising abuse.

World Bank views on the issues and themes of the World Conference for review and appraisal. The achievements of the UN decade for women have been reflected in the document for this item on the agenda. It seems appropriate at this time to inform the SSW, acting as the preparatory body for the Conference, on some of the efforts of the World Bank group towards the goals of the decade and in preparation for the Conference.

Many of the important ^{reports} issues by the Bank have indicated serious concern for the involvement of women in development. One example is the WDR of 1982, the major theme of which was agricultural development, demonstrated the close association between rapid progress in agriculture and rapid growth in overall development of a developing country. It points out the major role of small farmers in the process of agricultural growth, the contribution of female farmers and the need for giving greater attention to ways of ensuring their access to inputs which will enhance the productivity of their efforts. Since nearly 1/3 of World Bank loans are for agriculture and rural development and in view of the food situation, which my colleague of FAO recently cited, ensuring ^{is} that the access of women is not insignificant.

Also published in 1982 was a report based on assessment of the effectiveness of assistance to some 80 countries over a period of more than 20 years, by the International Development Association, the agency of the World Bank group which makes available development financing in concessionary terms. The major conclusion of the Report was the tremendous success in promoting development in the world poorest nations. It also noted some mistakes and, among those related to the design of projects contributing to limiting the effectiveness of certain projects, was that they placed inadequate emphasis on social and cultural issues, on the participation of the population in the project areas, and in particular the ways in which women affected or were affected by the project intervention.

Several large ^{and small} research projects, financed by the Bank with a view to improving its efficiency as a development agency, have contributed additional information about women which reinforces the place of a concern for women in effort to promote the most effective and productive use of scarce development resources ^{as well as} and the potential cost of overlooking this contribution.

Such reports ~~are~~ ^o those which are widely read by the development community are contributing to changing ^{includes} attributes of planners and decision makers, which, as has been noted, is a pre-requisite for increasing allocation ^{of resources} for improving the situation of women.

We are discussing the preparations for the Conference at a time, when the world economy is in crisis, a crisis that affects seriously the resources available to the WBG for lending to provide ^{more} development. In the world press of the last 2 weeks, there was much discussion of the new Brandt Commission Report "Common Crisis: North-South Corporation for World Recovery", a report which outlined the severe human difficulties that are a product of global economic strains ^{and women are particularly hard pressed}. Bank member countries faced tremendous immediate problems of large debt repayment, high energy costs and the need to make difficult structural adjustments in their economies. In the face of these problems, WB ~~and~~ member governments decide what they will borrow and the shape of the projects for which they will use loans. It is thus more than ever incumbent on us to ensure that the advice we give is economically and politically sound. This applies with double force to issues ^{such as women's involvement}. In this connection, we have increased our efforts to improve the quantity ^{ification} and measures ^{ment} of the contribution of women, and to develop indications and other tools which make it easier to incorporate them into development policy and planning. We hope that these issues ^{will} be accorded some priority in the Conference.

Many of the substantive issues mentioned by distinguished delegates in their statements are included in projects financed by Bank loans and we have selectively been studying their special implication for women. These include the special issues in social forestry, the implications of technology, the female dimension in employment strategy. We will draw on these studies for ^{any} the best report ^{required} of the B. for this conference.

Since 1981, the Bank has initiated a programme of W.I.D. training workshops for Bank staff, designed to assist them to understand and analyse the issues.

They are then better able to incorporate them in their appraisals of ^{project and feasibility} design.
The workshops also put staff in a better position to include discussion of women's contribution to development, in their policy dialogue with governments which is an important part of our work. We have developed interesting training material and pedagogical processes for these workshops and intend to publish these shortly. There has ^{been} several ^{al} requests ^{from other} development ~~resources and the other~~ agencies for us to assist in organizing similar training programmes for their staff.

In collaboration with UNDP and other agencies in the UN system, we intend to evaluate the implications for women of projects undertaken with Bank loans in selected countries. Those will include not only projects whose design gave specific consideration to women, but perhaps more important projects such as those to develop road networks and irrigation ^{schemes} in which concern for women frequently and erroneously is considered irrelevant. This evaluation will be of use to the countries in their development efforts, and to the Bank ^{both} in its dialogue with the country and as well as in improving its policies and processes, ^{we consider} and that the ~~rather~~ to unexplored complementarity of the efforts of the several agencies which participate will suggest ways in which we might make the use of the limited resources more efficient.

W.B. participated in the Inter-Agency Meeting earlier this week, to discuss the contributions of agencies to the preparations ^{for} of the Conference. We have undertaken to join our efforts with those of the rest of the system and look forward to the decisions and clarifications on the themes and issue which the decision of this Meeting will offer us.

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W.B. participated in the Inter-Agency Meeting earlier this week, to discuss the contributions of agencies to the preparations ~~for~~ the Conference. We have undertaken to join our efforts with those of the rest of the system and look forward to the decisions and clarifications on the themes and issue which the decision of this Meeting will offer us.



General Assembly

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A/RES/37/60
3 February 1983

Thirty-seventh session
Agenda item 91

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/37/676)]

37/60. Preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3520 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, in which it endorsed, inter alia, the action proposals contained in the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year, 1/

Recalling its resolution 3490 (XXX) of 12 December 1975, in which it expressed its conviction that a comprehensive and thorough review and appraisal of progress made in meeting the goals of the World Plan of Action was of crucial importance for the success of the Plan and recognized that the results of the implementation of the Plan would contribute to the consideration of the review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade 2/ and would consequently promote the role of women in the development process,

1/ Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, Mexico City, 19 June-2 July 1975 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1), chap. II, sect. A.

2/ Resolution 2626 (XXV).

Recalling also its resolution 35/136 of 11 December 1980, in which it endorsed the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women 3/ as adopted at the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, and decided to convene in 1985, at the conclusion of the Decade, a World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women,

Recalling further that the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade 4/ stressed that the important set of measures to improve the status of women contained in the World Plan of Action adopted at Mexico City in 1975 1/ and the important agreed measures relating to the International Development Strategy in the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, adopted at Copenhagen in 1980, should be implemented,

Recalling its resolution 36/126 of 14 December 1981, in which it requested the Commission on the Status of Women, at its session to be held in 1982, to give priority to the question of the preparations for the Conference,

Noting that the Economic and Social Council, at its first regular session of 1982, considered the recommendations of the Commission on the Status of Women as set forth in its report 5/ and adopted, on 4 May 1982, resolution 1982/26 on the preparations for the Conference,

Bearing in mind all its relevant resolutions and decisions regarding preparations for special conferences, in particular its resolution 33/189 of 29 January 1979,

1. Endorses Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26 on the preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, to be held in 1985;
2. Welcomes the decision of the Economic and Social Council that the Commission on the Status of Women should be the preparatory body for the Conference and that it should operate on the basis of consensus;
3. Endorses the decision of the Economic and Social Council to invite the widest possible participation by States in the preparatory meetings for the conference and expresses the hope that they will designate representatives who will have the background and experience in the area of women and development;

3/ Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14-30 July 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3 and corrigendum), chap. I, sect. A.

4/ Resolution 35/56, annex.

5/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1982, Supplement No. 4 (E/1982/14).

4. Notes that the first session of the Commission on the Status of Women as the preparatory body of the Conference is to be held at Vienna from 23 February to 4 March 1983 and that the report on that session will be considered by the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1983;
5. Requests the Secretary-General to take into account paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 33/189 of 29 January 1979 when appointing the Secretary-General of the Conference;
6. Decides to consider at its thirty-eighth session the recommendations of the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1983 based on the report of the first session of the Commission on the Status of Women as the preparatory body for the Conference, together with the observations, if any, of the Secretary-General;
7. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the preparation of a world survey on the role of women in development 6/ and recommends that the survey should be submitted to the Conference;
8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session an item entitled "Preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women".

90th plenary meeting
3 December 1982

6/ A/37/381.

FOR PARTICIPANTS ONLY

A/CONF/116/PC/CRP.1

10 February 1983

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN,
ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY BODY FOR
THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND
APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN
First session
Vienna, 23 February - 4 March 1983

STUDY ON PERSPECTIVES ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
TO THE YEAR 2000

Note by the Secretariat

The attached background paper prepared by a consultant containing preliminary proposals for the study on perspectives on the status of women to the year 2000, in connection with operative paragraph 5 of the Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/26, is being made available to the Preparatory Body for its information.

The views expressed in the attached paper are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the United Nations Secretariat.

PRELIMINARY PROPOSALS FOR THE STUDY ON PERSPECTIVES ON
THE STATUS OF WOMEN TO THE YEAR 2000*

* Prepared by Eleonora Barbieri Masini, President, World Futures Studies Federation, Rome, Italy, as consultant to the United Nations. The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the United Nations. The text has been reproduced as received.

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I. THE YEAR 2000: BASIC ISSUES AFFECTING THE STATUS OF WOMEN (GLOBAL LEVEL)

Introduction

Many of the reports on the year 2000, specially at the global level, have failed to take into account the changes in social roles and the alterations of relations between men and women. As such they present a great lack and often fail to influence decision making in a purposeful way. The indicators of such studies in fact not giving sufficient importance to the social and cultural levels which constitute their context are, as a consequence, very often not implementable.

I shall try in this background paper on "the status of women in the year 2000", to focus mainly on these neglected aspects at the same time taking into account the more "conventionally" considered issues. We are in fact concerned about the impact of a whole cluster of problems on women's status which are the forces of change in their various interactions.

I shall look at women in this paper as individuals and as a collective group and as such among the many problems which seem to be crucial to their changing status, I shall choose the ones which will affect mostly women in the year 2000. The perspective is a broad one as it will consider socio-economic questions but also socio-cultural and political ones as well as psychological aspects in relation to the future of women.

Basic issues

1. The issue of peace

This is the priority issue which will affect the world. Usually women are not connected to this question unless in passive terms. Women on the contrary will have to become central in the eyes of the decision-makers to enable the realization of what is declared by the people of the United Nations. In submitting the charter they took the specific commitment "to save succeeding generations from the danger of war".

Women have co-operated all over the world in the active struggle for peace and international co-operation.

At the same time women have the capacity to understand non-hierarchical structures and are able to create them. This capacity must come into the open as hierarchical structures are the cause of violence, exploitation and manipulation which lead to conflict and war.

Women have also a great capacity in conflict resolution which is exercised in the private space, the family, it should be made possible for them to express such capacity in the public space. Women already in the political field should exercise this specific capacity as part of their power. ^{1/} This world is in fact in need of using all possible capacities for resolving old and new conflicts as it is in great danger of destroying itself.

The use of such capacities of women would be a very important contribution to the building of a New International Economic Order.

2. The issue of work, great is and will be the change in ways and times of work for all but specially for women affected by changes in the socio-economic situations and change in labour distribution as well as mutations provoked by technological development.

The increase in unemployment in some countries is affecting and will affect women more and more in the years to come. ^{2/} The connection of this problem with the increase of the educational level of women has to be seen, and we must be aware of it, in terms of long-term consequences as feedback to present educational policies. ^{3/ 4/} How much will the aspirations created by increased level of education be met by job availability? Will the concentration of educated women in administrative work and teaching (nursery school, primary school), all over the world be changed and how? And will they still be rewarded differently? ^{5/}

What will happen to women in the rural areas as industrialization advances? Will occupation segregation of women which is related to stereotypes rather than to reality (the need for women to work) still be strong in the year 2000, as well as "generalized undercounting of women in the labour market"? ^{6/}

Entrance of women in the labour market because of the need to work and their changing situations in social educational terms plus the major presence of women in the inflated informal economy and women and household work, are

factors connected one with the other and they will be so in the year 2000 on the basis of the different trends which can be described in greater depth at the regional level (Part III).

Work and its capability to satisfy aspirations and needs and reply to motivation is extremely important "the work anchor is most secure when one's work, as defined by the incumbent, is reciprocally defined by others as worthy of rewarded recognition". ^{7/}

Technological change is going to affect more and more women's work and women's future. ^{8/} The industrially advanced society has been characterized at the political and socio-economic level by the welfare state and the service economy. The changes in these characters already emerging will affect in various ways women and work. Work and the division of labour is very important at this point. The relation labour and presence of women in tertiary sector and women in informal economy is going to be central ^{9/} and the advent of microelectronics will influence mainly women: training and retraining and possible displacement due to automation are a central problem of the social economic world of tomorrow. All such problems just indicated are partly emerging in industrially advanced societies but have to be seen also in terms of the forthcoming industrialization of the industrializing societies.

Some of the previously indicated problems are already within both industrializing and industrialized countries.

3. The issue of education: One of the first steps towards full emancipation of women is education in every sense. ^{10/} Different policy choices have been taken in various countries which will help women and maybe at the same time damage them in various ways at physical, psychological and social level in relation to education. Education is in fact ambivalent and as such must be considered, it should be culturally linked and has colonizing tendencies from one culture to another, it can be development of potentialities which are already present in the person or it can damage and manage potentialities channelling towards where the purposes of education wish. The threshold between these two extremes have to be analysed as crucial element for the future of women for the preservation of their identity and integrity.

The drop outs and the question of late education to make up for lost opportunities are also interlinked with the previous questions and are a very important point in countries of the South.

4. The issue of health: Health is a basic question which has not been geared enough to women. It has to be seen in terms of nutrition (women are always the last to eat in the family in any culture) in terms of the whole life-span, in the knowledge and awareness of child conception, in the nursing of children, finally in old age (the marginalization of old women in many cultures is getting more and more serious). Another point which is very important in relation to health is the scarce importance given to adolescence health problems whether in industrialized or industrializing countries.

Environmental problems, related to health, air, water are here extremely relevant. The destruction of the planet, of its nature, of the harmony between humankind and nature, technology and nature, are strictly related to the health problems of the future and women will be specifically affected, as has been clearly demonstrated in cases of dioxine such as Seveso (Italy).

5. Men-women relations: This is the great question of the future at the basis of social as well as personal life. It is going to become more and more a problem as women become more and more conscious and aware of their selves and their rights and as men change because of socio-economic situations. Cultural elements, religious elements, economic elements are becoming more and more capable of affecting the relationship between men and women. We have to look at this question in the following terms: equality relationship or exploitation relationship, authoritarian relationship or participation relationship are present in the household. Such positions make a totally different family, make a totally different social group, make a totally different culture, make a totally different humanity.

All these aspects reflect themselves in the life of the couples, in the ways of life of the household in the institutions, in political life. The importance of man-woman relationship and the changes occurring is going to affect the status of women in the future. We need more research in the field and use of research existing not necessarily related to women's questions, but in different disciplines such as psychosociology or cultural anthropology.

6. Mass communication and women's images. The attitudes of women (and men also) within countries can be similar, within cultures they have elements of commonalities, between cultures they are very different. These differences and commonalities are transmitted through images and in the present time through

mass-media and the influence, from the political structure and from the socio-economic structures, on such attitudes are extremely important and are reflected and linked with the kind of participation in political life and in labour life which women have. The enforcement of traditional roles may appear in the mass-media because of scarce participation of women or modern roles related to industrialization and urbanization may be transmitted from one culture to the other thus becoming a colonizing tool.

For this reason the images of women which are transmitted have a great importance and must be carefully analysed because of their capacity to transfer themselves in the long term.

7. Women's integration in the development process: All the preceding issues are components of what we may call a major issue: the integration of women in the development process as basis for a New International Economic Order.

II. ALTERNATIVE RESPONSES BY WOMEN TO THE BASIC ISSUES AS INDICATIONS FOR ALTERNATIVE SCENARIOS

Description of Methodologies

We could take the approach of alternative scenarios of the world which would and could influence women in relation to the previously described issues. As scenarios tend to better describe alternatives as aids to decisions, we can also describe alternative scenarios on the basis of women's attitudes and actions towards global issues. This approach gives women an active position rather than a passive position in world dynamics and is based on the approach that rather than build a utopia or a distopia about the future of women we can here make projects about alternative futures based both on what is happening in the present and on what we wish should happen in the future. We shall in fact describe what is happening in the present in terms of projections into the future at the regional level in Part III. We shall here (in Part II) describe women's attitudes and actions in relations to the global issues in terms of what they wish to happen. It is a methodology which in this way is directed to change and action and not only to description. Both parts are in terms of scenarios as indicators of future developments of alternative situations.

We shall describe in Part II the scenarios on the basis of mainly qualitative variables as it is more on the basis of what should happen, while in Part III we shall describe alternative scenarios for different regions which will take into account both quantitative and qualitative variables. In these terms I shall try to describe alternative scenarios which, we must recall, take into account women who are born today and who will be 18 in the year 2000, women under 15 who are a great percentage of the population especially in the developing countries, and who will be 32 in the year 2000, women who are today 25 and will be 42 etc. In the final study different classes of age should be taken into account.

Hence we have in this part developed alternative scenarios where all the issues are indicated as global issues; such scenarios represent the normative aspect of this work as they are based on active participation of women and hence are not extrapolations from the past to the present and to the future, but are rather projects for the future at different levels.

1. Scenarios related to peace issue (see table)

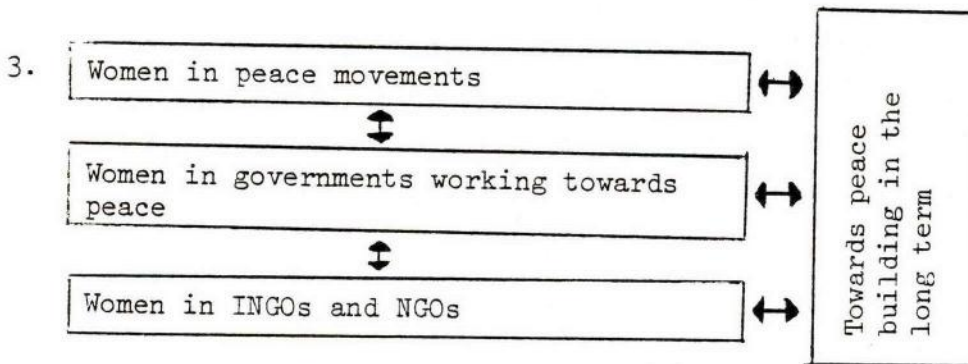
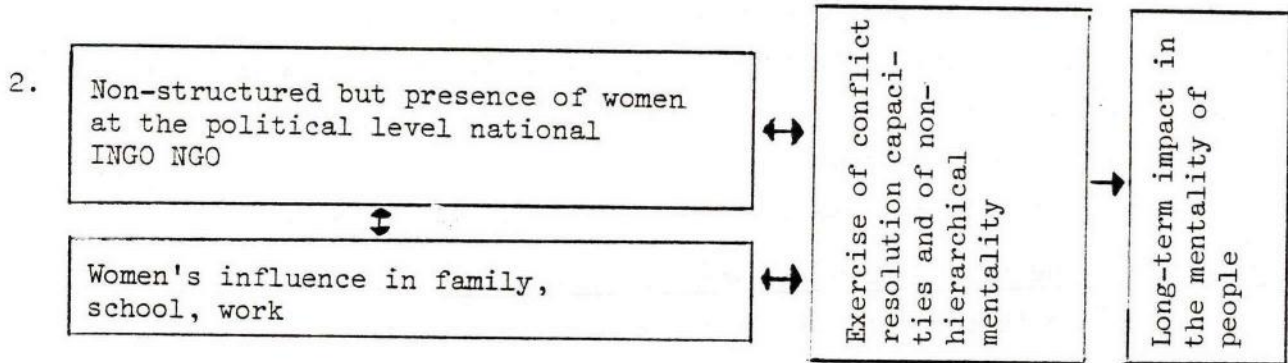
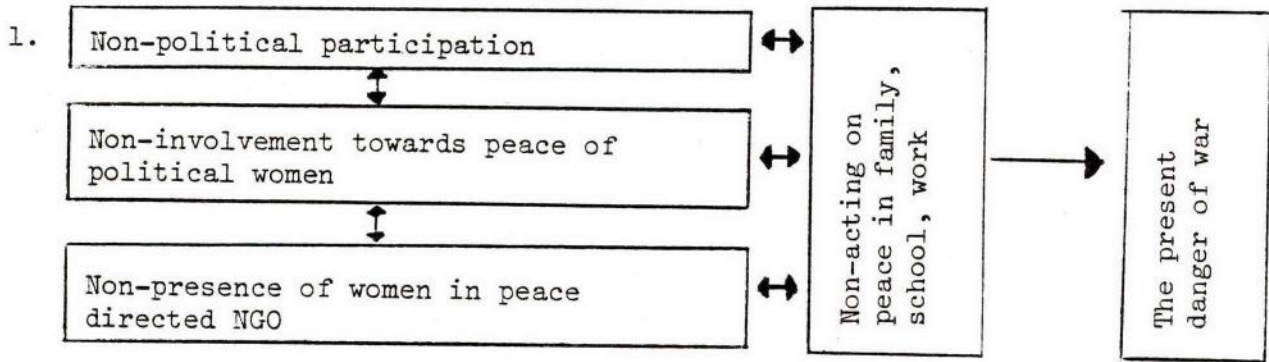
A first scenario could be one where women do not reinforce their public position on the question of peace. Here the links and contents between the private and the public sector are crucial. In this case:

(a) Women do not participate at the political level and do not make their presence clear in the respective countries or in the international governmental organizations on the question of peace when they have the chance of being in a public position;

(b) Women do not reinforce their position in non-governmental organizations (NGOs) which work for peace. On this point a very interesting study is that by Elise Boulding; 11/

(c) Women do not act as builders of peace in an oriented way of thinking and acting in the family, in the schools, in work. This would mean a scenario which would reinforce the already very dangerous trends which are working today towards war: many wars are breaking out continuously all over the world, the danger of upgrading militarization is growing and nuclear, as well as conventional weapons, are becoming more and more powerful and more and more extended both in the superpowers, in the other developed countries, or in the developing countries. This scenario would in fact mean the reinforcement of the present.

PEACE ISSUE SCENARIOS



The second scenario could be the one where:

(a) Women are more and more present at the political level even if they have not yet found a structural way of intervention whether at the governmental or non-governmental level. (This point of the present proposed study should have some aspects in relation to women's roles in the liberation movement);

(b) Women exercise influence towards peace in the family, in the school and in work. This could be seen as a long-term scenario which would have to find ways of evaluating women's impact in ten or twenty years.

A third scenario would become related to a strong impact of all movements related to peace in which women have an important role. We do not know much about the role of women in peace movements and it could be indeed a very important study for the United Nations to find what their role is and where it is explicated with their reinforcing possibilities for peace. The whole issue of women and their contribution to peace needs still much research in psychological and social terms as well as in policies indications.

2. Scenarios based on the issue of work and education (We shall consider the issues together in terms of scenarios because of the very close inter-connection between the two issues.) (See table)

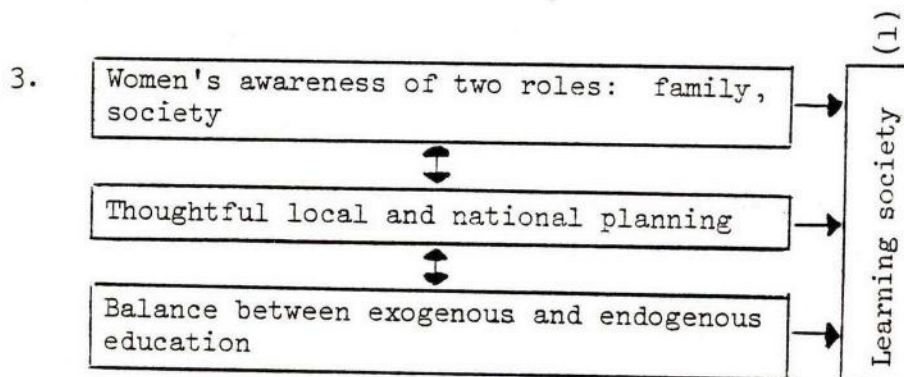
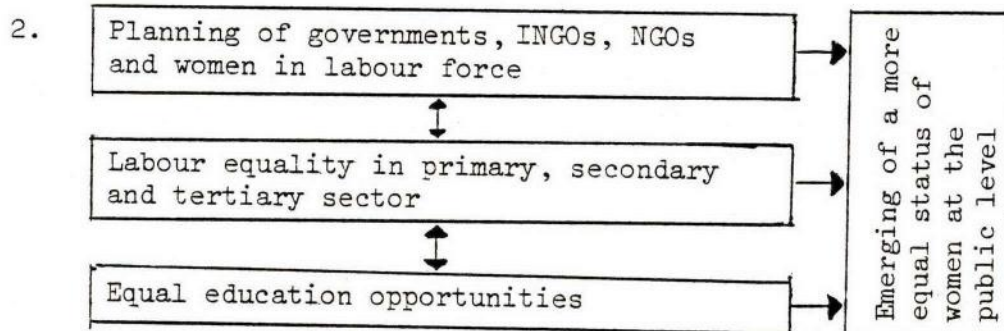
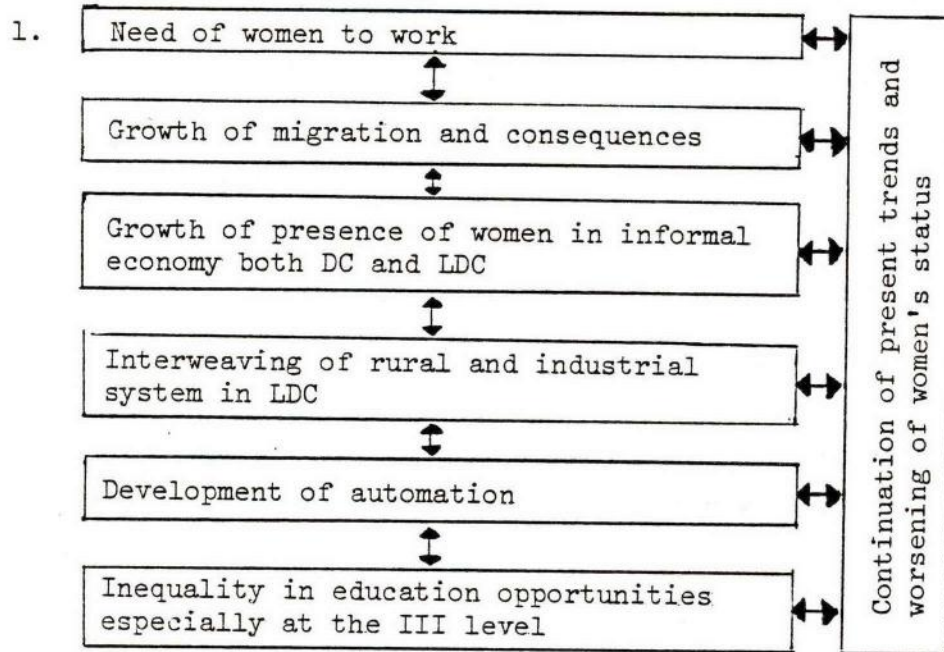
A first scenario could be based on major trends where:

(a) Women would be more and more involved in the informal economy as is produced within developed countries by the recession or in developing countries by the rapid urbanization process and by migration towards other regions or from one country to other countries which promise better and different possibilities of work within the region; ^{12/}

(b) The importance of automation and of microprocessors which pushes more and more women in the informal economy; ^{13/}

(c) This scenario is based on the central assumption that women need more and more to work outside the household so as to help the family (here are connected all the problems of women as heads of households whether for migration of men or for higher unemployment of women). ^{14/} (This part of further research and study could be developed at the regional level where some data already exist);

WORK AND EDUCATION ISSUE SCENARIOS



(1) A society which learns from itself.

(d) The undercounting of women in the labour force whether in rural or industrial sectors will grow;

(e) More and more interweaving of rural and industrial systems in developing countries; ^{15/}

(f) Educational inequality and the opportunities for girls at third level education are still severely limited except in specific situations. ^{16/}

A second scenario could be one where:

(a) Governmental and intergovernmental bodies insert in their planning the entrance of women in the labour force whether in the formal or informal economy. In such a way they take into account occupation, segregation and the growing number of educated women in search of work as well as time and conditions of work;

(b) Equal rights are also taken into account despite recession and inflation. In this scenario education of women at least at the alphabetization level is crucial. "Education is the crucial process in preparing for the future. The fate of individuals hangs on each person's preparation for occupation or larger lifetime career. The fate of society hangs on the creation and transmission of a culture that will provide solutions to such general problems as a diminishing supply of resources of the twin economic hazards of inflation and recession."

The present educational disadvantage of women highlights problems in both these realms. ^{17/ 18/ 19/}

(This part of the research and study should be supplemented by much existing research at the regional and country level.)

A third scenario is one where:

(a) Women are aware and learning about the importance of their two roles as mothers (the relationship of mother-child especially in the first years of life) ^{20/} and as workers and builders of society;

(b) The local and national planning takes into account in terms of human resources the capability of women according to their level of education (beyond the alphabetization). It also takes into account the possibility of men and women according to their capacity and their aspirations. (One of the most important factors of the present social problems is in fact the frustration with work);

(c) Development of laws for education equity; which at the same time takes into account the dangers of education which is exogenous and develops endogenous possibilities. (This part can be developed very much on existing research and study.)

3. Scenarios based on the health issue (see table)

A first scenario could be one where problems of women's health are taken into account within the general framework of health for all the population and not specifically for women.

A second scenario would be one where questions related specifically to women are taken into account both at the physical and psychic level.

(a) Women and the relationship with the child in the pre-natal period where it is now asserted that not only stimuli at the motorial and sensorial level are transmitted but also emotional and psychic stimuli between mother and child; 21/

(b) Women at the moment of birth of the child where many of the issues in positive or negative terms are created within the relationship between mother and child and from which the attitude of the child 22/ to the social relationships in general develops;

(c) Women in the time of feeding their child;

(d) Women in all other moments of their life;

(e) Women in old age, where marginalization causes many physiological and physical problems both in developed and developing countries.

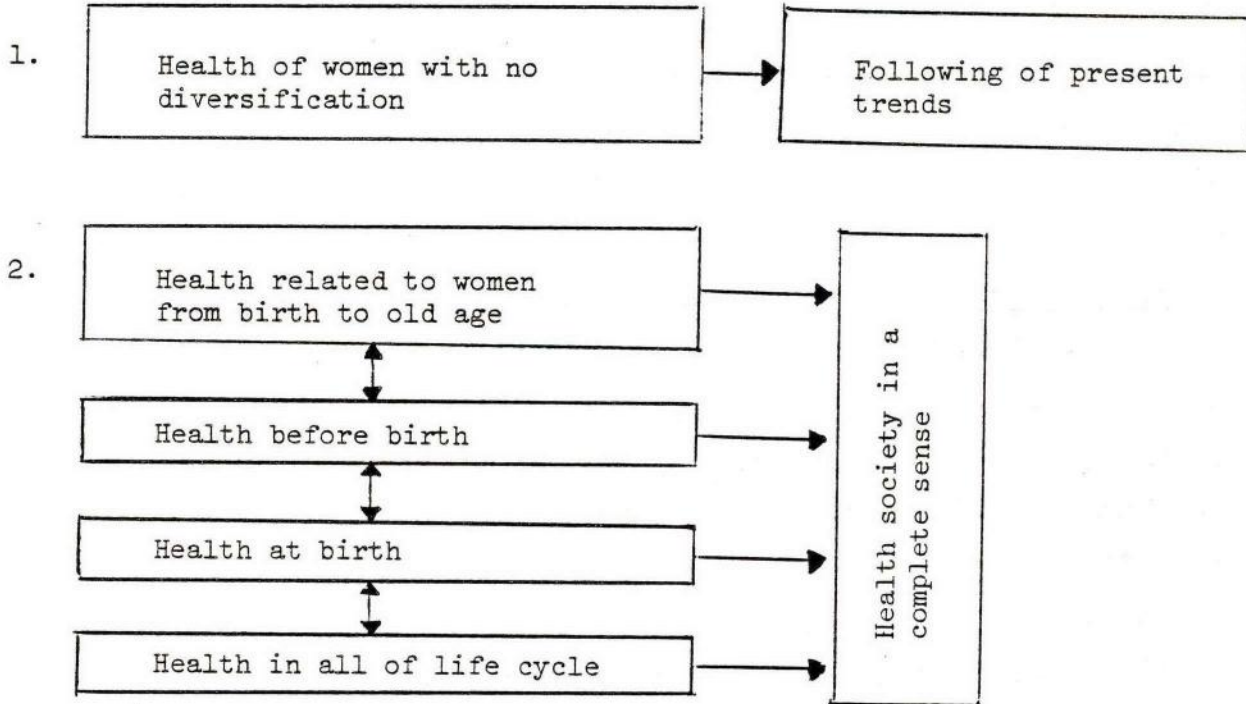
4. On women-men relationship issues: This part requires a great deal of research. The aspects of the relationship which are linked to cultural and religious elements have to be probed and looked upon in terms of different alternative scenarios (see table).

A first scenario is built on:

(a) Changes in family laws and women's rights which are very slow and perpetuate all the same the inequalities existing within the household. The same scenario could account for laws which although coming into being are not implemented in the society's behaviour for social, cultural or religious reasons;

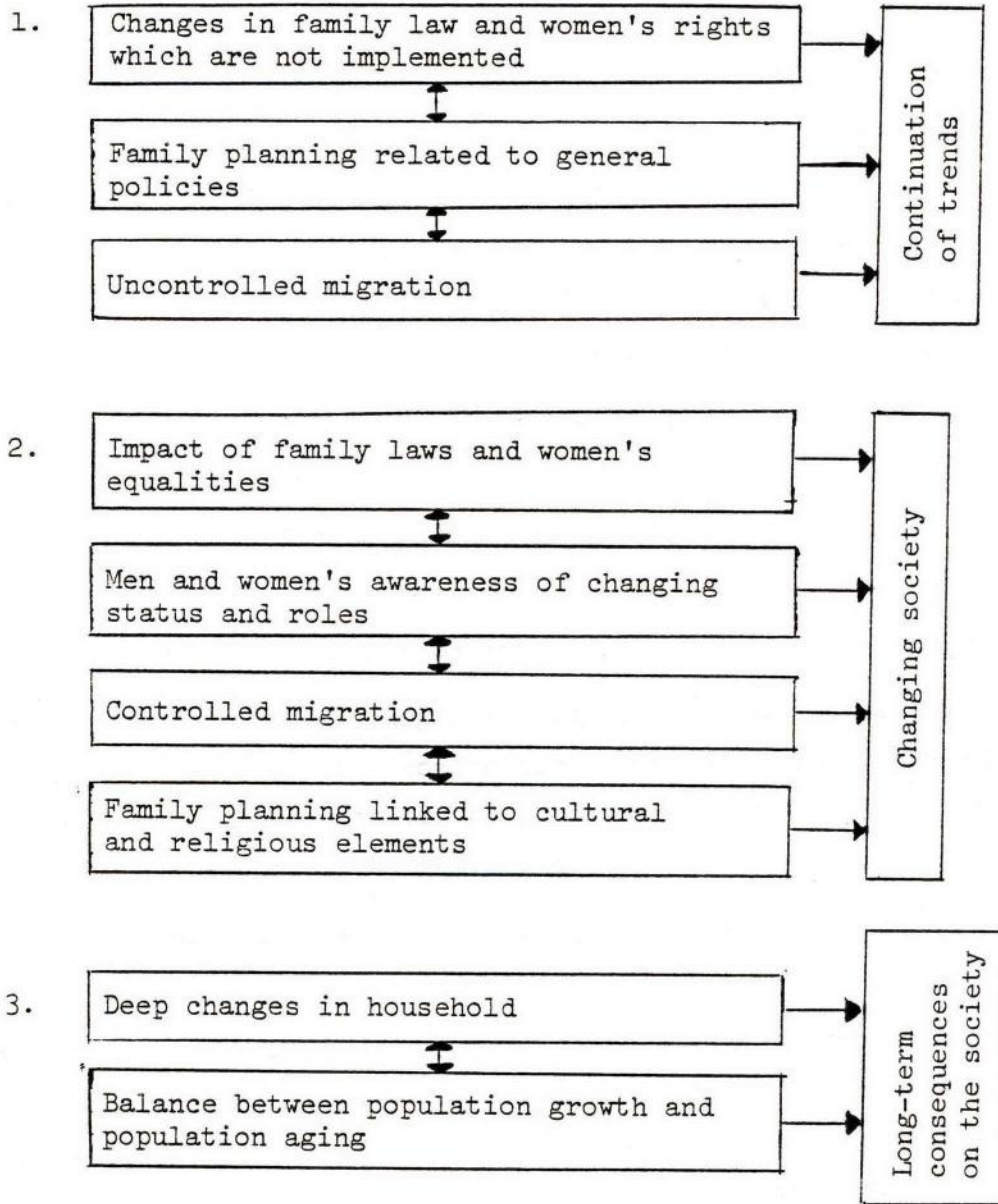
(b) Family planning is considered in relation to general policies;

HEALTH ISSUE SCENARIOS (1)



(1) Health of the whole human being from the physiological to the psychic elements.

WOMAN-MAN RELATIONSHIP ISSUE SCENARIOS



(c) Migration is uncontrolled and linked to specific and various interests of economic and political nature. This scenario is a continuation and reinforcement of the present.

A second scenario is one where:

(a) Family laws based on principles of equality between men and women have a real impact on the household itself, in work and educational institutions;

(b) Men and women recognize reciprocally rights and changing of status and roles (this part needs further work especially on long-term research although some data are available in some countries);

(c) Migration is controlled by countries and by regions in medium and long planning terms;

(d) Family planning is linked to understanding of cultural and religious constraints.

A third scenario is one at the much longer term than the year 2000 where:

(a) Family laws and equality of rights have gone deeply in institutions and permeate different cultural and religious approaches to the extent of being considered in different forms according to different cultures. (It is a deep change which nevertheless respects the cultural differences.);

(b) A moderate balance between the population growth and the aging of the population is reached as well as apt geographical distribution.

On the whole this part of the research needs mainly analysis of different research which already exists at regional and country level and could be used in a different perspective related to women's status and role. (Age classes in the year 2000 are here crucial.) 23/

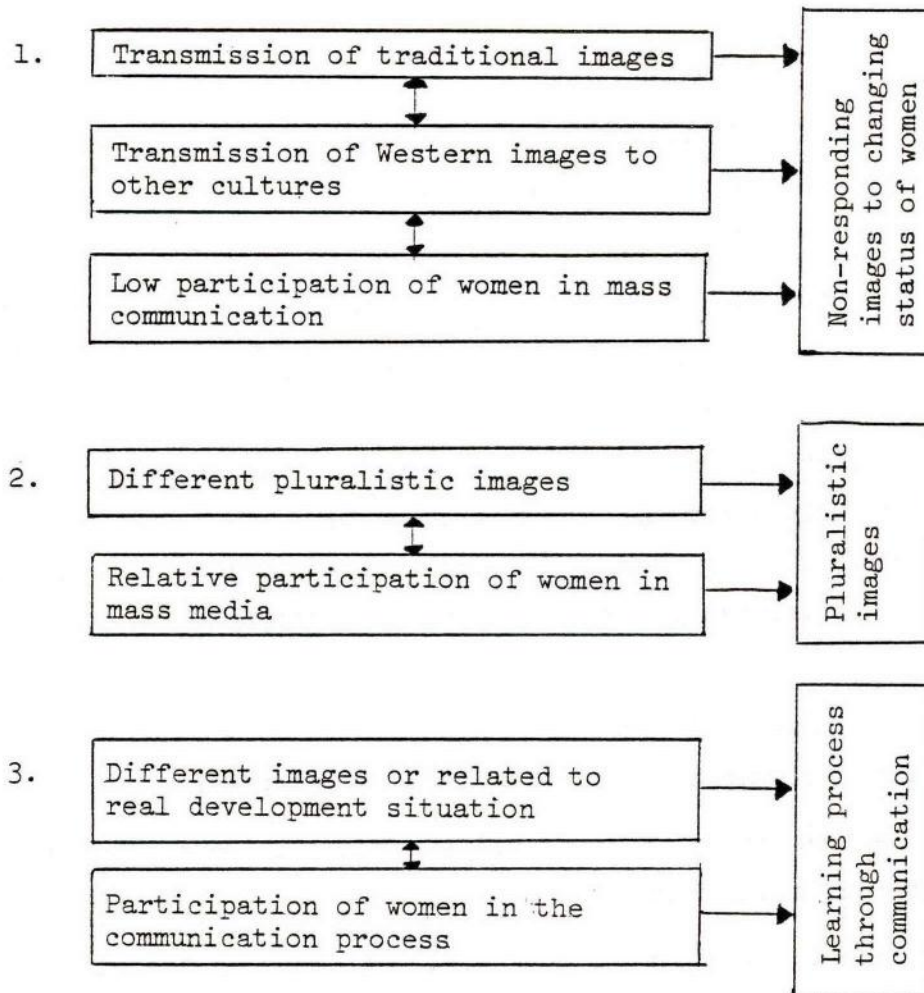
5. Mass-communication and women's image issue

This global problem may also find its relationship with the status of women in alternative terms through alternative scenarios.

A first scenario (see table) could be built:

(a) On transmission of images of women which are either strictly traditional (by this meaning linked to a society which is already disappearing and women may want it to disappear), or on a transmission of images which belong to the modernization process and are isolated from the specific cultures, these images in fact show the dominance of the West in terms of women's roles;

MASS COMMUNICATION AND WOMEN'S IMAGES ISSUES SCENARIO



Note:

All the presented scenarios can be see as:

- (1) continuation of the present;
- (2) moderate change;
- (3) long-term change.

(b) Low participation of women in the media communication process at every level.

A second scenario could be based:

(a) On the transmission of different and contrasting images of women: women at work, women in liberation movements, women in the rural field, women in changing roles in the family;

(b) A relative presence of women in the mass-communication process.

A third scenario for which I would like to refer to the work of Giele ^{24/} according to whom in relation to images the status of women seems to be particularly low in a society at the intermediate level of development of complexity (agrarian or early stages of industrialization) and is better in a primitive society (hunting and gathering or simple horticulture) as well as in an advanced society, industrially advanced. On this basis the scenario would present:

(a) Transmission of images of women of a specific society related to a given culture taking into account different levels of development;

(b) Women would be present in the mass-media communication process so as to be able to transmit real situations.

This part of the research would need much work but could at the same time use already existing material in specific contexts which should, though, be geared to the prospective aspect which is the character of the present work.

III. STATUS OF THE WOMEN IN VARIOUS REGIONS. VARIABLES AS BASIS FOR SCENARIOS

1. Methodology

The variables considered in this part are chosen because of their importance for different regions and as basis for alternative scenarios. They can in fact be different for different regions.

We shall attempt to indicate first some general variables which will be the same for each region: second, some specific variables for each region which are not exhaustive in the present formulation; third we shall formulate some specific issues which are considered as crucial but are also not exhaustive. All these three types of variables are needed for the building of scenarios on the status of women in the year 2000 in each region, taking into account the differentiations within regions.

The final choice of data in relation to sources or to the variables themselves should be part of the first phase of the project. We stress also in this paper the need of using the report by the Secretary-General on Development and International Economic Co-operation - "Long-term trends in economic development" of 26 May 1982 to be used in the general data. It is also proposed here that when building the scenarios the development growth perspective should be considered in terms of low, medium and IDS levels alongside the general variables.

We shall now, region by region, indicate the three categories of general variables, specific variables and issues which could be used for alternative scenarios.

These plus the development growth perspective would give way to alternative scenarios for each region (or subregion) in the number which could be of 5 or 7. Scenarios in fact emerge from the interlinkages between the various variables. In Part II we have shown a simplified type of scenario in the case of this part. Scenarios would be more complex due to the interlinkages of the many variables.

2. Africa

I. General variables (quantitative data; we shall here indicate only general variables). ^{25/}

(a) Population to the year 2020: 1,344,000,000;

(b) Per capita GNP in rate 1980: 760 dollars. ^{26/}

II. Specific variables (qualitative and quantitative data) on:

- Women and integration in development as emerging from different studies of ECA or in different countries which may have specific different variables;
- Level of education of women, rate of illiteracy, dropouts in Africa. Many are the national studies available; ^{27/}
- Women and the labour market according to rural, industrial or service sectors. Many studies exist but the criteria should be evaluated;
- Women heads of household. This variable needs research.

III. Specific issues crucial to the region involved ^{28/}

- Family laws, labour laws and status of women (e.g. registered and unregistered traditional marriages, Mapoto, etc). Some information exists; ^{29/}
- Indigenous technology and women's work. Some studies exist at country level;
- Modernization of women's work especially of rural workers. Some studies exist at country level;
- Data on female circumcision. Some studies exist at country level;
- Women's participation in the past and present in the liberation movements. This variable needs research;
- Women as contributors to mass-media. No information exists;
- Women and religious behaviour within the household and in work. This variable needs research.

3. Asia

I. General variables (quantitative data). ^{30/}

- (a) Population in the year 2020: 4,368,000,000;
- (b) Per capita GNP in rate 1980: 920 dollars. ^{31/}

II. Specific variables (qualitative and quantitative data) on:

- Women and work in different sectors in different parts of Asia (South East Asia, etc). Information exists; ^{32/}
- Special attention to rural women in the various subregions. Information exists; ^{33/}
- Level of education of women in the various subregions. Information exists in countries;
- Female status and fertility behaviour. Research is needed.

III. Specific issues crucial to the region involved ^{34/}

- Formal and non-formal education of women. Some studies exist; ^{35/}
- Women in informal economy. Some information exists;
- Women and semi-urban areas. Some information exists;

- Women's education and aspirations towards work and actual possibilities. The case of Sri Lanka as an indication for the future;
- Old women and their status within the family and within the society. Research is needed;
- Role of women in the Asian family (subregion and countries). In qualitative terms research could be carried out;
- Women and the caste system. Research is needed;
- Women in Hindu and Buddhist value system versus Victorian and imported system; 36/
- Women heads of household. Research is needed.

4. Latin America

I. General variables (quantitative data). 37/

(a) Population to the year 2020: 769,000,000;

(b) Per capita GNP in rate 1980: 1,910 dollars. 38/

II. Specific variables (qualitative and quantitative data) on:

- Rural and urban women population. Various studies exist;
- Women and work with specification of sectors. Studies exist;
- Women workers in informal economy. Some research exists;
- Women and domestic work. Research exists at country level;
- Level of education of women and work. Research exists;
- Women's role and the family (specifically number of children). Some research exists.

III. Specific issues crucial to the region involved 39/

- Authoritarianism and politics and labour repression; 40/
- Division of labour, technology and transformation of women as workers; 41/
- Women in domestic labour; 42/ 43/
- Rural workers and semi-urban workers and the family. Studies exist; 44/
- Women and the political motivation. 45/ Research is needed;

- Women in specific ethnic groups. Research is needed; 46/
- Women workers and motherhood. 47/ Research is needed, some exists;
- Women as heads of household. Research is needed.

5. North America

I. General variables (quantitative data). 48/

- (a) Population in the year 2020: 308,000,000;
- (b) Per capita GNP in rate 1980: 11,240 dollars. 49/

II. Specific variables (qualitative and quantitative data) on:

- Women and work in the labour population with specification of sectors; 50/ 51/
- Women and education, their presence in different types of schools; 52/
- Women and the family (divorce rate, number of children, etc). 53/

III. Specific issues crucial to the region involved 54/

- Changing sex roles in North America. Many studies exist in USA and Canada;
- Growing integration of private and public life. Many studies are available;
- Women and politics (their presence at various levels). Studies are available;
- Men's and women's participation in the family (alternation of work and motherhood). More research is needed;
- Restructuring of economic institutions in terms of women's work. Research is needed;
- Life expectancies and percentage of older population (specifically women). 55/

6. Europe

I. General variables (quantitative data). 56/ 57/

- (a) Population to the year 2020: 508,000,000
- (b) Per capita GNP in rate 1980: 7,990 dollars. 58/

II. Specific variables (qualitative and quantitative data)

- Women and the labour market. Many studies exist although they must be seen within their limitations related to undercounting of women in the labour market; 59/
- Women in the different sectors: rural, industrial and services. This variable also has studies and they also must be evaluated in their limitations;
- Women in the informal economy especially in France, Italy, and the United Kingdom. Specific research exists but more is needed;
- Women's role in the family (divorces, number of children, etc). Many studies exist but again they must be evaluated within their limitations.

III. Specific issues crucial to the region involved 60/

- Women and different levels of education and types of school; 61/
- Women and politics at different levels. Some information exists, more is needed;
- Men and women participation in the family. Research is needed;
- Life expectancy, aging of population and women. Research is needed; 62/
- Women and technology; the advent of automation in the tertiary sector; 63/
- Shifting of sexual roles and return of male migrants to countries of origin. Country and subregional studies are needed;
- Women in life cycles and changes in the life cycles. Research is needed;
- Women as family pushouts. 64/

IV. LIMITS OF THE PROPOSAL

We have presented for the various regions:

1. General variables as quantitative data, others must be added;
2. Specific variables to the region in question as quantitative and qualitative data which can be enlarged and specified on choices by regional experts;

3. Specific issues for each region which emerge from the author's knowledge of literature and experience, but must be debated and amplified correctly by regional experts.

The study is in fact one that can be developed only with researchers from the various regions who are participating in the field and with their personal knowledge, can really describe future scenarios. No one in fact can either pre-empt or fill the future for others.

The issues aspect shows the differences in regional terms and cannot be done except by experts in the region in question. The choice must be made on the criteria of issues which will be important in the year 2000. We must in fact underline that we are studying the future of women in the year 2000 and the choice of issues is in this context.

Part III of the present background paper is related to variables which can be the basis for alternative future scenarios, but they have to be related to Part II of the paper where the scenarios have already been described in preliminary terms in what can be called "a normative perspective", as they are the future which women wish to create, to build, while in the final scenarios as output of the present perspective studies, should be taken into account both what women wish to create (Part II) as well as what is happening which is described by scenarios emerging from the variables in Part III.

V. MODALITIES FOR UNDERTAKING STUDY

The modalities for carrying out the prospective study will be decided in the light of discussions to be held on this question as well as in the light of available time and resources.

Notes

- 1/ See Elise Boulding, in "Women in Twentieth Century World" Sage publication, 1977.
- 2/ E. Masini, La donna nel contesto europeo e mondiale, in "Verso una società con la donna", UECI, Roma, 1981.
- 3/ A. Toffler, The third Wave, W. Morrow and Co., New York, 1980.
- 4/ E. Masini, director of the research, "Education and youth employment: a problem for the future in Europe" - For Italian Ministry of Education, Rome, 1981.
- 5/ O. Muchena, A Socio-Economic Overview: Zimbabwe women, ATCRW, 1982.
- 6/ Catalina Wainerman, The Mythic Image of Human Resources: the case of female economic participation in Latin America, paper prepared for the meeting on "Household Gender and Age" of U.N.U, Rome, April 1982.
- 7/ Freda L. Paltiel: Shaping Future for women, in Women in Future research, Ed. M. Eichler and H. Scott, Women Studies International Quarter, Vol. 4 n. 1, 1981.
- 8/ J. Evans, The worker and the work place in microelectronics and society, ed. G. Friedrichs and A. Schaff, microelectronics and society. Pergamon Press, 1981.
- 9/ I. Miles and J. Irvine, The Poverty of Progress, Changing ways of life in industrial societies, SID, UNU, Pergamon Press, 1982.
- 10/ M. Cordell McHale and J. McHale, Women in World Terms, Facts and Trends, Center for Integrative Studies of New York at Bingampton, 1975.
- 11/ Elise Boulding, Women in the Twentieth Century, op. cit.
- 12/ E. Boulding, id. p. 25-32.
- 13/ G. Friedrichs and A. Schaff, id. p. 165-167.
- 14/ M. Rey De Marulanda, Empleo, pobreza y condiciones de vida de los hogares urbanos en donde el jefe es una mujer: el caso de Colombia, paper presented at Universidad de Manchester, 1982.
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- 18/ E. Alterman Blay, Trabalho Domesticado: a Mulher na Industria Paulista, Editore Atice, Sao Paulo, 1978.
- 19/ R. Flores Medina, Caracteristicas de la Mano de O bra Feminina en Lima metropolitana, 1980, Mass.
- 20/ E. Bonilla De Ramos, The condition of working mothers of pre-school children, Mass, 1982.
- 21/ M. Mancina, "On the beginning of mental life in the foetus", in Int. Psycho-Analysis, 1981, 62/351.

22/ B. Jordan, Birth in four cultures, Eden Press, Women's Publications, Montreal, 1980.

23/ M. Cordell McHale and J. McHale, op. cit., p. 53.

24/ Janet Zollinger Giele: Symbolic portrayal of male and female - Women in the Future, op. cit. p. 330.

25/ The general data are taken from the World Population Data Sheet of 1982. Other data could be used such as birth rate, death rate, infant mortality, fertility rate, population rate, life expectancies, urban population.

26/ Here different and alternative levels of growth in terms of projection should be considered.

27/ ECA/ATCRW, Various researches, see Manual of Information for women in Africa, 1982 and Bibliographies produced by ATCRW.

28/ The issues are chosen according to the author's knowledge and are not necessarily exhaustive.

29/ O. Muchena, op. cit.

30/ See footnote 25.

31/ See footnote 26.

32/ R. Jahan and H. Papanek, Women and Development: Perspectives from South and South East Asia, Bangladesh, Institute for Law and International Affairs, Dacca, 1979.

33/ Marga Institute, Case study from Sri Lanka, 1980.

34/ See footnote 28.

35/ Shamina Islam, Strengthening non-formal education for Women in Bangladesh, in Women and Development, op. cit.

36/ Padma Edirisinghe, From a Woman Diary, Novel dedicated to the International Women's Year, 1975.

37/ See footnote 25.

38/ See footnote 26.

39/ See footnote 28.

40/ Velho O., The State in the Frontier, in "the Structure of Brazilian Development", ed. N. Aguilar, Transaction Books, New Jersey, 1979.

41/ N. Aguilar, Division of Labour, Technology and Social Stratification in "the Structure of Brazilian Development", op. cit.

42/ N. Rey de Marulanda, El Trabajo de la Mujer, Centro de Estudio sobre Desarrollo Economico, Facultad de Economia, Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia, 1981, Doc. 063.

43/ E. Alterman Bly, Trabajo Domesticado, Editora Atica, Sao Paulo, Brasil, 1978.

44/ R. F. Medina, op. cit. and N. Aguilar, op. cit.

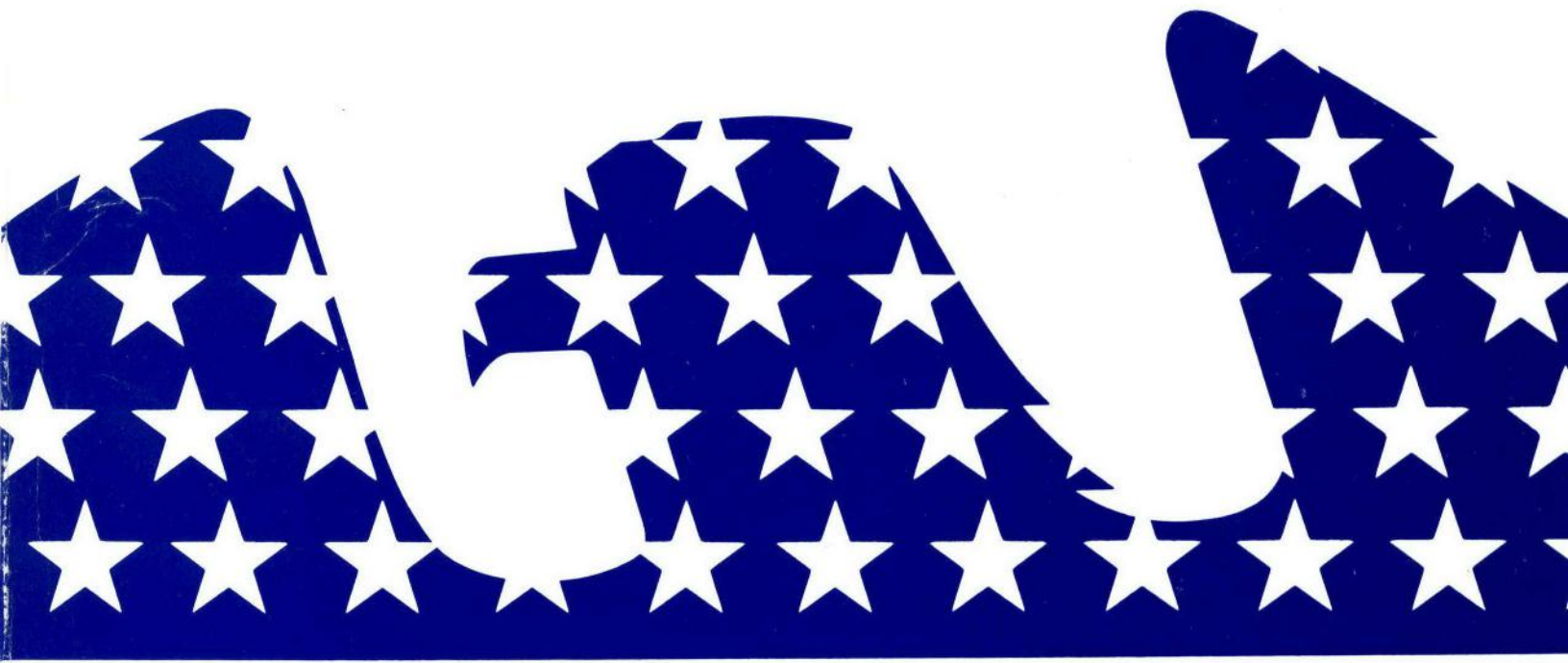
45/ F. Taback, M. Toscano, Mujer Politica, Paz y Terra, 1982.

46/ Bibliography; La mujer en el Peru, Congreso de Investigacion acerca de la mujer en la region andina, Lima, Peru, 1982.

47/ E. De Ramos, op. cit.

- 48/ See footnote 25.
- 49/ See footnote 26.
- 50/ J. Zollinger Giele, *Women in Future Research*, op. cit.
- 51/ M. Blaxall and B. Reagan, *Women and the Work Place*, University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 1976.
- 52/ M. Cordell McHale and J. McHale, op. cit. p. 32-37.
- 53/ M. Cordell McHale and J. McHale, id. p. 43-47.
- 54/ See footnote 28.
- 55/ M. Cordell McHale and J. McHale, id. p. 21-35.
- 56/ See footnote 25.
- 57/ Distinctions must be made in Europe especially between Western and Eastern Europe. The following indications are related to Western Europe; for Eastern Europe a supplementary of background study should be done:
- 58/ See footnote 26.
- 59/ CEFRES, *Travail et Emploi vers quelle société*, Lisbon, 1979.
- 60/ See footnote 28.
- 61/ M. Cordell McHale and J. McHale, op. cit. p. 33-37.
- 62/ M. Cordell McHale and J. McHale, op. cit. p. 21-25 and 49-52.
- 63/ G. Friedrichs and A. Schaff, op. cit.
- 64/ F. L. Palpiel, "Shaping Future for Women" in *Women in Future Research*, Quarterly, Pergamon Press, Vol. 4 N.1, 1981.

A.I.D. Policy Paper
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT



U.S. Agency for International Development
Washington, D.C. 20523
October 1982

World Bank views on the issues and themes of the World Conference for review and appraisal. The achievements of the UN decade for women have been reflected in the document for this item on the agenda. It seems appropriate at this time to inform the SSW, acting as the preparatory body for the Conference, on some of the efforts of the World Bank group towards the goals of the decade and in preparation for the Conference.

Many of the important ^{reports issued} issues by the Bank have indicated serious concern for the involvement of women in development. One example is the WDR of 1982, the major theme of which was agricultural development, demonstrated the close association between rapid progress in agriculture and rapid growth in overall development of a developing country. It points out the major role of small farmers in the process of agricultural growth, the contribution of female farmers and the need for giving greater attention to ways of ensuring their access to inputs which will enhance the productivity of their efforts. Since nearly 1/3 of World Bank loans are for agriculture and rural development and in view of the food situation, which my colleague of FAO recently cited, ensuring ~~that~~ ^{is} the access of women is not insignificant.

Also published in 1982 was a report based on assessment of the effectiveness of assistance to some 80 countries over a period of more than 20 years, by the International Development Association, the agency of the World Bank group which makes available development financing ~~on~~ concessionary terms. The major conclusion of the Report was the tremendous success in promoting development in the world poorest nations. It also noted some mistakes and, among those related to the design of projects contributing to limiting the effectiveness of certain projects, was that they placed inadequate emphasis on social and cultural issues, on the participation of the population in the project areas, and in particular the ways in which women affected or were affected by the project intervention.

Several large ^{and small} research projects, financed by the Bank with a view to improving its efficiency as a development agency, have contributed additional information about women which reinforces the place of a concern for women in effort to promote the most effective and productive use of scarce development resources ^{as well as} and the potential cost of overlooking this contribution.

Such reports ^{are} those which are widely read by the development community are contributing to changing ^{includes} attributes of planners and decision makers, which, as has been noted, is a pre-requisite for increasing allocation ^{of resources} for improving the situation of women.

We are discussing the preparations for the Conference at a time, when the world economy is in crisis, a crisis that affects seriously the resources available to the WBG for lending to provide ^{note} ~~more~~ development. In the world press of the last 2 weeks, there was much discussion of the new Brandt Commission Report "Common Crisis: North-South Cooperation for World Recovery", a report which outlined the severe human difficulties that are a product of global economic strains. ^{and women are particularly hard pressed.} Bank member countries faced tremendous immediate problems of large debt repayment, high energy costs and the need to make difficult structural adjustments in their economies. In the face of these problems, WB ~~and~~ member governments decide what they will borrow and the shape of the projects for which they will use loans. It is thus more than ever incumbent on us to ensure that the advice we give is economically and politically sound. This applies with double force to issues, such as women's involvement. In this connection, we have increased our efforts to improve the quantity ^{of participation} and ^{ment} measures of the contribution of women, and to develop indications and other tools which make it easier to incorporate them into development policy and planning. We hope that these ^{will} issues be accorded some priority in the Conference.

Many of the substantive issues mentioned by distinguished delegates in their statements are included in projects financed by Bank loans and we have selectively been studying their special implication for women. These include the special issues in social forestry, the implications of technology, the female dimension in employment strategy. We will draw on these studies for ^{any} the best report ^{required} of the B. for this conference.

Since 1981, the Bank has initiated a programme of W.I.D. training workshops for Bank staff, designed to assist them to understand and analyse the issues.

They are then better able to incorporate them in their appraisals ^{project} of design. ^(and feasibility)
The workshops also put staff in a better position to include discussion of women's contribution to development, in their policy dialogue with governments which is an important part of our work. We have developed interesting training material and pedagogical processes for these workshops and intend to publish these shortly. There has ^{ve} been severe ^{al} request ~~on development resources and the~~ other ^{development} agencies for us to assist in organizing similar training programmes for their staff.

In collaboration with UNDP and other agencies in the UN system, we intend to evaluate the implications for women of projects undertaken with Bank loans in selected countries. Those will include not only projects, whose design gave specific consideration to women, but perhaps more important, projects such as those to develop road networks and irrigation ^{schemes} in which concern for women frequently and erroneously is considered irrelevant. This evaluation will be of use to the countries in their development efforts, and to the Bank ^{both} in its dialogue with the country and as well as in improving its policies and processes, ^{we consider} and that the ~~heter~~ to unexplored complementarity of the efforts of the several agencies which participate will suggest ways in which we might make the use of the limited resources more efficient.

W.B. participated in the Inter-Agency Meeting earlier this week, to discuss the contributions of agencies to the preparations ^{for} of the Conference. We have undertaken to join our efforts with those of the rest of the system and look forward to the decisions and clarifications on the themes and issue which the decision of this Meeting will offer us.

ft

August 25, 1982

Mrs. Leticia Shahani
Assistant Secretary-General
for Social Development and
Humanitarian Affairs
United Nations Office at Vienna
P.O. Box 500
A-1400 Vienna
Austria

Dear Mrs. Shahani:

I refer to Mr. Yolah's letter of June 28, 1982 concerning General Assembly resolution 36/74 on a "Comprehensive Outline of a World Survey on the Role of Women in Development". He asked for Bank documents on the annotated outline of the survey as well as an indication of possible Bank collaboration with the study.

The proposed survey is comprehensive; relevant World Bank experience on which the survey could draw is concentrated in the agriculture, industry, and forestry sectors. The main issues which women face in the implementation of Bank-assisted projects and the Bank's approach to dealing with these issues are summarized in the following papers prepared by the Bank's Adviser on women in development and which are attached.

- 1) Women in Agriculture: Review of Some Sector Reports
- 2) Note on Some Activities of The World Bank Related to Women in Industry
- 3) Forestry Projects and Women.

"Project Design Issues" (copy attached) also covers a number of concerns relating to women at the earliest stages of the project cycle, including implications for technology choice; however, no similar experience in the role of women in relation to trade or money and finance has been undertaken.

Mrs. Shahani

- 2 -

August 25, 1982

Following your review of these papers, the Bank's Adviser on Women in Development, Mrs. Gloria Scott, would be pleased to follow up on any relevant gaps in the material which you might identify, and to comment on the consolidated outline, if requested.

Yours sincerely,

Atts.

L. Peter Chatenay
External Relations Adviser
International Relations Department

Cleared with & cc: Mrs. Scott ✓

Files with incoming letter

CBoucher:mmcd

ms. Scott

J.L

August 24, 1982

Dear Mrs. Shahani:

I am replying to Mr. Yolah's letter, No. SO 248/1(1) of June 29, inviting the views of The World Bank on the issues and themes for the 1985 World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women.

1. As it is the purpose of the Conference to review and appraise the achievements of the Decade, we suggest that evaluation should be the Conference's main theme, the framework for this being the Plan of Action and the Programme of Action adopted at the Mexico and Copenhagen Conferences respectively. This would bring in also the strategy for the Third Development Decade and resolutions of other conferences, for example, the conference on Science and Technology for Development, that were related to the Plan and Programme. The report on progress should be the main feature of the Conference, and the agenda, we suggest, should be so designed as to enable meaningful examination of the report. This examination should help to identify whatever factors may have inhibited more rapid progress. In this connection, we agree with the comments in para. 68 of Chapter IV of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women transmitted with Mr. Yolah's letter, that the Plan and Programme provide an adequate basis for action. Given the effort that went into their preparation, the Conference should not be devoted to their revision. Rather, having identified the limiting factors, it should concentrate on proposing action to deal with those factors. As the Commission notes (Chapter IV, para. 70), it is important that the action which is proposed can feasibly be undertaken by the national decision makers who must implement the recommendations.

2. While we recognize that progress for women is an element of development progress in general and cannot be achieved in isolation from the political context, we venture to express the hope that the Conference will be able to avoid diversion of time and effort into discussion of political ideologies.

...r.Cont'd

3. We agree with the Commission that it is desirable that the Conference agenda remain fluid for as long as possible. However, we would expect priority issues to include overall employment; health conditions and availability of basic services in rural areas; agriculture and food production; women in decision-making positions (including positions in international agencies; and the situation of refugees (women and children).

4. In addition to these topics, which relate to the situation of women per se, we suggest that the following methodological issues also merit the attention of the Conference: development of indicators for measuring progress; methodology for integrating the female dimension in development planning; and effective dissemination of information and exchange of experience.

5. Finally, the agenda might usefully call for consideration of ways to increase the effectiveness of national machinery, including specifically the machinery of non-governmental organizations.

6. With regard to documentation for the Conference, we suggest that resources be concentrated on (i) an analysis of the review and a statistical annex, as comprehensive as possible; (ii) short practical proposals for specific action on the critical factors; (iii) sound methodological papers (practice not theory) on indicators, development planning, and national machinery. These should be complemented by national and international reports.

7. Since the Conference will be reporting on national and international actions, we wonder whether consideration might be given to omitting the customary statements in the plenary sessions which have in the past added little and have primarily presented the same information. It would be innovative to eliminate this time-consuming and costly feature of international conferences; an equivalent amount might much more effectively be expended as a contribution to the Voluntary Fund for Women.

8. Mr. Yolah's letter asks what the Bank might do by way of preparation for the Conference. It is collaborating with an informal inter-agency group on a proposal for a joint assessment of the contributions of the participating agencies to the objectives of the Decade. In addition to the evaluation information, the group hopes to generate, the methods and instruments may prove of interest for future use.

.....Cont'd

Mrs. Leticia R. Shahani

- 3 -

August 24, 1982

Further planning is needed, but by the time of the 1983 meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women, details should be available. In addition, we expect to prepare a sequel to the "Invisible Woman in Development" which was submitted to the 1975 Conference, and would expect to mount a photo display if display space will be available.

Lastly, we would expect to provide you with information on Bank activities as required and, to the extent possible, we would review and comment on draft papers on issues which are of concern to the Bank, or on which we have substantive knowledge.

I hope this reply will be helpful.

Sincerely,

Shirley Boskey
Director
International Relations Department

Mrs. Leticia R. Shahani
Assistant Secretary-General
for Social Development and
Humanitarian Affairs
Vienna International Centre
P.O. Box 500, A-1400
Vienna, Austria

cc: Mrs. Scott, Mr. de Lusignan, Mr. Boucher

GScott/SEBoskey/eb

DRAFT

8/23/82

GScott:jet

Mrs. Leticia R. Shahani
Assistant Secretary-General
for Social Development and
Humanitarian Affairs
Vienna International Centre
P. O. Box 500, A-1400
Vienna, Austria

Dear Mrs. Shahani:

I am replying to Mr. Yolah's letter, No. SO 248/1(1) of 29 June, requesting our views on the issues and themes for the 1985 World Conference. As the purpose of the Conference, as indicated in its title, is to review and appraise the achievements of the UN Decade for Women, we feel that evaluation should be its main theme, the framework for this being the Plan and Programme of Action. This would bring in also DD III strategy and resolutions of later conferences, e.g., S&T, that were tied to the Plan and Programme. The report on progress should be the main feature of the Conference and the agenda should be set up so that it can be examined meaningfully. This examination should help to identify factors that had prevented more rapid progress and lead the Conference to suggest future priorities. In this connection, we agree with the comments in Chapter IV, para 68 of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women. Given the amount of effort that went into the preparation of these documents, the time of the Conference should not be wasted on yet another rewrite. Rather, it should be concentrated on the limiting factors and trying to specify actions to deal with these. As the commission notes (para. 70), it is important that these proposed actions are in terms that are feasible for national decision makers who must implement them.

2. Recognizing that progress for women cannot be achieved in isolation from the political situation, we would hope that the Conference could avoid diverting its efforts into fruitless discussion of ~~the~~ political ideologies.

3. We agree with the Commission, that it is desirable that the agenda be left fluid for as long as possible. The timing of the preparation of the review would be critical, and among the areas to which we expect, it would direct the attention of the Conference are:

- overall employment;
- health conditions and availability of basic services in rural areas;
- agriculture and food production;
- women in decision-making positions (including International Agencies);
- the situation of refugees (women and children).

These relate to the situation of women per se. We feel that the following methodological issues also need the attention of the Conference:

- development of indicators for measuring progress;
- methodology for integrating the female dimension in development planning;
- effective dissemination of information and exchange of experiences.

We would suggest these two sets of issues for inclusion in the Agenda.

4. I would expect positive progress on the establishment of national machinery, but the Conference might look at ways to increase their effectiveness. This review should include NGO machinery. (Putting NGOs on the Agenda in this way may serve to temper the divisiveness and acrimony of previous conferences.)

5. With regard to the documentation for the Conference, we suggest that it would be most efficient to concentrate resources on (i) a good analysis of the review and a statistical annex, as comprehensive as possible; (ii) short practical proposals for action on the critical factors (how-to's to the extent possible); (iii) sound methodological papers (practice not theory) on indicators, development planning, and national machinery. These would be complemented by the national and international reports.

6. Since the Conference essentially is reporting on national and international actions, does its format have to provide for plenary statements which will merely repeat this information? Couldn't women be innovative and do away with this costly feature of international conferences, and make a daring proposal such as putting the equivalent amount into the Voluntary Fund for Women?

7. With respect to the Bank's contribution to the Conference, (i) we are collaborating with an informal inter agency group on a proposal for a joint assessment of our agencies' contribution to the objectives of the Decade. In addition to the evaluation information, we hope to generate, our procedures which may be interesting for future use. Further planning is needed, but by the time of the 1983 meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women, we would make the details available.

(ii) The Bank report to the Conference will probably be a sequel to "Invisible Woman..."}, and we will prepare a photo display if display space will be available.

(iii) We would expect to provide you with, for the Conference documentation, information on Bank activities as required, and to the extent possible, we would review and comment on draft papers on issues which are of concern to the Bank, or on which we have substantive knowledge.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Shirley Boskey
Director
International Relations Department

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Mrs. Shirley Boskey, Director, IRD

DATE: August 12, 1982

FROM: Gloria Scott, PAS

SUBJECT: Some Views on the 1985 World Conference - UN Decade for Women

1. As the purpose of the Conference, as indicated in its title, is to review and appraise the achievements of the UN Decade for women, evaluation should be its main theme, the framework for this being the Plan and Programme of Action. This would bring in also DD III strategy and resolutions of later conferences, e.g., S&T, that were tied to the Plan and Programme. The report on progress should be the main feature of the Conference and the agenda should be set up so that it can be examined meaningfully. This examination should help to identify factors that had prevented more rapid progress and lead the Conference to suggest future priorities. In this connection, I agree with the CSW report (para. 68, p. 33).

2. Given the amount of effort that went into the preparation of these documents, the time of the Conference should not be wasted on yet another rewrite. Rather, it should be concentrated on the limiting factors and trying to specify actions to deal with these. As the CSW notes (para. 70), it is important that these proposed actions are in terms that are feasible for national decision makers who must implement them.

3. Recognizing that nothing can be done in isolation from the political situation, it would be great if the Conference could avoid diverting its efforts into fruitless discussion of the NIEO, and as now mentioned in these papers, the NIMO (Monetary).

4. I am not sure how this can be arranged, but it is desirable, as noted by CSW, that the agenda be left fluid for as long as possible. The timing of the preparation of the review would be critical. Among the areas in which I would expect relatively poor performance and thus, to need the attention of the Conference are:

- overall employment;
- health conditions and availability of basic services in rural areas;
- agriculture and food production;
- women in decision-making positions (including International Agencies);
- the situation of refugees (women and children).

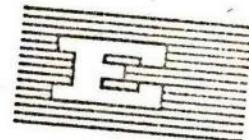
Also needing the attention of the Conference, but of a different order, progress is likely to be limited on,

- development of indicators for measuring progress;
- methodology for integrating the female dimension in development planning;
- effective dissemination of information and exchange of experiences.

These two sets of issues would be my suggestions for inclusion in the Agenda.

5. I would expect positive progress on the establishment of national machinery, but the Conference might look at ways to increase their effectiveness. This review should include NGO machinery. (Putting NGOs on the Agenda in this way may serve to temper the divisiveness and acrimony of previous conferences.)
6. With regard to the documentation for the Conference, the two previous conferences have had too much. I do not think the C.S.D.H.A. has now, or is likely to get, the competence for much conceptual work. (The garbled paper for the CSW, (E.CN 6/1982/8) is an example.) Their resources might most usefully be concentrated on (i) a good analysis of the review and a statistical annex, as comprehensive as possible; (ii) short practical proposals for action on the critical factors (how-to's to the extent possible); (iii) sound methodological papers (practice not theory) on indicators, development planning, and national machinery. These would be complemented by the national and international reports.
7. Since the Conference essentially is reporting on national and international actions, does its format have to provide for plenary statements which will merely repeat this information? Couldn't women be innovative and do away with this costly feature of international conferences, and make a daring proposal such as putting the equivalent amount into the Voluntary Fund for Women?
8. With respect to the Bank's contribution to the Conference, (i) we are collaborating with an informal inter agency group on a proposal for a joint assessment of our agencies contribution to the objectives of the Decade. Our intention is to do this on a limited number of countries (my memo of 4 June refers). I am preparing for our next meeting, a draft outline from which we hope to develop an evaluation instrument which agencies can use. In addition to the evaluation information we hope to generate, the instrument and method may be interesting for future use. Further planning is needed, but by the time of the 1983 CSW meeting, we would make the details available.
 - (ii) I propose to do a sequel to "Invisible Woman..." which is now out of print in all languages, except Japanese. I hope to get it out in 1983, but it could still be submitted to the Conference.
 - (iii) The last photo display was very successful, it is still being shown, and I propose to prepare another, assuming that display space will be available.
 - (iv) We would expect to provide for the Conference documentation, information on Bank activities as required.
 - (v) To the extent possible, we would review and comment on draft papers on issues which are of concern to the Bank, or on which we have substantive knowledge.
9. I would appreciate your reactions (mark-up) on the basis of which I will prepare a draft reply to the 29 June letter.

UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.6/1982/8
12 February 1982

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
Twenty-ninth session
Vienna, 24 February-5 March 1982
Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

PREPARATIONS FOR THE 1985 WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW
AND APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS
DECADE FOR WOMEN

Preparations for the World Conference of the United Nations
Decade for Women to be held in 1985

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

This report has been prepared pursuant to the requests contained in General Assembly resolutions 35/136 and 36/126. In section I, the report discusses possible issues and themes for the 1985 Conference in the light of experiences during the United Nations Decade for Women. In section II, it examines organizational questions to be addressed in preparing for the 1985 Conference.

* E/CN.6/1981/1 and Corr.1.

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INTRODUCTION

1. In its resolution 35/136 of 11 December 1980, the General Assembly decided to convene in 1985, at the conclusion of the United Nations Decade for Women, a world conference to review and appraise the achievements of the Decade. Subsequently, at its thirty-sixth session, the Assembly adopted resolution 36/126 of 14 December 1981, in which, inter alia, it requested the Commission on the Status of Women, at its session to be held in 1982,

"To give priority to the question of the preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women ... with a view to submitting to the General Assembly, at its thirty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, specific proposals on that question."

2. In response to those resolutions and in order to assist the Commission in carrying out its task, the Secretary-General has prepared the present report. It considers two major interrelated concerns:

(a) The range and selection of specific substantive issues and themes which could form the basis of an agenda for the Conference;

(b) The organizational arrangements to be undertaken for the preparations of the Conference.

I. PROPOSED ISSUES AND THEMES

A. The context

3. The proclamation of International Women's Year by the General Assembly in its resolution 3010 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972 was a significant milestone in precipitating intensified action to promote equality among men and women, ensuring the integration of women in the total development effort, and increasing the contribution of women to the strengthening of world peace.

4. The World Conference of the International Women's Year, held in Mexico City, adopted the Declaration of Mexico on the Equality of Women and their Contribution to Development and Peace 1975, 1/ in which it decided to promulgate important principles in support of the objectives of International Women's Year: equality, development and peace. It also adopted a World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year. 2/ The Mexico City Conference brought into full focus the seriously disadvantaged position of women in all aspects of national and international development processes and strategies. Since the 1950s, the world has experienced rapid economic, social, political, cultural and technological progress. However, this progress was not fully reflected in the rate of improvement of the women's situation and status in society. The Mexico City Conference was most significant in drawing world attention to the neglected condition and problems of women within the context of modern society. Both the Declaration of Mexico and the World Plan of Action set the framework and provided the vital impetus for national, regional and international action to redress the structural and institutional imbalances which have contributed to women's adverse situation in society. These initiatives led to the proclamation by the General Assembly of a United Nations Decade for Women, 1976-1985: Equality, Development and Peace, to be devoted to sustained action to implement the World Plan of Action and related resolutions. The triple objectives of equality, development and peace remain fundamental to all efforts to integrate women in political, economic, social and cultural life.

5. The second world conference on women, the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, convened in Copenhagen from 14 to 30 July 1980, inter alia, reviewed the progress made at national, regional and international levels towards achieving the objectives of the Decade within the framework of the Plan of Action. This Conference reaffirmed the main principles which were enunciated at Mexico. It further adopted a Programme of Action for the Second Half

1/ Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, Mexico City, 19 June-2 July 1975 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1), chap. 1.

2/ Ibid., chap. II, sect. A.

of the United Nations Decade for Women, ^{3/} in which the fields of employment, health and education were identified as major themes for more concerted efforts to achieve improvements in the conditions of women. The Programme delineated specific national, regional and international level action necessary to ensure that targets of the Plan were met by the end of the Decade.

6. Since the initiatives of the Mexico Conference and the formulation and adoption in Copenhagen of the Programme of Action for women's advancement, important progress has been achieved. In the field of equality most notable among the achievements was the coming into force of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women as of 3 September 1981. Various legislative measures have been taken in many countries to ensure the elimination of any discriminatory practices or policies against women. Thus de jure equality for women in economic, political, civic, social and cultural participation and opportunities has been achieved in almost all countries, though, in practice, equality for women is still an unsatisfactory situation. In the field of development, more women were seen to be participating in educational economic, social and civic programmes; there has been a growing awareness and recognition of the important role of women in development, and increasingly there is a trend among countries to integrate the concerns and requirements for improving women's hitherto neglected condition in their national policies, plans and programmes.

B. Beyond the United Nations Decade for Women

7. Yet, despite these trends, the emerging situation of women during the Decade gives no grounds for complacency. There is a continuing need to achieve further equality for women through social, economic attitudinal and political reforms that would allow women to make even fuller use of all their rights and discharge their responsibilities already provided for in law. Equality of rights has been guaranteed for women in the constitutions of many countries. However, as far as the conditions for the practical application of these rights in everyday life are concerned, differences still exist between women and men, notably women with children. In the years to come it will be necessary to harmonize the equality of rights with the conditions for its application.

8. While some strides have been made in relation to the integration of women in development, progress was far from satisfactory. There remains as yet a disproportionate number of women holding political office, in management, policy or decision-making positions in the economic, community or social sectors; many women in employment remain in low-paid insecure jobs; many more remain in economic activity in the agricultural sector where provisions for workers welfare and employment conditions are often inadequate, if available. Women's role and contribution in both macro- and micro-economic processes remain passive and

^{3/} Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14 to 30 July 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3), chap. I, sect. A.

dependent. The still wide gap between men and women's participation in economic life reflects the underutilization of human resources which is the most important resource of any country.

9. In political life only a handful of the world's women are involved in high level consideration of most political issues including questions of disarmament and détente, war and peace. In some cases a lack of political rights, economic independence and legal training, as well as inadequate access to education and information, still frustrate their active participation in planning and decision-making.

10. In the area of peace, progress has been particularly slow. It is still the sphere where women have little influence on policy formulation, for many reasons, including traditional attitudinal barriers and lack of appropriate education and training. But at the same time they face the consequences of the decisions taken. So it is in their interests to have an impact on peace promotion since peace is the condition without which neither true equality nor meaningful development is possible in any lasting sense.

11. At the international level, the attention of the world community had been repeatedly directed to the real/potential role and contribution of women in global issues of concern. The establishment of the new international economic order based on equity and justice is closely linked with the promotion of equality between men and women and related objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women. The concerns of women, particularly in the developing and least developed countries were injected in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and other United Nations conferences on global issues such as energy, science and technology.

12. In this regard, units, sections or persons have been designated within many concerned organizations/bodies of the United Nations system to focus on questions relating to women, including the monitoring and implementation of policies, programmes for their potential impact on women's situation. The translation of concepts and policies into operational and effective programmes to achieve the desired improvements in women's situations still remains in fledgling stages.

13. Much more remains to be done. The focus on the situation of women must be maintained if the momentum of efforts, programmes and activities that have built up in the Decade for Women is not to be lost, and if the objectives of the Decade are to be fully realized beyond the Decade. Women themselves, who form the major proportion of the world's population must realize their own potential role as active participants in development, particularly in determining the national as well as international policies, strategies for development, for ensuring peace, equality and justice. Together with the concerned organizations, they should actively contribute to social and economic planning processes and work for peace not just as "reactors", "implementors" or "beneficiaries" of such processes at national, regional and international levels.

14. To sustain the progress and changes for women's advancement, it is imperative that women look beyond the United Nations Decade for Women with strategies for more

effective and accelerated achievement of the objectives of International Women's Year.

15. In the light of the above, the 1985 World Conference of Women will need to call not only for reinforcement of what has already been achieved, but also for the future participation of women, on equal terms with men, in the political, social, economic and cultural life of their countries, advance the growth of the prosperity of society and the family and accelerate the development of the potentialities of women in the service of their countries and to a new international order.

C. Priority issues and concerns

1. Women and development

16. In the field of socio-economic development, it will be necessary to analyse very carefully and clearly the extent to which women's limited progress results from existing and adopted development strategies. This is an issue of central importance for the 1985 World Conference.

17. The effective and full mobilization, participation and integration of women in the development process calls for an alternative development strategy or at least a substantially adjusted type of development strategy. This type of approach is closely interrelated and linked with the discussion of the new international economic order.

18. The creation of more and better jobs for women in a situation of deep economic recession with increasing unemployment in industrialized countries is a difficult task. The situation of depressed economy in industrialized countries is reflected in the world economy as a result of the interdependence between economies of the world. In a situation of this type, more jobs can be given to women - but at the expense of men. Though this might be an equalitarian policy of misfortune, sharing it is not by any means what is meant by integration, participation and mobilization of women in development. A policy of this kind will only increase tension within the national economy between male and female workers (this is happening in countries where transnationals have favoured employing women rather than men because in that way they can escape complying with social labour legislation, which is not extended to female workers).

19. Also the education of more women in a situation where Governments are facing economic recession and have to enforce restrictive budgetary policies which reduce expenditure on social sectors including education is a difficult task. Budget constraint on educational expenditure can only provide more educational facilities to women at the expense of men. This will create internal tension, which might lead to unrest.

20. Alternative development strategies conducive to high rates of growth, employment, more even income distribution, more self-reliance, provision of basic needs and full integration and participation of women in development are thus necessary. The improvement of women's status and condition in society through full

integration and participation in the development process can then be an attempt to make this issue the engine of the socio-economic development process being perhaps a unique opportunity to encourage a new approach to development in the 1980s.

21. How would it be possible to translate this idea into concrete issues and concepts needed for policy guidelines to Governments, which is one of the ultimate objectives of the United Nations efforts and work on the improvement of the status and condition of women in development? This should be one of the main issues to be discussed in the World Conference scheduled to be held in 1985 at Nairobi.

22. This broad concern calls into question a number of economic assumptions as follows:

(a) Micro- and macro-efficiency. The interrelationship between micro- and macro-efficiency should be analysed, reviewed and related to women both as a member of the labour force and as a household-keeper.

(b) The international trade "philosophy" based on cheap labour rather than high skills, technology and organization should be reviewed. What is the theoretical basis for this practice? Comparative advantage concept when developed did not include cheap labour. This question affects women in two ways. First, it is related to the broad issue of alternative development strategies and the full integration of women in development. Second, women workers have been extensively employed in cheap-labour industrial exports. This is a basic issue for alternative development strategies.

(c) Macro-economic policies: monetary and fiscal policies and their effect on women. A rather unexplored economic field until now, but of utmost importance. It raises questions, among others, of how stabilization programmes concerned with restrictive monetary and fiscal policies will affect the development process and the integration of women in development. A new international monetary order is called for by different agencies and institutions. This is another field in which the women's issue has to be integrated.

(d) The self-reliance strategy. How is this concept formulated on a practical basis? How does it affect women? This issue requires some basic research work to assess the effects on women of different types and degrees of self-reliance oriented strategies.

(e) At the sectoral level, questions such as women and the informal urban sector should be thoroughly analysed. This sector contains a large proportion of female labour, who attempt to make a living out of the employment opportunities offered by this sector in its present operational form. Also, women and the rural sector and rural development are very important issues for discussion in the 1980s. This question is deeply linked with food production. Last but not least, the energy issue. Energy scarcity delays development and this affects the integration and participation of women in development. The energy issue, an issue of the 1980s, cannot be dissociated from women and development.

(f) The migration issue. Migration involves women in two ways: directly, when women are the main actors of migration. The main reasons for their migration should be analysed. Indirectly, migration affects women when the head of the household migrates and they are left behind and have to assume and perform different roles they did not perform before. They have to manage the foreign currency remitted to them by their husbands and they have to manage the plots of land or small-scale business formerly taken care of by the heads of household. These aspects are important for the development process and should not be neglected.

23. Another issue related to the development process and women is the question to what extent economic development/growth has been subsidized by women. It has been argued that women have subsidized development/growth either directly through low-paid jobs both in the formal (textiles/clothing/electronics etc.) and in the informal sectors. An example of the first case is the employment of women in free-trade zones mainly by transnational enterprises, so popular nowadays in some countries. An example of the second case is the subcontracting scheme popular in many countries, including southern Europe, as well as the domestic services. These jobs do not enjoy social security benefits and sometimes are even subject to the most degrading conditions. This is a new form of production based on cheap-labour costs, which releases funds for other uses (or transfers funds to other users) in many cases at the expense of female labour.

24. In addition, women have also indirectly subsidized development through all the unpaid work they perform in the household, such as cooking, cleaning, sewing, shopping, carrying water, providing rudimentary health services etc. This unpaid work has been used as a supplement to the low wages of their male head of their household. If women's household work had to be paid for by the head of the household, the latter would have to earn more. Some preliminary work has been done to quantify this unpaid female household work. Much more work is required to establish some world standards for evaluation of this work.

2. Women and decision-making

25. The necessary involvement of women in economic and political-economic decision-making both at macro- and micro-levels (macro-level in central and local Governments; parliament etc. and micro-level in public/private enterprise, administration etc.) is an issue of utmost importance to achieve development goals. This issue should be analysed in all its dimensions, including (a) education, training, specialization appropriate for women to perform these functions, (b) legislation referring to the equality status and "de facto" implementation of this legislation, (c) cultural - the question of society's attitude to women as an economic decision/policy-maker.

26. In the fields of political and public life, the participation of women in these areas should also envisage the following aspects, for example:

(a) Reflection of the social composition of the entire population in the representative bodies parliaments of a country;

- (b) Representation of women's organizations in parliaments with their own parliamentary group;
- (c) Equal voting rights in all elections and public referenda and eligibility for election to all publicly elected bodies;
- (d) Participation of women in the formulation of government policy (including drafting of laws) and the implementation and the performance of all public functions at all levels of Government. Women's bureaux in ministries or ministries for women's affairs should be established to formulate programmes and projects and to seek women's integration in all sectors of economic and social development (access to mass media, ...);
- (e) Equal opportunity of women to represent their Governments at the international level and to participate in the work of international organizations;
- (f) Participation of women in non-governmental organizations and associations concerned with the public and political life of the country;
- (g) Non-governmental organizations co-ordination committee to assist women to be represented in decision-making bodies. Non-governmental organizations should work towards changing attitudes, to promote international collaboration and exchange of information and experience.

3. Co-operation among countries and promotion of peace

27. To achieve a balanced and harmonious development process, it is necessary to create an environment of peace and co-operation between countries. It is thus necessary to reduce international tension and aggressiveness and develop positive relations among countries and within each country. In this context, the following topics should be given special attention:

(a) The relation between peace and development, focusing upon the negative consequences of the arms race for women's integration in development and their position in the society. Intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations should examine more comprehensively possible consequences of disarmament for social and economic development in general and for improving the status of women in particular. The results of such studies should be made available to as many women and men as possible and must be given practical effect.

(b) Preparation of the societies for life in peace. Women, because of their position in the family, in the society, in the labour division - being employed as teachers at different levels of education - are really in a position to influence future educational programmes, to form future generations in the spirit of tolerance, understanding respect for different cultures and religious beliefs.

(c) Referring to these objectives, it is up to women to take a lead in formulation the strategy and far-reaching programme of the education for peace and disarmament, which are already of interest to many women's international and

national organizations, as well as UNESCO and other organizations within the United Nations system.

4. Other issues of importance for the 1985 World Conference

28. The evaluation of targets set in previous World Conference programmes have to be thoroughly assessed. For that purpose it is necessary to develop appropriate indicators and statistical data bases. Without this instrument, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to appraise, for instance, the employment objective of the Copenhagen Conference. Is it fair to consider an improvement, a larger number of females employed, but in very depressing, sometimes degrading conditions? According to the traditional statistical instruments, it is possible to say that more women are employed in textile/clothing etc. industries, but the existing statistical machinery does not tell anything about the conditions in which they are employed, such as the hiring of women as apprentices, which does not entitle them to social security, the meeting of age and marital status conditions set by employers, not being able to unionize etc. It is necessary for the World Conference to look at the question of appropriate indicators.

II. ORGANIZATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

29. With reference to the modalities for the preparations of the 1985 World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, the Commission may wish to consider the following questions:

- (a) Form and composition of the intergovernmental organ to prepare for the Conference;
- (b) Secretariat of the Conference;
- (c) Organization of work;
- (d) Documentation;
- (e) Rules of procedure;
- (f) Public information activities;
- (g) National, regional and sectoral preparations.

A. Form and composition of the intergovernmental body to prepare for the Conference

30. For its consideration of the form and composition of the preparatory body for the 1985 Conference, the attention of the Commission is drawn to General Assembly resolution 35/10 C of 3 November 1980, by which the Assembly decided "that preparatory committees should be established for special conferences only if this function cannot be appropriately performed by an existing intergovernmental organ". Attention is also drawn to Assembly resolution 35/136 of 11 December 1980, in which it requested the Secretary-General "to consider appropriate measures to enable the Commission on the Status of Women to discharge the functions assigned to it for the implementation of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women".

31. In view of the central role of the Commission on the Status of Women in the review and appraisal of the World Plan of Action adopted at Mexico City and of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, the Commission may wish to recommend that it serve as the preparatory body for the Conference working to the extent possible within its normal pattern of meetings. Alternatively, if this proposal is not acceptable, and to accommodate other States not members of the Commission interested in participating in the preparatory work for the Conference, the Commission may wish to consider recommending that a new open-ended preparatory body be established consisting of representatives of those States whose nationals serve on the Commission on the Status of Women and representatives of other interested States.

B. Secretariat of the Conference

32. In accordance with the provisions of relevant administrative regulations for the planning, preparation and servicing of special conferences ^{4/} and in order to limit over-all costs for the forthcoming conference and ensure follow-up, continuity, the Secretary-General proposes that the Secretary-General of the 1985 Conference and the staff, to the extent possible, be designated from within the United Nations Secretariat that is, from the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs.

33. This approach is in conformity with General Assembly resolution 35/10, in which it decided, inter alia, that "the secretariats for special conferences should, to the extent possible, be provided by the existing Secretariat machinery with such temporary strengthening as may be required".

C. Organization of work

34. The intergovernmental preparatory body for the 1985 Conference should decide on the over-all structure of the Conference on the basis of such criteria as the number of substantive items to be discussed, facilities and time available.

D. Documentation

35. Documentation for the 1985 World Conference will need to be determined in the light of the Conference's themes and objectives. Moreover, the secretariat of the Conference will need to prepare, at an early stage in the preparatory process, a time schedule for pre-conference meetings and submission of documents for the Conference. Necessary consultations would also need to be undertaken through existing machinery to ensure co-ordination between the various bodies and organs of the United Nations system in the preparation of documentation to ensure adequate coverage of items and to avoid unnecessary duplication.

E. Rules of procedure

36. The Secretary-General has no additions or revisions to suggest at this time regarding the standard rules of procedure for United Nations conferences. In this connexion, the Commission may wish to note that, in its decision 36/427 of 10 December 1981, the General Assembly decided to defer to its thirty-seventh session consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on draft standard rules of procedures for United Nations conferences (A/36/199 and Corr.1).

^{4/} Secretary-General's Bulletin (ST/SGB/160 of 13 October 1977).

F. Public information activities

37. The Secretary-General believes that the proposed Conference will benefit substantially from public awareness of the achievements made during the Decade and from continuing support of the objectives of the Decade. Based on the experience of the last two Conferences held during the Decade, the Department of Public Information should again be the focal point for a co-ordinated public information programme at the national, regional and international levels.

38. To this end, the Secretary-General will propose an information programme leading up to and covering the Conference, and including the post-Conference period. The programme will make use of a variety of communication techniques, including, inter alia, print and audio-visual media, to reach opinion- and policy-makers, non-governmental organizations, the academic community, the general public and the media.

39. Post-conference information activities will be designed to highlight all recommendations for action beyond the Decade that may be taken by the Conference.

G. National, regional and sectoral preparations

40. Mechanisms for promoting national activities in advance of the Conference are important in generating widespread awareness and interest in the issues to be considered. In preparation for past conferences, national committees have been created and active participation of non-governmental organizations has been emphasized. Arrangements for country-oriented activities at the national level, in conjunction with national machineries for the advancement of women should be considered in preparation for the 1985 Conference.

41. Regional preparatory meetings are of the utmost importance in providing a foundation for the 1985 Conference. The preparatory body for the Conference should determine the modalities for these meetings to ensure that their contribution to the Conference is substantial and available in time. Co-ordination should also be arranged with regional intergovernmental bodies such as the Commission on the Status of Arab Women and the Inter-American Commission on Women.

42. Efforts should also be made to involve the organizations of the United Nations system at all levels and in all phases of the preparations for the Conference, thereby drawing upon the wide range of sectoral and cross-sectoral expertise available.

* Resolution 1982/26. Preparations for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering that the General Assembly, in its resolution 35/136 of 11 December 1980, decided to convene in 1985, at the conclusion of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, a world conference to review and appraise the achievements of the Decade,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 36/126 of 14 December 1981, in which the Commission on the Status of Women was requested to give priority at its twenty-ninth session to the question of the preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, with a view to submitting to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, specific proposals on that question,

2. Further recommends that the Commission on the Status of Women, acting as the preparatory body for the Conference, should meet at Vienna in extraordinary session in 1983 and again in 1985 with conference preparations as the sole item of the agenda, and that its thirtieth regular session, in 1984, should be extended to allow additional time for conference preparations;
3. Decides also to recommend to the General Assembly that the Advancement of Women Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat should serve as the secretariat of the preparatory body, as well as of the Conference;
4. Recommends that the General Assembly should make the necessary budgetary allocations, in the light of the proposals made by the preparatory body at its first session, to enable the Advancement of Women Branch to perform those duties;
5. Recommends that, with a view to the achievement of the goals of the Decade, a forward-looking draft perspective on the status of women to the year 2000 should be prepared by the preparatory body for consideration by the Conference based on the experience gained in the implementation of the World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women;
6. Encourages Member States to consider establishing national committees to assist, for example, in national-level preparations for the Conference, consultations on issues and themes and the preparation of national reports;
7. Invites the regional commissions to conduct consultations, within existing resources, on issues and themes for the Conference and on organizational arrangements at the regional level to prepare for the Conference, and to submit the results of those consultations to the preparatory body;
8. Invites Member States to submit their views, in writing, on the proposed goals and specific themes of the Conference by 1 July 1982, so that the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs can prepare a report based on those views by 31 January 1983, for consideration at the 1983 extraordinary session of the Commission;
9. Also invites non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and intergovernmental organizations to submit their views, in writing, on their contributions to the Conference and on possible issues and themes for the Conference to the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, for consolidated presentation to the preparatory body;
10. Requests the Secretary-General to undertake interagency consultations on issues and themes for the Conference with a view to presenting an interagency report on the question to the preparatory body at its first session;
11. Decides to consider the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its first session as the preparatory body for the World Conference at its first regular session of 1983, under the item entitled "United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace".

23rd plenary meeting
4 May 1982

Chapter IV

PREPARATIONS FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

64. The Commission considered item 5 of its agenda at its 4th, 6th to 8th and 16th meetings, on 25 and 26 February and 1 and 5 March 1982. It had before it a report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women (E/CN/6/1982/8).

65. In introducing the item, the Director of the Advancement of Women Branch commented on the goals and purposes of the Conference to be held in 1985. She noted that, after 1975, the level of world awareness of women's important role in economic, political and social affairs had been raised. The World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year, adopted at Mexico City, and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, adopted at Copenhagen, had given extensive coverage to all the problems faced by women. It was necessary to implement their recommendations in all sectors of society. Although some goals had been achieved, there were still very many which had not. Many things had been left undone because women's questions were considered to be either of marginal interest or merely a fashionable slogan. Consequently, implementation of the recommendations of the two conferences had not been seriously undertaken. The Director suggested that, in preparation for the 1985 Conference, emphasis should be given to practical aspects of how to implement existing recommendations and to bring about a real improvement in women's situation. Both Governments and the United Nations system should be prepared to take a hard look at themselves, to determine what had not been accomplished, what programmes had failed and where they had not tried sufficiently hard, and to understand why that had been so. The Director appealed to all responsible Government's to concentrate their efforts, within the context of their diverse cultures, on influencing the international community to undertake a major and carefully articulated effort so that women might be able to participate on an equal footing with men in the development process. She also appealed for solidarity among all women, and for men to demonstrate their solidarity with women so that all might concentrate upon resolving current problems. As an example of such problems, the Director singled out the fact that the level of women's participation in decision-making was still very far from satisfactory, and she wondered how that situation could be improved when the majority of women were illiterate and economically dependent. And yet their participation in decisions affecting societies for substantial periods into the future was essential.

66. The Director also drew the attention of the Commission to the question of organizational arrangements for the preparation of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, to be held in 1985. She pointed out that the report before the Commission on preparations for the Conference presented proposals by the Secretary-General on the following organizational questions: (a) form and composition of the intergovernmental body to prepare for the Conference; (b) the secretariat of the Conference; (c) the organization of work; (d) documentation; (e) rules of procedure; (f) public information activities; and (g) national, regional and sectoral preparations.

67. Citing the proposals of the Secretary-General regarding the form and composition of the intergovernmental body to prepare for the Conference, she suggested that the Commission might wish to recommend that it should itself serve as the preparatory body for the Conference, working as far as possible within its normal pattern of meetings. Alternatively, if that proposal was not acceptable,

the Commission might wish to consider recommending that an open-ended preparatory body should be established, consisting of representatives of those States whose nationals served on the Commission and of representatives of other interested States.

68. Several representatives suggested that careful thought should be given to the central purpose of the 1985 Conference before any detailed planning of the topics to be considered was begun. The Conference should certainly review and appraise what had been achieved since 1975, and should in particular seek to identify the factors that had prevented more rapid progress in each area. A number of representatives suggested that discussion should be extended from a review of progress to consideration of the need for proclamation of a second United Nations decade for women. In general, representatives expressed reservations on the matter: it was felt that a second decade would in itself do little to resolve what had not been achieved during the first. It was felt that the existing Plan of Action and Programme of Action contained enough recommendations for all to work on for the remainder of the century, although it might be that some adjustment in emphasis would be useful. It was also felt that decisions on the matter should await a more comprehensive appraisal of achievements during the first Decade. Regional commissions might, however, proclaim further regional decades in order to help to achieve particular aims.

69. While expressing appreciation of the ideas presented in the report of the Secretary-General on issues and themes for the Conference, several representatives disagreed with the point made to the effect that women's employment should be seen in relation to employment of men. Even in situations of limited employment opportunities, they stressed that women should have an equal chance for employment.

70. It was indicated that on the whole the suggestions contained in the Secretary-General's report (E/CN.6/1982/8) provided a useful basis for preliminary discussion of the substantive content of the 1985 Conference. Several representatives expressed the view that, since the plan seemed very ambitious, the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs and the Advancement of Women Branch should establish work priorities. A number of representatives considered that it was important not to settle all major substantive issues at too early a stage. Discussion of the themes for the Conference should be undertaken by as many interested agents as possible, including Governments and international organizations, particularly the regional commissions and non-governmental organizations. At a later stage in the preparations, perhaps in one year's time, it would be appropriate for a smaller, but representative, body to reconsider substantive topics and to translate them into a specific list of issues for consideration. Nevertheless, it might be important to leave room for discussion by the Conference of issues not anticipated during its preparation. At the Copenhagen Conference, the existence of a formal draft programme of action had had the effect of limiting the discussion of certain topics which many women wished to examine and regarding which they would have liked to share their experiences. It was important not to stress differences in the situation of women at the expense of common goals and aspirations. In particular, the Conference should be more responsive than the previous two conferences to the precise needs of national decision-makers, who were responsible for translating its recommendations into specific policies. It should also examine the priorities of international organizations in relation to the extent of their effective attention to the concerns of women throughout the Decade and their plans for the future.

71. Notwithstanding the general view that the substantive content of the Conference should be a matter for further discussion at a later date,

Representatives felt that a number of topics should be included within that discussion. The close relations between the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women, the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and the establishment of a new international economic order required careful examination. The situation of poor women, particularly in rural areas, needed to be examined. The need for national institutional and economic structural changes and their implications for women was also a matter for review. Questions concerning the nature of development and societal change and women's role within it called for careful attention. It would be important to address issues as economic structure, monetary matters, food production and energy with a view to being able to promote patterns of development that would both contribute to the economic growth and stability and improve the status of women. The links between development in science and technology and women's status needed also to be examined.

72. Although it was recognized that improvements in the way the contribution made by women to the national product was measured were badly needed, a number of representatives warned that it might not be advisable to evaluate every aspect of women's contribution to society in purely monetary terms.

73. One representative pointed out, in that regard, that the concept of dependent work performed for a salary within very strict daily time-tables throughout the working life of an individual had appeared during the period of industrialization in the developed countries. It was important to change that image of work and to develop a new model which would be much more favourable to the multiple roles of women in society. In some countries, a new image was taking hold, with the extension of flexible working hours, independent and co-operative work, continuous retraining and occupational mobility. Other representatives drew attention to a related and important point, namely the particular problems faced by women who were penalized by society for accepting the functions of motherhood. Family planning for responsible parenthood was an important means of reducing some part of the set of problems associated with that issue, but provision for child-care and for increased acceptance by fathers of their parental responsibilities was also necessary. Some representatives expressed the view that one most important problem requiring consideration at the 1985 Conference was the continued oppression of women by men within society. It was felt that, if that problem were not solved, it would be difficult to improve other aspects of women's unsatisfactory status. The means of improving women's legal status and reducing the violence to which women were subjected were considered also to be important items for examination. The special problems of rural women should be emphasized.

74. A number of representatives pointed to the need for more effective participation by women in decision-making and in political life, inter alia, in matters related to the reduction of tension between individuals, groups and nations, the struggle for peace and disarmament and the prevention of all forms of exploitation.

75. Several representatives expressed their appreciation of the quality, brevity and clarity of the recommendations made by the Secretary-General regarding the organizational arrangements for the 1985 Conference.

There was a consensus that the preparations for the Conference should draw on the organizational experiences of the conferences held in 1975 and 1980 at Mexico City and Copenhagen, but should also be forward-looking and open to innovative and more efficient ways and means to fulfil the principles and objectives of the Conference and the Decade.

Form and composition of the intergovernmental body to prepare
for the Conference

7. Many representatives supported the proposal that the Commission on the Status of Women should itself be designated as the preparatory body but most suggested that it would not be feasible for the Commission to undertake that responsibility within the normal pattern of meetings. It was consequently proposed that there should be three meetings of the Commission as preparatory committee in 1983, 1984 and 1985. Several representatives suggested that, if that proposal was accepted, the 1984 meeting should be held in conjunction with the thirtieth session of the Commission. Several members suggested that the host country for the Conference should participate in the meetings of the preparatory body. It was also suggested that observers should be invited in order to accommodate States not members of the Commission which were interested in contributing to the preparatory work and that observers from non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations should likewise be invited to express their views at the preparatory meetings. Some representatives noted that consultations among the organizations of the United Nations system should be held as soon as possible and others suggested that Member States should begin to organize national committees to assist in preparations for the Conference at the national level.

8. While there was general support for the decision of the General Assembly, in resolution 36/126, to convene in 1985, at the conclusion of the Decade, a world conference to review and appraise the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, a few representatives stressed the need to hold a comprehensive series of national, regional and sectoral meetings before the end of the Decade. One representative questioned the value of convening a world conference at the end of the Decade and recommended instead that a conference should be held every two years, in 1985, 1987 and 1989, to review and appraise the achievements of the decade on a more specific and issue-focused basis.

Secretariat of the Conference

9. Many representatives supported the proposal made in the report of the Secretary-General that the existing staff of the United Nations concerned with the advancement of women should be designated as the secretariat for the Conference, in keeping with General Assembly resolution 35/10 C, in which it had been decided that the secretariats for special conferences should, to the extent possible, be provided by the existing Secretariat machinery with such temporary strengthening as might be required. The importance of having a secretariat with sufficient time to devote to the preparation for the Conference was also noted.

Organization of work

80. In the report of the Secretary-General, it was proposed that the intergovernmental preparatory body for the 1985 Conference should decide on the over-all structure of the Conference on the basis of such criteria as the number of substantive items to be discussed, facilities and time available.

81. Some representatives questioned the value of long oral statements elaborating national positions in the introductory general debate, and suggested that country reports should be submitted in writing so that more time would be available to discuss specific topics. In addition, they suggested that one alternative to country statements might be a presentation by regions, subregions or other

groupings of countries, setting out as vividly as possible the progress that had been made by women in the areas concerned and the problems that still remained.

82. Several representatives also suggested that, prior to the first meeting of the preparatory body, consultations should be held on the issues and themes of the conference at the regional level, by the regional commissions, and at the global level among the organizations of the United Nations system and among nongovernmental organizations.

Documentation

83. Several representatives noted the need for the documentation of the Conference to reflect a critical appraisal of the achievements of the Decade and for statistical profiles of the status of the world's women to serve as a basis for the review. The profiles should, it was argued, reflect both qualitative and quantitative data. They stressed the need for in-depth reporting and for the limitation of documentation.

Public information activities

84. Many representatives noted the importance of obtaining media coverage for the Conference to ensure understanding of the event and its regional and national preparatory meetings. One representative inquired whether there had been any study or content analysis of the media coverage of the 1980 Conference, and suggested that such a study, if combined with a similar study of the 1985 Conference, might provide a useful tool for measuring the progress and impact of United Nations work in that field. Several representatives expressed the view that precautions should be taken to avoid sensational types of press coverage and provide instead positive and constructive coverage for those dimensions focused on the advancement of women.

National, regional and sectoral preparations

85. Several representatives also supported the proposals in the report of the Secretary-General regarding national, regional and sectoral preparations. One representative suggested that sectoral meetings should be convened in each region on the themes of education, health and employment, bringing together experts on those questions, and that one cross-sectoral meeting should be held in each region to bring together staff from national machineries for the advancement of women to review and appraise progress and plan for the future from an interdisciplinary and interministerial perspective.

86. Another representative stated that the Commission should not forget the need to recommend that the attention of both the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, as well as the governing bodies of the specialized agencies, should be set aside for special meetings or should include special items on women in a variety of selected fields so that the Conference itself could avoid being overburdened with such a heavy agenda that its deliberations would be reduced to a very superficial level.

87. Some representatives proposed that all the regional preparatory meetings should have the same agenda, so that the resulting reports to the Conference would have a basic similarity that would enrich the comparative analysis of national, regional and sectoral issues, and that the organizations of the United Nations

System should likewise co-ordinate their efforts to assist the regional commissions in that regard.

Participation by non-governmental organizations

88. A number of representatives expressed the wish that non-governmental organizations would participate in the 1985 Conference and in the preparations for it and that they would do so with the same rights as observers as were granted to intergovernmental organizations outside the United Nations system.

Consideration of the report of the informal open-ended working group

89. At the 16th meeting, on 5 March 1982, the representative of India, on behalf of the Chairman of the informal open-ended working group, 29/ Ms. P. Patil (India), Vice-Chairman of the Commission reported orally on the discussions of the working group. He introduced a draft resolution entitled "Preparations for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women", prepared on the basis of extensive discussion in the working group, and also in a contact group consisting of all interested delegations. He stated that the draft resolution had met with broad agreement and called upon the Commission to adopt it by consensus.

90. A statement of the financial implications of the draft resolution is contained in annex III, section B.

91. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. A, above, draft resolution XI).

92. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics expressed some reservations concerning operative paragraph 4 and the concern of his delegation that funds should be found from within existing budgetary resources.

29/ See para. 201 below.



REFERENCE SO 248/1(1)

29 June 1982

Dear Sir.

As you know, the ECOSOC at its first regular session, 1982 adopted resolution 1982/26 on preparations for the 1985 World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women. In operative paragraph 10 of that resolution, the Council "requests the Secretary-General to undertake inter-agency consultations on issues and themes for the Conference with a view to presenting an inter-agency report on the questions to the preparatory body at its first session". A copy of the full text is
.... enclosed for easy reference. In addition, as background information, a copy of the Report of the Secretary-General on Preparations for the World Conference to be held in 1985 (E/CN.6/1982/8), and chapter IV from the report on the twenty-ninth session of the Commission on the
.... Status of Women (24 February - 5 March 1982) are enclosed.

In order to facilitate the preparation of the report requested in operative paragraph 10 of ECOSOC resolution 1982/26, it would be appreciated if your organization could submit its views on issues and themes for the Conference no later than 31 August 1982. For this purpose it is suggested that you limit your response to 2 pages, if possible. It would also be useful if your reply could indicate substantive contributions that may be envisaged by your organization towards the preparations for the Conference.

My colleagues and I look forward to co-operation between your organization and the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, and in particular with our Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs which has been designated as focal point, in preparing for the 1985 World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.

The President
World Bank
Washington, D.C.



- 2 -

Kindly transmit your reply to Mrs. Leticia R. Shahani, Assistant Secretary-General for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, Vienna International Centre, P. O. Box 500, A-1400, Vienna, Austria.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Shuaib U. Yolah', is written over a horizontal line.

Shuaib U. Yolah

Under-Secretary-General for
International Economic and Social Affairs

INTERAGENCY MEETING VIENNA 21-22 FEBRUARY 1983

22 February 1983

NAME OF THE AGENCY	NAME OF THE REPRESENTATIVE
DIESA/Statistical Off.	Ms. Joann VANEK
DPI/RVS	Ms. Tina JORGENSEN-RUBBS
DPI	Mr. Miles STOBY
ECLA	Ms. Vivian M. MOTA
FAO	Ms. Nathalie HAHN
IAEA	Ms. Frances MAUTNER-MARKHOF
ILO	Ms. R. SMIRNOVA
INSTRAW	Ms. TALLAWY
UNDP (N.Y/)	Ms. Ulla OLIN
UNEP (Nairobi)	Ms. Letitia OBENG
UNFPA	Ms. Mehri HEKMATI
UNHCR	Ms. N. MAYADAS
UNICEF	Ms. Nadia YOUSEEF, Ms. Doris PHILLIPS
UNIDO	Mr. ANTONOPOULOS, M. N. GEHART, Mr. R. NORRIS
UNOG	Ms. DJERMAKOYE
UNRWA	Ms. Ms. Berit LINTON
THE WORLD BANK	Ms. Gloria SCOTT
WFP	Mr. Werner SCHLEIFFER
WHO	Ms. V. HAMMER, Ms. P.M. ELMINGER
UNESCO	Ms. Mehir ASHRAF, Ms. Maria Luisa NITTI (SS/SEA)

ENGLISH only

First Interagency Meeting on the Preparations
for the World Conference to Review and Appraise
the Achievements of the United Nations Decade
for Women, Vienna 21-22 February 1983

Note on the World Survey for the Interagency
Meeting on the Preparation of the
World Conference

Branch for the Advancement of Women
of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs
Department of International Economic and Social Affairs

VIENNA

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I - Introduction

1. This note first reviews the replies of the specialized agencies and other UN system organizations on the draft annotated outline of "the World Survey of the Role of Women in Development", in what concerns the comments and suggestions to that outline and forms of collaboration with the Branch for the Advancement of Women in preparing the World Survey. Second, on the basis of the replies received it presents a proposal for a revised outline of the survey as well as it suggests the organization of work and the timetable for preparation of the World Survey according to the revised outline.

II - Summary of Comments and Suggestions

A - Respondents

2. In June 1982 the Under Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs requested specialized agencies and other United Nations organizations to comment upon a draft annotated outline of the World Survey agreed earlier that month by the Interdepartmental Working Group on Women, and to comment also upon suggested procedures for collaboration in response to the request expressed in General Assembly resolution 36/74.

3. This chapter summarizes views of the following 24 organizations which replied by this date:

ECLA, UNEP, ENDP, WFP, UNHCR, UNRWA, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO, World Bank, IMF, UPU, ITU, IMCO, WIPO, IFAD, UNITAR, UNFPA, INSTRAW, UNCTC, UNCSTD, UNICEF, ECA (ATRCW).

4. Out of 24 replies, 6 indicated that the subject of the Survey was outside their mandates and 18 indicated that their agencies were interested in collaboration. The forms of this collaboration were the following:

- (a) Offered extensive comments and suggestions on the substantive content and format of the Survey as well as on its methodological approach.
- (b) Intention to make available information, documents and studies prepared or in preparation within their work programmes.
- (c) Only one agency - UNHCR - volunteered to prepare a draft section for the survey though not necessarily

connected with the circulated outline.

B - Comments concerning procedures for collaboration

5. Of the 24 replies so far received, six agencies and organizations indicate that the Survey lies outside the scope of their activities and that consequently they will not contribute to its preparation (UNRWA, IMF, UPU, UTU, IMO, WIPO).

6. Of the 18 replies which indicate a willingness to collaborate the majority envisage this to consist only in the transmission to the Secretariat of relevant information, for the most part comprising existing documents prepared as part of their recent or current work programmes. These agencies and organizations are ECLA, WEP, ILO, UNDP, UNESCO, World Bank and UNITAR. The position of FAO appears to be similar, the reply of this agency stating: "We are presently undertaking or planning a number of activities which would contribute to the survey". The list which follows includes reports, case studies, surveys, guidelines and checklists as well as such activities as establishment of demonstration centres, projects on women and food systems and an expert consultation on reaching rural women. It is implied that FAO will send reports on these planned activities as part of its contribution. ATRCW (ECA) noted its willingness to contribute and co-operate with the Branch but does not indicate the nature of that contribution. It only transmitted relevant information for several sections of the outline contained in documents being prepared within their current work programme.

7. WHO, IFAD and UNCTC commented upon the structure and content of the annotated outline and made no reference to the nature of their contribution. UNFPA and INSTRAW also commented on the content of the annotated outline and noted their willingness to contribute but did not indicate the nature of that contribution. UNEP merely identified the chapter of the survey to which they were willing to contribute.
8. It might be emphasised that in none of the above cases is there any statement to the effect that the agency or organization proposes itself to prepare a section or sections of the survey.
9. Only one of the 18 replies included a specific offer of preparing a section of the Survey: this was the reply of UNHCR which felt it important that a separately identifiable section concerning women refugees appear within the Survey and offered to prepare such a section.
10. It may be concluded from this that the specialized agencies and other United Nations organizations expect that the Branch will prepare drafts of the greater proportion of the Survey on the basis of the comments they have made at this time and that they will comment in detail upon these drafts as they are circulated within the System.
11. In the CCSQ (PROG) meeting the Committee decided that there should be flexibility and the question of the preparation of the of the survey, in particular the responsibility for drafting of specific sections, could be decided through consultations with each agency and organization.

C-Suggestions concerning the substantive content of the Survey

1. Suggested additions
12. (a) Section on women and services Some agencies and organizations suggested that all aspects of women's involvement in the tertiary sector be included in the Survey.
13. ECLA drew attention to the "contribution women make to national economies through their work in the domestic unit" which was assigned "the main responsibility for the production and reproduction of the population". In particular regional differences in the nature of women's contribution through their work in the domestic unit.
14. UNDP suggested that throughout the chapter on trade (IV) "it would seem especially important to stress women's contribution, through their increasing participation in the trade of foodstuffs

and consumer goods, to the survival of the poor, that is, to the more efficient utilization of scarce resources through a highly competitive and specialized marketing system". Commenting on the chapter on the role of women in the use, conservation and development of energy resources, UNDP noted that "access to energy may be viewed as a basic service of special importance to women's work. Viewed from this perspective, the energy chapter points to the omission of any consideration of the importance of basic services in the survey. Without access to basic services, such as primary health care, education and training, water supply and sanitation facilities, energy, roads and transportation facilities, it is difficult to see how women's participation in development can become effective". UNDP also noted the omission of areas that are of crucial interest to women's role in development, such as the need to create non-farm rural employment opportunities and to pay increased attention to the provision of basic services, including the development of community-based delivery systems". WFP felt that in the chapter on the role of women in trade (IV) (as also in chapters II, III and V) "special mention should be made of the role of women in improving nutrition".

15. UNFPA felt that attention to population variables should be given in chapters other than II. Women's involvement in domestic work, including reproduction and child-care, was of substantial significance and additional recognition be given to the fact that the desired increase in the participation of women in non-traditional jobs outside the home is influenced by a number of social and economic factors which may enhance or hinder such a process such as the nature of home responsibilities, marital status, and the presence of young children in the family as well as their number.

16. Various studies have shown that the rate of women's participation in the labour force is related to the age and number of their children. The higher birth rate which increases the burden of family responsibilities, combined with the absence of household conveniences which lighten the work-load of women are therefore recognized as major factors discouraging women from seeking outside job opportunities. Similarly, educational attainment which is directly related to labour force participation may be interrupted by early pregnancies which result in withdrawal from school.

17. Consideration of the abovementioned issues may provide a clearer understanding of why it is difficult for women to benefit from expanding job opportunities without appropriate changes in the child and family-related aspects of their life .

18. INSTRAW suggested that the chapter on trade (IV) should include as additional issues, reference to women's role in formal trade

activities and in petty trade. In remarks on methodology INSTRAW noted that "Equally challenging is the inclusion of problems facing women in developed countries which could be tackled also by approaching problems in invisible sectors (such as household, some other services) and formal sectors of the economy. However, in view of the methodological difficulties, the most salient features should be highlighted".

19. WHO was particularly concerned that a number of important aspects of women's activities, mostly within or related to the tertiary sector, had been left out of the annotated outline which had been circulated.

20. UNICEF suggested the addition of the following areas: (a) women's work in the context of the household, (b) child adolescent labour and (c) women's marginality in the labour force in particular their participation in the informal sector. It suggests that a special section of the "Role of Women in Services Activities" should be added.

21. UNCTC suggests that chapter 4 relating to Trade and chapter 6 on Money and Finance should be merged and entitled "The Role of Women in the Services Sector". The tourism industry may also be included in this chapter as discussed in the EGM on women and IDS (6-10 October 1982) though omitted in the outline.

22. (b) Women refugees UNHCR offered to prepare a contribution on this matter. In the context of the proposed survey such a contribution would include:

- a brief analysis of the situation of women refugees;
- role of women refugees in their integration and development of their conditions in host countries, and
- role of women refugees in some of the areas listed in the annotated outline.

23. (c) Women decision-making in the United Nations system The Executive Director of UNITAR, drew attention to operative paragraph 3 of resolution 36/74, which recommended that the World Survey should cover, inter alia, "(c) Ways and Means of improving women's role as agents and beneficiaries of development at the national, regional and international levels; (d) The potential impact of such improvements on the achievement of overall development goals".

2. Comments and suggestions concerning existing sections

24. (a) Chapter on the role of women in agriculture (II) Comments on this chapter were received from UNDP, WFP and FAO. UNDP noted

"Without detailed knowledge of the discussion that led to the recommendations for subject matters to be dealt with by the Survey, it is difficult to judge the merits of the proposals. However, we wish to raise the point that agriculture is often no longer the predominant source of employment in rural areas. While men leave in search of alternative employment in the cities or in other countries, to an increasing extent women also leave the rural areas, leaving large segments of the population living in absolute poverty. To deal with these problems a diversified strategy of rural development, not limited to agriculture, will be needed and we find the suggested outline somewhat deficient in this respect. A subject matter of major importance that is not specifically identified and could be included here is the relationship between food production and nutrition and women's crucial role in both areas of activity."

25. FAO noted:

"The background documents related to women and rural development for the Expert Group Meeting on Women and the International Development Strategy (6-10 September 1982, Vienna) indicate a shift from technical consideration to an analysis of structural and political factors. As important as these policy issues are, it is suggested that considerably more substantive evidence must be presented about women's economic activities and contributions. The policy arguments need to be balanced by data about rural women's day to day life and the effects of modernization on this.

26. As stated at the February/March 1982 UN Commission on the Status of Women, it is suggested that the Survey should ideally include the following:

- The comparative roles of women and men in different types of agricultural production structures for both crops and livestock; women's access to and control of means of production (e.g. seeds, fertilizers, services) as related to their tasks; access to training in relation to tasks in all phases of production structure;
- Identification of labour and time allocation in agricultural production by sex; participation in decision-making as related to the specific tasks performed by women;

- Identification of socio-economic indicators reflecting the role and contribution of women in agriculture, i.e. female heads of households, work load;
- Inter-relationship between population pressure and land availability (land/man ratio) for women;
- Male migration in relation to labour supply and increase in work load for women, but not commensurate with increase in decision-making;
- The access of women to land, capital, technology in different land tenure systems."

27. WFP was particularly concerned with the question of food aid, point out:

"WFP food aid could be treated in the Survey as a tool for improving the status of women. By itself it is a cross sectoral instrument for promoting development and improving the nutritional status of women.

28. We feel that in the sections of the report of relevance to WFP -- (including) Chapter II, The Role of Women in Agriculture (Sections C and D), special mention should be made of the role of women in improving nutrition, which is of special interest to WFP since food aid is a nutritional supplement, as well as being a means for improving agricultural production and nutrition habits through nutrition education.

29. The advantages of food aid in reaching women are as follows: (a) its direct nutritional benefits; (b) its capacity to redistribute incomes (food) toward the poorer sections of the population; (c) its appeal in bringing women together to collect food rations from a central distribution point which can serve as a base for the provision of important social services; (d) through a project approach to development assistance, WFP can deploy food aid in a variety of ways to stimulate new developmental activities for women; and (e) the food aid distribution system itself can generate new employment and organizational opportunities for women. A list of proposals for reorienting on-going WFP-supported activities is attached.

30. We believe that emphasis should be given in the report to the "lessons learned" over the decade by sector. In other words, what types of projects were successful and why? Were projects aimed specifically at women more successful than projects where sub-components included women's activities, such as forestry development projects with a fuel-wood lot or nursery components?

31. Close inter-agency cooperation would ensure the maximum benefit from the UN system's resources and maximize its impact on the beneficiaries."

32. (b) Chapter on the role of women in industry (III) Comments on this chapter were received from UNDP, UNCTC and WFP. UNDP made the following suggestions:

"In this chapter, particularly in section D, it would seem pertinent to stress the importance of small-scale industrial development, both from the point of view of development in general and from the point of view of women's participation in industrial development. As noted in Rural Women's Participation in Development: "Rural industries could supply basic needs goods suitable to local market conditions and provide opportunities for investing rural surpluses locally as well as means of satisfying and refining local entrepreneurial initiatives. In addition to rural industrial development, there is considerable scope for related activities, such as repair and maintenance, construction and productive development of the tertiary sector. Unless much more varied activities are established closer to where the rural population lives, it is difficult to see how the heavy rural-urban flow of migration can be contained, as is commonly desired" (para. 608). These matters are also stressed in the 'International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade'."

33. WFP felt that in this chapter, with particular reference to small-scale industries (Section C and D) "special mention should be made of the role of women in improving nutrition, which is of special interest to WFP since food aid is a nutritional supplement, as well as being a means for improving agricultural production and nutritional habits through nutrition education".

34. The UNCTC suggested a revised approach and format, methodologically based on statistical and other data supplemented by a questionnaire related to social resources and technical issues to selected national governments and enterprises. In the absence of statistical data availability some field survey and case studies may be necessary. The revised approach and format suggested would be as follows:

Overall Perspective of Involvement of Women in Industry

35. This introductory section will trace the general development of the industrial sector from a historical and growth perspective viewpoint and its absorption of women into this sector.

Current Integration of Women in the Industrial Section

36. This section will examine and analyse some of the problems, issues and obstacles surrounding the integration of women into this sector. They will be analysed from the social, economic and technical background as well as from

a developmental background. In this sense, comparisons will be made whenever possible of the same industries at different stages of maturity. Thus, in some instances, the more mature industries in the developed countries will be compared with the newer industries in developing countries in order to assess the varying degrees of integration, and the differences, if any, in the issues, obstacles and benefits. The level of employment and type of work that is currently accessible to women will also be examined. Linkages of skills to other industries will also be examined.

37. The main industries contemplated therein will include a range of the significant manufacturing industries which represent a cross section of the industrial sector as a whole. Such industries (both export oriented and for domestic consumption) may include electronics, textiles, manufacturing of household appliances, wood-based and furniture industries, pharmaceutical and chemical industries, metal industries and consumer goods in general.

Future Development and Impact on NIEO

38. This section will review and recommend, based on the findings in (B), the areas for development and identify more specifically some of the posts that may be desirable for women. In this regard, review should be made of the availability and orientation of education and training, including institutional training, academic training and on-the-job training. It will also be necessary to examine and recommend national and/or sectoral policies which will facilitate the role of women in industry. The issue of appropriate technology may also be referred to.

39. (c) Chapter on the role of women in trade (IV) (see also section 1(a) above). WFP felt that in this chapter, particularly in sections C and D, "special mention should be made of the role of women in improving nutrition, which is of special interest to WFP since food aid is a nutritional supplement, as well as being a means for improving agricultural production and nutritional habits through nutrition education".

40. The UNCTC suggested that this chapter should be merged with chapter 6 on Money and Finance. Tourism industry may also be included in this chapter as discussed at the EGM on Women and the IDS during 6-10 September 1982, although omitted in this annotated outline.

41. (d) Chapter on the role of women in the use, conservation and development of energy resources (V) WFP felt that in this chapter, particularly in

sections C and D "special mention should be made of the role of women in improving nutrition, which is of special interest to WFP since food aid is a nutritional supplement, as well as being a means for improving agricultural production and nutritional habits through nutrition education".

42. The UNCTC noted that the energy sector should not be confined to primitive energy sources in the rural sector and consideration should be given to modern energy sectors and the integration of women into these industries such as in petroleum, electricity, nuclear, solar energy, coal and other energy industries.

43. (e) Chapter on the role of women in money and finance (VI) UNCTC noted that again the emphasis of this chapter appears to be more rural and it is suggested that due emphasis be given to more important areas of money and finance such as banking, financial institutions, including national development banks as well as regional financial institutions.

44. (f) Chapter on the role of women in the development and application of science and technology (VII) WHO noted that this section did not seem to leave room for discussion of health science and technology.

45. UNCTC noted that it is uncertain with regard to chapter 7, how this topic can be developed and it has already been discussed at the aforementioned meeting that science and technology cannot or will not be adapted particularly to suit women. Therefore, it may be more appropriate to consider the role of women in the development of R and D in this chapter. In which event the areas of national science and technology institutions and the various national science and technology policies should be examined to ensure that women will fully participate in the development and application of science and technology. Further, the degree, type and level of training should be dealt with here through in-depth analysis.

46. To facilitate research, technology transfer issues should concentrate specifically on the areas covered by the annotated outline.

47. UNCSTD suggested to extend the evaluation of the "potential impact of a significant improvement" in women's role in industry, to cover also the

48. "potential impact of a significant improvement" in women's role in research and development and in science and technology policies and planning bodies.

D - Methodological suggestions

49. (a) Proper reflection of regional differences A number of specialized agencies and other organizations noted the importance of this matter. ECLA, noting that "The outline... covers key developmental issues as set forth in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade: Agriculture, Trade, Industry, Money and Finance, Energy, and Science and Technology" suggested that "It is very important for the Survey to reflect regional differences in each of those areas as well as the contribution women make to national economies through their work in the domestic unit."

50. (b) Other methodological issues ECLA suggested that:

"Since the domestic units are assigned the main responsibility for the production and reproduction of the population, it is particularly relevant for a worldwide study on the role of women in development to undertake the task of establishing the relationships between the social and economic changes of countries and regions and the ways in which the production-reproduction of individuals is socially organized. We strongly believe such a relationship will contribute to a better understanding of the participation of women in development."

51. UNITAR noted that INSTRAW and itself "are considering the establishment under joint auspices, of an independent international committee on alternative development with the participation of women. The purpose of this committee is to formulate a broad conceptual framework for analyzing contemporary patterns of international economic, social and cultural relationships incorporating women's experience, perspectives and priorities. The Committee is also envisaged to review and analyze how greater recognition in remunerable terms of women's role in society can effect the prospect of generating a more pragmatic development approach. The Committee's focus on the most recent international initiatives - particularly the NIEO and the IDS - will complement the World Survey's detailed account of women's role in selected aspects of national economies.

52. WHO commented that "In general, if the outline were to remain as it is, there are health impact statements which should be made in all sections. The outline, as it is, would lead to repetitious text, without allowing for adequate discussion of the interrelationships of all the sections.

53. UNCTC noted that this outline appeared to have been written without much specific focus on methodology at the national or regional level or amount of data that will be available in support of such an undertaking. It would be of greater benefit if the outline could, for example, when examining

each topic, region by region, indicate in each case the countries that would be looked at in this connection or the regional information that can be expected to find. It is suggested that countries where statistics are likely to be available should be identified. In most developed countries such statistics should be available, whilst only a few developing countries would have the relevant data. In looking at the various sectors, it would be of interest to compare development in industrialized countries as opposed to developing countries and see how progress has been made in the integration of women in the various sectors by comparing the more matured industries from the sectoral viewpoint with those which are still in the process of development. Emphasis could also be given to identify problems and issues in order to find solutions for them in the future and also to ensure the extension and continuation of maximum benefits.

III - Revised Recommended Procedures

A. Proposed Work

54. In its resolution 36/74 adopted in 4 December 1981, on the "Comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development" the General Assembly emphasized the need for a multi-sectoral and inter-disciplinary survey on the role of women in development. The resolution also requested the Secretary-General to prepare the survey in close collaboration with the UN system and national institutions with expertise on this subject. At its 37th session, the General Assembly (on 24 November - A/C/37/L.34) adopted a further resolution recommending that the survey be submitted to 1985 World Conference.

55. In line with the above, an annotated outline was prepared by the Branch for the Advancement of Women reflecting the recommendations of resolution 36/74 and was endorsed by the Intra-departmental Working Group on Women in June 1982 in New York.

56. In order to ensure the most effective collaboration and co-operation within the UN system in the preparation of the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development, pursuant paragraph 6 of the General Assembly resolution 36/74, the Under Secretary-General for International Economics and Social Affairs in 28 June 1982 requested all interested specialized agencies and other UN organizations to consider the proposed annotated outline of the survey

and to indicate the areas in which they might contribute and the nature of the proposed collaboration. They were asked also for their views and suggestions on the specific issues to be dealt with in each of the survey's chapters.

57. The replies ⁽¹⁾ to the letter of the Under Secretary-General for International Economics and Social Affairs requesting specialized agencies and UN organization to indicate their contributions to the annotated outline of the survey are summarized in chapter II.

The main feature of those replies are the following:

- (a) Extensive comments and suggestions on the substantive content and format of the survey as well as on the methodological approach of the survey. If all were to be included in the survey these comments and suggestions would substantially expand the outline of the survey.
- (b) Intention to make available to the Branch for the Advancement of Women information, documents and studies prepared or in preparation by those agencies and UN organization within their work programmes as useful background information for the survey.
- (c) Only one agency - UNHCR - offered to prepare a draft section for the survey on Women Refugees, not an area covered in the circulated annotated outline of the survey.

(1) to present date these replies are 24

58. The annotated outline of the survey is an ambitious undertaking. A research study of this magnitude would require a large amount of resources. In addition the suggestions received from the agencies and UN organizations if they were to be included they would expand even more the areas of coverage of the survey, making it difficult for the Secretariat to take them into consideration unless those agencies would be prepared to contribute with drafting. Furthermore, the outline was prepared on the assumption that the relevant agencies would contribute to the drafting of some specialized sections.

59. The limited resources allocated for the survey, the diversity of expertise required to prepare highly specialized sections of the survey which is not sufficiently presently available in the Secretariat and the difficulty of the specialized agencies to contribute to the drafting of the specialized areas of the survey, have oriented the BAW to envisage a shorter and simpler survey. This would be a more realistic approach which is based on the expected resource availability of the Secretariat (time, finance, manpower, etc.).

60. The revised outline of the survey proposed to replace the annotated outline is attached in Annex II . The emphasis is now based on factual analytical evidence rather than opinionative, evaluative and judgemental. A factual picture of recent, past and present situation of women in different spheres of socio-economic life by region will be given based on quantitative and

qualitative available data. It is envisaged that the time period under coverage be at least 10 years. These data will be analysed within the objective to highlight progress made in the advancement of women in absolute terms and in relation to men and the benefits accruing to women.

61. As a result the revised outline starts with an overview chapter in which statistical data on issues such as demography, education and employment are gathered and analysed. The overview will also analyse inter-relationships among key development issues with regard to women's current and future roles in development.

62. The chapters of the annotated outline on specific economic sectors and areas are maintained. However, their sections on "Ways and Means of improving women's role" and on "Potential impact of improvement upon achievement of overall development goals" were deleted from the revised outline. The reasons for deletion are that these sections would have corresponded to specialized agency inputs in the form of draft which are not forthcoming. On the otherhand, the present limited resources for the survey do not enable the Secretariat to fully replace and compensate for the reduced external input. However, this would have the advantage of concentrating the survey on descriptive and analytical aspects based as much as possible on statistical data. Policy questions as well as evaluation based

on existing insufficient methodological approaches, are not included in the revised outline of the survey.

63. In the following paragraphs a suggestion for procedure to be followed by the Secretariat and agencies/organizations in the preparation of the survey according to the revised outline is sketched. Also a tentative timetable is given.

B - Proposed Organization of Work

64. The Secretariat will be responsible for the first drafting of all chapters of the survey. However, it will rely on published and unpublished material expected to be supplied, following requests of the Secretariat by agencies/organizations. For instance statistical data for the overview chapter is expected to be supplied by the UNSO, UN Population Division and agencies in particular UNESCO, ILO, FAO, regional commissions, etc. Also relevant information, documents, and studies prepared by agencies/organizations will be welcome for the preparation of the sectoral chapters. On the basis of this information and with the assistance of consultancy services the Secretariat will prepare the first draft of the survey. However, if any agency/organization will be prepared to draft any sectoral chapter or part of it in collaboration with the Secretariat, according to the revised outline, it still fits within this procedural approach. It is a matter of mutual consultations and harmonization of that chapter with the rest of the survey.

65. Once the first draft is completed under the responsibility of

the Secretariat, it will be circulated by the agencies/organizations for comments and reviewing. On the basis of this additional material the Secretariat will revise the draft which next will be sent for editing.

66. A tentative timetable for the preparation of the survey according to the revised outline is given in Annex I.

Annex I

Schedule of Actions Required by UN Systems of Organizations

Schedule of Actions Required by UN Systems of Organizations

Time Frame	Actions	
	Branch for the Advancement of Women	Specialized Agencies and Other UN Organizations Including Regional Commissions
<u>1983</u>		
January	Analysis of the statistical information to be requested	
February	Prepare note on revised outline for the preparation body meeting	Transmit to the BAW how and when they supply requested information
February - March		
April - May		Send to BAW first round of information
June - December	Analysis of information received, research, request of more information, initial drafting and consultancy services	
<u>1984</u>		
January March	Continuation of drafting and consultancy services	
April		Receive first draft of survey for comments
June - July	Receive comments on first draft survey	
July - August	Preparation of a summary of survey for the report to the 39th session of the General Assembly	
September	Report for the General Assembly	
September - December	Redrafting, editing of survey	Consultations with BAW on redrafting of survey
<u>1985</u>		
January - April	Official editing, translation, processing and printing	
May	Publication and distribution to countries	

Annex II

15 December 1982

Revised Outline of the World Survey on the
Role of Women in Development

Revised Outline of the World Survey on the
Role of Women in Development

Preface

1. Will explain the mandate and purpose of the survey. Its structure and coverage will be described as well as the procedures adopted and contributions received in its preparation.

Introduction and Summary

2. It will briefly describe the content of the survey and summarize the main features and findings. A brief description of the methodological approach adopted may also be included. -

I - OVERVIEW

3. Based on statistical data, whenever available and on qualitative information, a factual picture of the recent, past and present situation and the role of women in different areas of socio-economic life by region will be given. The main issues to be dealt with are:

(a) Demographic which will give a perspective of the populational magnitudes involved. Demographic data on total and female population. Age structure of female population, fertility rates and population growth rates. Dependency ratios. Total and female potential labour force supply.

(b) Education The quality of female population and labour force will be gathered here. Educational enrolments of total and female students by level and type of education (formal schooling, on the job training, adult education extension services, continuous education, etc.). Curricula of graduates: arts, science, social & sciences, technology, etc.

(c) Employment Formal employment of wage and salary earners, self-employed income earners and unpaid labour would be reviewed here for total and female labour. Some of these broad categories are likely to be concentrated in different industrial sectors and areas.

Self-employed in agriculture, trade and commerce and some services, wage and salary earners in manufacturing, banking and other services and unpaid labour is particularly related to household labour. Statistical data on employment of total and female labour by main sectors, according to the UN ISIC classification and by occupation according to the ILO classification will be gathered and analysed.

II - THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE

A. The present role of women in agriculture

4. This section will provide a succinct but comprehensive review of the present role of women, organized region by region. It will summarize the most important changes caused by those current organizational and technological processes having a major impact. Processes which might be included are, for example, the expansion of agribusiness, the green revolution and increasing population pressure upon land and water resources.

B. Benefits accruing to women

5. This section will provide an assessment of the benefits accruing to women as a result of their participation in agriculture. It will give predominance to assessment of income, conditions of work and decision-making. It will conclude with a summary of the major implications of the extent to which women benefit - or fail to benefit - for those aspects of women's condition and status, such as health, reproductive behaviour and educational, social and legal status, which in turn determine women's potential contribution to national economies as producers, reproducers of the labour force and consumers.

III - THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN INDUSTRY

A. The present role of women in industry

6. This section will provide a succinct but comprehensive review of the present role of women, organized region by region. It will summarize the most important changes caused by those current organizational and technological processes having a major impact. Processes which might be included are, for example, the redeployment of industries from developed to developing countries, expansion of export-oriented manufacturing employing significant numbers of women, de-industrialization of rural areas and changes in traditionally female industries such as textiles.

B. Benefits accruing to women

7. The content of this section will be analogous to that in the corresponding section of Chapter II.

IV - THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN TRADE

A. The present role of women in trade

8. This section will provide a succinct but comprehensive review of the present role of women, organized region by region. It will summarize the most important changes caused by those current organizational and technological processes having a major impact. Processes which might be included are, for example, the expansion of large-scale enterprises, often associated with international agribusiness, and the significant shift of population from rural to urban areas.

B. Benefits accruing to women

9. The content of this section will be analagous to that in the corresponding section of Chapter II.

V - THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE USE, CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF ENERGY RESOURCES

A. The present role of women in the use, conservation and development of energy resources

10. This section will provide a succinct but comprehensive review of the present role of women, organized region by region. It will summarize the most important changes caused by those current organizational and technological processes having a major impact. Processes which might be included are, for example, the significant rise in costs of non-renewable energy sources, especially when imported, the degradation of traditional energy sources such as fuel-wood, the availability of technology for small-scale energy resource utilization.

B. Benefits accruing to women

11. The content of this section will be analagous to that in the corresponding section of Chapter II.

VI - THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN MONEY AND FINANCE

A. The present role of women in money and finance

12. This section will provide a succinct but comprehensive review of the present role of women, organized region by region. It will summarize the most important changes caused by those current organizational and technological processes having a major impact.

Processes which might be included are the effects of inflation and associated remedial policies, the shift in financial procedures and institutions from traditional to more modern, urban types.

B. Benefits accruing to women

13. The content of this section will be analagous to that in the corresponding section of Chapter II.

VII - THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

A. The present role of women in the development and application of science and technology

14. This section will provide a succinct but comprehensive review of the present role of women, organized region by region. It will summarize the most important changes caused by those current organizational and technological processes having a major impact. Processes which might be included are, for example, the continued adoption of exogenous technology inappropriate to the circumstances, particularly those of women, and the failure to include women in the development and application of science and technology, particularly utilisation of endogenous knowledge and decision-making in this area.

B. Benefits accruing to women

15. The content of this section will be analagous to that in the corresponding section of Chapter II.

Selected Bibliography

16. This will be designed to indicate to the general reader the principal sources whereby further information on the major issues covered by the Survey may be obtained. It will not attempt to list all of the sources utilized in preparation of the Survey.

First Interagency meeting on the
Preparations for the World Conference
to Review and Appraise the Achievements
of the United Nations Decade for
Women, Vienna 21-22 February 1983

United Nations Integrated Reporting System
on the Status of Women

Revised recommended procedures for the third
biennial round of reporting on progress made
at the national level in implementation of
the World Plan of Action and Programme of Action
for the second half of the UN Decade for Women
(1982-1984).

Branch for the Advancement of Women
Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs
Department of International Economic and Social Affairs

Vienna

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. Early in September 1982, the Branch for the Advancement of Women of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs sent out for the review and comments of specialised agencies and other relevant organizations of the United Nations System, a Note on proposed procedures for the third biennial round of reporting for the review and appraisal of progress made by governments in the implementation of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the second half of the United Nations Decade for Women.^{1/}

2. The Note set out the legislative mandates for the biennial review and appraisal and the initial role taken by the Branch for the Advancement of Women in preparing for the third reporting round (to cover the period 1982-1983). Revised procedures for undertaking the third round of reporting were proposed including procedures for collaboration and the scope and content of the review and appraisal. That Note also included in one of the Annexes the proposed work schedule. It may be noted that the proposals were based upon suggestions made by a number of agencies and organizations to similar proposals made in 1981.

3. This report by the Secretariat provides in Chapter II, a summary analysis of the responses of the concerned agencies and other UN organizations to the proposals in the Note.^{2/} Based on these responses a proposal for future organization of work has been put forward in Chapter III for the consideration of the inter-agency meeting. Attachments I, II and III set out respectively the revised work schedules, suggested outline of areas to be covered in the reporting and the suggested coverage for the sectoral reports.

4. At its second regular session for 1982 the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Programme Matters) considered a Conference Room Paper (No. 6) prepared by the Branch in which a summary of proposed procedures was set out. The Consultative Committee agreed that the present interorganizational meeting be held and should come to a final agreement on procedures for the review and appraisal process within the framework of the integrated reporting system on the status of women. In their replies to the Note several respondents had also reiterated the need for inter-agency meetings to finalize procedures and organization of work among the UN system of organizations.

^{1/} Hereinafter referred to as "the Note". Copies of the Note and the accompanying circular letter as well as a list of those agencies and organizations to whom the Note was transmitted will be available to the Meeting.

^{2/} The Addendum to this report contains the text of all replies received.

II. SUMMARY OF COMMENTS AND PROPOSALS

A. Respondents:

5. A total of sixteen (16) replies were received before 8 December 1982 by the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs from various parts of the United Nations System viz. Centre for Human Rights, Population Division of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs (DIESA), Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA), African Training and Research Centre for Women/Economic Commission for Africa (ATRCW/ECA), Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)*, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)*, World Food Programme (WFP), International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), United Nations Social Defence Research Institute (UNSDRI)*, International Labour Organization (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), World Health Organization (WHO), World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF)*.

6. The Intra-departmental working group of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs (IDWG/DIESA), comprising representatives from its various divisions and sections, also held a meeting to discuss the Note. The minutes of that meeting were made available to the Branch for the Advancement of Women and their views and suggestions have been noted in this summary of views of the UN system.

7. The comments and suggestions made by the organizations related to two main areas:

(a) the overall procedural approach with regard to data collection and analysis for the review and appraisal reports and, in this connection, the respective roles of the organizations.

(b) the scope and content of the review and appraisal.

* No additional suggestions on the proposals were made in these replies.

B. Procedural approach

8. It was noted that most of the respondents had expressed their interest in collaborating in and contributing to the review and appraisal process.

9. Several respondents reiterated that the Branch for the Advancement of Women should be responsible for overall coordination and harmonization of the review and appraisal process, particularly as a focal point for information request and collection. Various reasons were given for this such as the need to avoid overlapping requests, confusing and overburdening governments for information independently requested by different parts of the United Nations System ^{1/} and, limited resources of agencies. ^{2/}

10. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) felt that "overall analysis would be extremely difficult given the inconsistencies in the type of information collected and the initial analysis procedures" if each agency were to assume responsibility for the preparation and finalization of procedures to monitor, review and appraise the designated sectoral area.

11. The International Labour Organization (ILO) also pointed out that the experience from the preparations for the 1980 Copenhagen Conference had shown that "a new integrated approach was needed to bring together diffused elements of national policies in the economic, social, cultural, environmental and other levels, so as to cover various sectoral interests of the United Nations System. A piecemeal approach might become incoherent, and incompatible with the Copenhagen Programme of Action and its decisions and resolutions, also at the regional level. At the initial stage the different approaches should be harmonized within the UN system on the

^{1/} Intra-departmental Working Group on Women/DIESA; ILO; FAO;

^{2/} FAO

compiling, collating and tabulating of statistics of the existing data and information emanating from the position and the role of the UN regional organisations and the regional offices and the specialised agencies."

12. The Inter-departmental Working Group of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs (IDWG/DIESA) was unanimous in their view that there should be one comprehensive questionnaire (prepared through sharing and coordination) and that the Branch for the Advancement of Women should be the focal point for sending out the request for information and receiving replies. It also felt that the sectoral reports falling within the purview of particular organisations should be prepared by them on the basis of replies (or portions thereof) received by the Branch for the Advancement of Women and transmitted to them.

Participation of organizations in the sectoral areas

13. The Centre for Human Rights endorsed the general approach envisaged for this third round, with its emphasis on regional requirements and specific sectoral concerns. It was felt that this should provide for an improved evaluation of progress achieved in implementing the objectives of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women. The Centre was interested in contributing to various items of the review and appraisal particularly on Part I on the Legal status of women, Political participation, international cooperation and the strengthening of peace as well as Part IIB on Education and Training.

14. The Population division stated that it would contribute to the development of questions on the topics of "reproduction and migration". It felt that "with respect to the topic of health and nutrition, the Population Division as the relevant substantive unit should be listed rather than UNFPA which is primarily a funding agency".

15. The World Food Programme (WFP) agreed that there should be "lead

agencies designated in each sectoral area, which would then consult with other organizations on work activities and concerns in that sector." It was ready to contribute to the rural development sector as was proposed in the Note and also to health and nutrition, education and training, employment, housing and human settlements and energy. Although it felt "it would not be in a position to provide substantive information to the sectoral papers as outlined in the Annex B (of the Note) it could provide information on how food aid could be used to help women in development in these sectors."

16. The International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) indicated its readiness to cooperate particularly in the evaluation stage of any part of the governments' replies to the questionnaire. The Institute "would be particularly interested in having the views of agencies with regard to the evaluation process of the various reports and the analysis of the governments' replies to the questionnaire."

17. The International Labour Organization (ILO) endorsed the proposal that the third biennial review and appraisal reports would be submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women for comment and that it would constitute a basic document for the World Conference. The Organization intended to partly revise and update the sectoral questionnaire on the Employment section which it had earlier prepared for the second biennial round "to take into consideration the fact that while women make a significant contribution to the economy and to the development of the society they are still treated as a reserve labour force." It however requested for more time for the preparation of its contribution and report.

18. FAO stated that it "had submitted extensive comments on the questionnaire and could also review a draft analysis of the governments' replies and provide further suggestions."

19. The World Health Organization (WHO) agreed to review and revise health issues of a draft questionnaire prepared by the Branch to be

sent to countries. The organization also agreed to analyze responses and prepare a report on the health aspects.

20. The World Bank replied that "it presumed it would be required to respond to any specific enquiries" made of the Bank in relation to Part I of the outline of areas to be covered in Annex A of the Note. The Bank was considering whether it could undertake to write a paper on the subject of monetary factors.

Participation of regional commissions

21. With regard to the review and appraisal report on the regional specific concerns, the ECWA agreed that decentralization of information collection was very important "to allow for the most possible information and more accurate analysis". However, it anticipated that with such a procedure, governments would require direct technical assistance. It was of the view that given the existing resources, women programme officers in regional commissions could assist in identifying experts/researchers/data collectors at national level and guiding the data collection process.

22. The ECA and ECLA both indicated that they would review the time schedule proposed in the Note in relation to their own plans for carrying out the regional review and appraisal. Among other activities, the ECLA was engaged in the preparation of the Third Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development to take place possibly in March 1983. The Conference, besides evaluating the progress achieved in the region in regards to the Regional Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the Decade, would have as an agenda item the 1985 World Conference since it is the most appropriate forum for Latin American countries in which to express their views. Its deliberations on the regional preparatory work for the 1985 Conference would be presented to the Commission on the Status of Women at its 1984 session.

23. The IDWG/DIESA suggested that the comprehensive questionnaire to be sent out by the BAW could incorporate a number of questions deemed

appropriate by the regional commissions secretariat to address the special circumstances obtaining in each region.

C. Scope and content of the review and appraisal

24. Many respondents concurred with the coverage of the review and appraisal, particularly its concern with sectoral areas and regional requirements. Specific suggestions were made on the proposed contents as noted below.

✓ 25. In the meeting of the IDWG/DIESA, the representatives of the Statistical Office were of the opinion that the questionnaire should not include requests for statistical data which the Office felt it should request, as appropriate. It also felt that the question of statistical indicators should not be included under "Research, data collection and analysis" in Part I or within the coverage of the sectoral areas in Part II.

26. The IDWG/DIESA also suggested the inclusion of science and technology (also suggested by the ATRCW/ECA), "communication and the media"^{1/}, and Population and migration^{2/}. In addition the Group suggested "including CTN in Industrialization"^{3/}.

27. The Population Division/DIESA felt the inclusion of reproduction "would emphasize the important role that childbearing continues to play in most women's lives - a role that cannot be ignored when devising policies for women's integration into development". "Migration" as it affects women, both women as migrants and women who become heads of households through their husbands' migration, was also "an extremely important topic to explore in the context of the sexual division of labour in the development process and the government's role therein."

^{1/} The BAW notes that this topic will be covered as provided for in the Note in Annex A Part IB under the aspect of "Dissemination of information".

^{2/} The Population Division of DIESA also proposed the similar topic of Reproduction and migration.

^{3/} The BAW had sent the Note and letter of transmittal also to the Centre on Transnational Corporations suggesting its participation as a collaborating agency in the topic "Industrialization". The omission was typographical.

28. The African Training and Research Centre for Women (ATRCW) of the Economic Commission for Africa pointed out that in relation to the gathering of data on specific regional concern, "it would address itself to the question of apartheid and refugees". The ATRCW also suggested that in Annex A Part I, the review of the Formulation and Implementation of National Policies and Plans to improve the Status of Women should not be carried out in isolation, but rather within the framework of existing national development plans. This way it would be possible to gauge whether or not policies and plans concerning women were part and parcel of the development process of their countries or peripheral to them.

29. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) suggested the addition of a separate item, "refugee and displaced women" in Annex A Part II and also in Annex B(h) within the special groups mentioned in the brackets.

30. The International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) stated that any information within the reporting system provided by the Member States would be very useful for the work of the Institute, especially at this initial stage of its activities. It therefore wished to receive a copy of the governments' replies, the views of agencies with regard to the evaluation process of the various reports and the analysis of the governments' replies. The Institute desired more detailed information from the questionnaire on the status of both research and training activities concerning women so far carried out in various countries. It was interested in any existing special women's courses or programmes in the various universities or colleges, and in any special research and training units, divisions or centres on women's issues.

31. The International Labour Organization (ILO) emphasized the need "to pay a great deal of attention to the analysis and activities of women themselves, specifically women's organisations which contribute to the identification of women's needs". It added that in this respect, "it was necessary to focus on the social dimension; the contribution of women to the social spheres; to the creation of material goods and cultural values and the inadequate attention paid to them at the national policy level".

32. "Through the analysis, based on the response to the Questionnaire, ILO hoped to provide a common balanced approach to women workers' problems to influence strategies with regard to equality of opportunity and treatment for women workers and the elimination of discrimination against them. The aim of ILO's contribution to the third review and appraisal of degrees of women's employment would be to give comprehensive information on the situation of women in various aspects of employment from all regions, keeping in mind the future prospects up to the end of this century."

33. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) emphasized the need to pay greater attention to rural development in 1985. It was of the view that as far as rural women are concerned this topic should be reflected with equal if not greater importance than the other topics presented in the Sectoral Areas.

34. The World Bank noted that the suggested coverage in Annex B of the Note for the report on the subject of Monetary Factors did not appear relevant nor did the proposed approach of a questionnaire to governments fit with the normal procedure of the Bank. It viewed with alarm "the prospect of governments having to reply to a questionnaire on each of the eleven items in Part II on sectoral areas, in addition to Part I on general developments."

III. REVISED RECOMMENDED PROCEDURES

35. The responses received reflected varying degrees of readiness and capacities to contribute to the review and appraisal process. In general, however, many respondents endorsed the position of the Branch for the Advancement of Women, Center for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs in its function of facilitating inter-organizational consultations and acting as the focal point for the UN system in regard to the review and appraisal process. In its coordinating and harmonizing role, the Branch could better minimize overlaps in the request for information from governments as well as assure some degree of uniformity in data collection and analysis.

36. In the same connection, it had been recommended that only one consolidated questionnaire be sent to governments to monitor, review and appraise their progress in implementing the World Plan and Programme of Action for second half of the United Nations Decade for Women. It was suggested that the BAW/CSDHA should be responsible for consolidating the questionnaire and issuing it to the governments.

37. Several organizations had also expressed the need for the relevant agencies/organizations to be actively involved in the sectoral and regional review and appraisal in order that the specific concerns in these sectors and regions could be more accurately reflected. Thus designated "lead" agencies could work closely with collaborating agencies on the sectoral concerns.

A. Proposed organization of work

38. In the light of these considerations, the respective roles of the UN system in the review and appraisal process have been adjusted and are as proposed below for finalization by the inter-agency meeting.

Branch for the Advancement of Women/Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs

- (i) Development and harmonization of overall review and appraisal procedures.

- (ii) Responsibility for the monitoring, review and appraisal of Part I and those topics in the sectoral areas in Part II for which no other agency will take the "lead" role. This will be done in consultation with relevant organizations of the United Nations system.
- (iii) Transmittal of questionnaire for Part I to relevant United Nations organizations for their comments, information and reference and for their own sectoral preparation and data collection.
- (iv) Consolidation¹/of Parts I and II of the questionnaire (the latter to include all the submissions from other parts of the UN system) and transmittal to the interested UN system for comments and to the Regional Commissions for their preparation of supplementary questions of specific regional interest for Part III of the questionnaire
- (v) Retrieval of Part III of questionnaire from the Regional Commissions.
- (vi) Final consolidation of questionnaire.
- (vii) Arrangement of translation, reproduction and transmission of questionnaire to governments together with the note verbale from the Secretary-General through the Permanent Missions in Vienna or New York as necessary. Copies will be sent to Regional Commissions.
- (viii) Checking procedure to ensure receipt of questionnaire by governments.
- (ix) Retrieval of replies to consolidated questionnaires from governments with assistance of regional commissions.
- (x) Transmittal of copies of the government replies to regional commissions and other United Nations organizations for use in their sectoral and regional analyses.
- (xi) Preparation of reports on general topics listed in Attachment II Part I: A-E.
- (xii) Overall responsibility (possibly with consultant assistance) for the preparation and submission of the global review and appraisal report to the Commission on the Status of Women in accordance with the requirements of editorial and documentation controls. It is proposed that the outline of this global overall and appraisal report will be as follows:

Overview - This will be an analysis based on general, regional and sectoral reports and other available information. Attention will be drawn to major global problems and trends.

Abstracts or summaries of main points from each of the regional and sectoral reports.

- (xiii) Arrangement for reproduction and submission of detailed regional

¹/"Consolidation" will involve any necessary editing and or reorganization of material to minimize overlaps and/or gaps in information requested and to improve uniformity in format if considered necessary.

and sectoral reports to the Commission on the Status of Women, and for the 1985 World Conference as required.

Specialized Agencies and other United Nations Organizations

- (i) Responsibility for preparation of questionnaire for monitoring, review and appraisal of designated sections of Part II in consultation with regional offices and/or other organizations with overlapping interests and concerns. The "lead" agencies will be responsible for initiating procedures for such consultation.
- (ii) Transmission of above by mid-March 1983 to the BAW/CSDHA and other related agencies and organizations of the UN system for reference and inclusion in consolidated questionnaire to be undertaken by the Branch.
- (iii) Preparation of designated sectoral review and appraisal report by "lead" organizations using government replies to questionnaire and information available from routine activities/documents e.g. yearbook, other government reports, etc.
- (iv) Transmission of detailed sectoral report by mid-September 1984 to the Branch for the Advancement of Women for submission to the Commission on the Status of Women and for preparation of the global overview by the Branch.
- (v) Preparation of summary of sectoral report highlighting major issues and submission to the Branch for preparation of global overview.
- (vi) Revision according to comments made by Commission and re-submission to BAW for processing and submission to the 1985 World Conference as background document.
- (vii) Co-operation with BAW in preparation of global overview report on review and appraisal.

Regional Commissions

- (i) Preparation of supplementary questions for Part III of questionnaire by which to collect information of specific regional concerns for the third group of review and appraisal reports of progress made by governments.
- (ii) Transmission of Part III of questionnaire by mid-March 1983 to BAW/CSDHA for inclusion in consolidated questionnaire.
- (iii) Assist BAW/CSDHA in follow-up responses by Governments to questionnaire and assist all other agencies and organizations.
- (iv) Preparation of comprehensive regional review and appraisal reports including both general and sectoral aspects on the situation in countries in their region, preferably in close association with

regional offices of specialized agencies in accordance with recommendations of WCUNDW for reporting to several inter-governmental bodies and Secretariat units.^{1/} Use will also be made of other existing sources of information such as yearbooks, government reports, studies, etc.

- (v) Transmit copy of regional review and appraisal report by September 1984 (a) to BAW for preparation of global overview and submission to CSW, (b) to all United Nations organizations with responsibility for preparation of any sectoral reports as an additional information source.
- (vi) Revision according to comments made by the Commission on the Status of Women, if any, and re-submission to BAW for processing and submission to the World Conference.
- (vii) Co-operation with BAW in preparation of global overview report on review and appraisal.

B. Schedule of Procedures

39. A revised work schedule is now proposed to take into account (i) the need for preparing one consolidated questionnaire to be sent out by the BAW as proposed by organizations and (ii) the inability of some designated lead agencies to take the "initiating" role. The revised work schedule for consideration is at Attachment I.

40. Attention is drawn to the need for agencies and organizations to submit their sectoral contributions to the questionnaire by mid-March 1983 to the BAW in order that these could be incorporated into a consolidated questionnaire, sent back for comments, revised and sent out to Regional Commissions for their addition of supplementary questions of specific regional concern in Part III of the questionnaire. All Parts I, II and III will be consolidated into one comprehensive questionnaire and finalized by the Secretariat by the end of June 1983.

41. Drafting the sectoral and regional review and appraisal reports could start in June 1984 upon receipt of the government replies. The final replies should be submitted to the BAW at the latest by mid-September 1984. These will be used inter-alia by the Branch in the preparation of the global overview report for the 1985 World Conference. This report will have to be

^{1/} A/CONF.94.35, chapter 1, part A, paras. 281-282, 286(c)

completed and finalized by November in order to meet the requirements of editorial and documentation controls for review by the Preparatory Body for the World Conference when it meets in early 1985.

Possible flexibilities in the time schedule

42. It is realized that some regional commissions and possibly also some specialized agencies and other organizations might wish to have information at an earlier date to meet the requirements of their reporting systems to their own governing bodies. Ways of harmonizing possible conflicts in scheduling may be discussed at the inter-organizational meeting in early 1983. However, it is suggested that:

- (a) the dead-lines for receipt of all government replies might be brought forward to early 1984 - there would appear to be no serious need for information covering the last year before the Conference in order to effectively appraise progress during the Decade - but this would allow governments a lesser time for preparing their replies;
- (b) there might be no major difficulty in the adoption of different schedules by each region, provided that the differences were not great, as it does not appear essential to have uniformity in time period covered within a matter of less than six months;
- (c) where in some regions a significantly earlier date (say 1983) is felt to be necessary and where the regional commission intends to send a substantial request for information to governments, the commission concerned could undertake responsibility for transmitting to all "lead" agencies and collaborating organizations, the replies received through that request. However, the commission would need to subsequently transmit additional information covering the period to mid-1984 or whatever is necessary to meet the needs of the consolidated questionnaire. Information received from the regional commission's earlier questionnaire (in 1983), plus up-dating material provided by the regional commission by whatever means it finds appropriate, would be used by the "lead" agencies and organizations in the preparation of review and appraisal reports during 1984. The consolidated questionnaire would then not be sent to governments in that region if the full reporting requirements of that questionnaire could be met by the commission's request.

C. Scope of the Review and Appraisal

Period of coverage

43. The third biennial reporting round as part of the integrated reporting system on the status of women should cover the period 1982-1983. Additionally since the second biennial reporting round for 1980/81 was limited only to

progress made in the general aspects for the advancement of women, governments will be requested to report in the forthcoming reporting round on progress made in the sectoral areas for the period 1980-1983/84. This period will also apply for the reporting on the General Aspects for those governments which did not reply to the last round of reporting. The time frame for the routine biennial review and appraisal procedures for the period 1982-1983 has been thus extended in order to meet the needs of the 1985 World Conference. Allowing governments to return the completed questionnaire in May 1984 would allow them to provide information current up to the end of 1983 and even the first quarter of 1984. Thus, the most recent developments could be included for the review and appraisal.

Proposed outline of areas to be covered

44. The suggestions/additions of the various organizations on the content for the review and appraisal have been noted. A revised draft of Annex A of the Note presenting the outline of areas to be covered is for consideration of the inter-agency meeting at Attachment II.

45. Organizations should be aware that the development and issue of one consolidated questionnaire to take account of all three aspects viz, the general aspects, the sectoral areas and regional specific concerns could result in a somewhat lengthy questionnaire which could overwhelm governments. Thus it is urged that requests for information be limited only to priority and pressing issues covered within the framework of the Programme of Action for the second half of the Decade for Women. The Attachment III serves only as a guide for agencies in preparing their sectoral questions, wherever possible.

46. The Branch will consolidate Parts I, II and III of the questionnaire, undertaking any necessary editing to secure a desirable compatibility of format. However, there would appear to be no major reason why there should be complete uniformity among sections, as certain topics may lend themselves to an open-ended format, others to specific close-ended questions, etcetera.

	Branch for the Advancement of Women	Specialized Agencies and other United Nations Organizations	Regional Commissions	Governments
1983				
PREPARATORY PHASE				
1st quarter				
January	Prepare Part I questionnaire. Send Part I for comments/reference UN system.			
February	Prepare sections Part II Q. with UN system, consultant.	Comment on Part I Q and transmit comments to BAW (J,F). Prepare sections Part II D (F).	Comment on Part I Q and transmit comments to BAW (J,F).	
	Interorganizational Meeting to finalize procedures			
March		Transmit Part II Q. to BAW (mid-M)		First Session of Preparatory Body for 1985 World Conference (F,M)
2nd quarter				
April	Consolidate Parts I, II Q. (mid A). Transmit above to regional commissions and agencies (mid A).			
May		Comment consolidated Parts I, II Q. and transmit BAW.(M)		
June			Receive consolidated Parts I, II Q. Prepare Part III Q. and transmit BAW. (mid M)	
	Final consolidation of Q. (J)			
TRANSMISSION PHASE				
3rd quarter				
July	Processing of Q. for transmission to governments.			
August	Send out consolidated Q. and monitor its receipt by governments.	Undertake technical activities in routine programmes and as special preparations for 1985 World Conference		Receive consolidated questionnaire. (S)
September				
COMPLETION PHASE				
4th quarter				
October				Preparation of replies (Oct. 1983-May 1984)
November				
December				
1984				
1st quarter				
January				
February				
March	Reminder Note for governments (M).			Commission on the Status of Women, 30th session
2nd quarter				
April				
May		Initial planning and analysis of materials from existing sources and reports of previous reporting rounds for incorporation in main analysis and drafting report in 3rd quarter 1984. (A,M,J)		Finalize replies to Q. Transmit replies to BAW. (M)
RETRIEVAL PHASE				
June	Receive and transmit government replies to UN system.			
ANALYSIS PHASE				
3rd quarter				
July		Analysis of information from government replies and other sources including technical preparatory meetings and World survey findings for review and appraisal reports (J,J,A).		
August				
September	Finalize draft global general report and sections of sectoral report and transmit to UN system for reference in preparing their report.	Finalize draft sectoral reports and transmit to BAW (mid Sept.) and other parts of UN system as additional resource for their report.	Finalize draft regional comprehensive report and transmit to BAW (mid Sept.) and other parts of UN for their report.	
4th quarter				
October	Preparation of global summary review-appraisal reports.			
November	Arrange processing of all reports for submission to meeting of Preparatory Body for 1985 Conference.			
December				
1985				
January				
February				Preparatory Body for 1985 World Conference review reports and comment. (F,M)
March				
April	Revise global "general" and summary review as necessary.	Revise sectoral reports if necessary.	Revise/update regional reports.	
May				
June	Arrange processing and transmission of review and appraisal reports for submission 1985 World Conference.			
July				
August				1985 World Conference

OUTLINE OF AREAS TO BE COVERED BY THE MONITORING,
REVIEW AND APPRAISAL PROCEDURE

The areas identified below are those which will be covered by the consolidated United Nations system questionnaire to be sent to governments and which will be the subject of the set of review and appraisal reports. The responsible specialized agency or other United Nations organization is indicated, this identification being based upon current understanding of the extent to which various elements within the United Nations system wish or are able to collaborate within the overall procedure as indicated in their responses to the September Note circulated by the Branch for the Advancement of Women.

PART I GENERAL DEVELOPMENTS

(The Branch for the Advancement of Women is responsible in consultation with other concerned specialized agencies and organizations).

- A. Formulation and implementation of national policies and plans to improve the status of women.
- B. Institutional arrangements for policy formulation, implementation and monitoring (within the framework of existing national development plans)
 - (a) National machinery
 - (b) Role of Non-Governmental Organizations
 - (c) Research, data collection and analysis (including current activities, institutions)
 - (d) Dissemination of information (including the role and impact of communications and the media on the status of women and the participation of women in this area).
- C. Legal status of women
 - (a) National Legislation
 - (b) Implementation of International Instruments relating to the status of women.
- D. Political participation, international cooperation and the strengthening of peace.
- E. General assessment of progress and achievements within the United Nations Decade for Women (1975-1985); significant achievement(s); national level impact of international/regional level programmes, e.g. TCDC; major gaps/lags; priorities, targets, action beyond the Decade).

PART II SECTORAL AND TOPICAL ISSUES

<u>Sector or topic</u>	<u>lead agency or organi- zation</u>	<u>collaborating agencies or organizations</u>
A. Rural development (including agriculture, food systems, services and industrialization in rural areas and small urban centres and rural housing and human settlements)	FAO	UNDP, Habitat, WFP WFC, IFAD, ILO
B. Industrialization (except in rural areas and small urban centres)	UNIDO	UNCTC, UNDP, ILO
C. Services (including wholesale and retail trade and tourism)	BAW/consultant	UNDP, ILO
D. Housing and human settlements (except in rural areas and small urban centres)	Habitat	UNDP, WFP
E. Energy, water and the natural environment	BAW/DTCD	UNEP, UNDP, WFP, FAO
F. Science and technology	(see note below)**	
G. Monetary factors	BAW/consultant	World Bank
H. Trade	UNCTAD or BAW/ consultant	
I. Health and nutrition	WHO	Pop Div, UNDP, WFP UNFPA, UNICEF, FAO
J. Education and training	UNESCO	Centre for Human Rights, UNICEF, UNDP, WFP, ILO, FAO
K. Employment (including training)	ILO	UNDP, WFP, FAO, UNESCO
L. Reproduction and migration	Pop Div	UNFPA, ILO
M. Refugees and displaced women	UNHCR	ECA
N. Basic statistical indicators	Statistics Office	

PART III REGIONALLY SPECIFIC ISSUES

Separate parts will be prepared by each of the Regional Commission Secretariats.

Note:** The topic of science and technology could be dealt with as a separate topic or, as originally proposed in the Note, integrated within the review of each of the sectoral areas. The Branch for the Advancement of Women feels that the topic could be more comprehensively treated as part of each sectoral examination given its relevance to all aspects of women's relationships with society. Questions relating to education for women in the fields of science and technology could be included in the topic of education and training.

Statistical information will be sought, analysed and utilised in preparation of review and appraisal reports wherever appropriate. Statistical Office/DIESA will collaborate with all parts of the United Nations system in this regard.

NOTE ON SUGGESTED COVERAGE FOR SECTORAL REPORTS*

The sectoral review and appraisal reports will cover the national level measures and progress made in the respective development sectors within the framework of the issues and priorities of the World Plan of Action and Programme of Action for the second half of the Decade. It is suggested that the reports cover the following proposed areas of concern where relevant as well as any others of particular regional or sectoral significance:

(a) national policy and legislative measures specifically taken to improve the status of women in the specified sectors; impact on women of measures/plans implemented within the related sectors in the context of the third international development strategy; assessment of outcomes (success and shortfalls).

(b) state of ratification of related conventions in the respective sectors; obstacles faced.

(c) linkage with national machineries, policy and planning.

(d) national level programmes taken to increase the availability of relevant services, ensure the equal accessibility and use of these services by women; assessment of outcomes (success and failures).

(e) the access to, use and application of science and technology in the specified sectors to improve the status of w-men, e.g. use of new seeds, new production methods, scientific training for w-men, etc..

(f) level of participation of women vis-a-vis men in the policy making, planning and implementation levels in these sectors. Identification of any obstacles to progress; steps taken to improve their participation.

(g) special measures taken, if any, to identify the needs of special groups (i.e., young women, unemployed women, migrant women, disabled and ageing women, and women alone responsible for their families, refugee and displaced women); special provisions made for these groups in relation to their needs within these sectors, where relevant.

(h) identification of any significant disparities in regional trends or concerns associated with common geographical, socio-cultural and/or economic development status.

(i) most significant achievement or progress made in the sector during the period of the Decade 1975-1985; major obstacles limiting progress in the sector.

(j) priorities and continuing needs beyond the decade and looking towards the year 2000 AD.

* This note is meant only as a guide for use wherever appropriate, in order to facilitate some degree of uniformity in data collection, analysis and reporting across the sectors.

ADDENDUM

Texts of Replies of Organizations

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE

27 July 1982

World survey on the role of women in development

Referring to your letter dated 28 June 1982, we have taken note of the outline of the above survey. As it was agreed before, we shall be pleased to send you in due time any available ILO reports and studies relevant to items: II. The role of women in agriculture; III. The role of women in industry; VII. The role of women in the development and application of science and technology. We hope that this material will be useful for the consultant who is going to prepare this survey.

Please let us know when you would like to receive these documents and in which language.

- Effects of agricultural development on the status of women, WEP 10-4-04-24-1-158-5
 - Participación de la mujer en el empleo y el desarrollo rural en America Latina y el Caribe, WEP 10-4-04-24-1-86
 - Développement capitaliste et perception des femmes dans la société arabo-musulmane WEP 10-4-04-90
 - Rural women in a resettlement project: the case of Libya, WEP 10-4-04-24-1-158-4
 - Technological change and rural women, WEP 2-22/WP.46
 - Technology and rural women in Africa, WEP 2-22/WP.61
 - Rural development planning and the sexual division of labour, a case study of a Moslem Hausa village, WEP 10/WP.10
 - Women in agriculture: peasant production ... WEP 10/WP.13
 - Population, employment and development in the Arab region: Scope and prospects, WEP Working Paper No. 11
 - Rural women of Thailand: from peasant girls ... WEP 10/WP.14)
 - Economic role and status of women: ... beedi... WEP 10/WP.15
 - Housewives produce for the world market ... WEP 18/WP.16
 - Position of women workers ... Sri Lanka, WEP 10/WP.18
 - Preliminary study of women rubber estate workers ... WEP 10/WP.19
 - Survival strategies ... WEP 10/WP.17
 - Agricultural modernisation and Third World women ... WEP 10/WP.21
 - A conceptual framework for the analysis ... technological change, WEP/WP.31
 - Technologies for rural women's activities, Sierra Leone, WEP/WP.86
 - Rural women ... Ghana, WEP/WP.87
- Eleventh Conference of American States Members of the International L.O., Macmillan, 1979: Report III (Conditions of Work, Vocational Training ...)
- Asian Regional Conference, Fifth Session, 1980: Report III (Problems of rural workers in Asia and the Pacific)
- ILO/W.1/1982 (Engl. and French - Bibliography)
- ILO/W.3/1982 (Extra-Budgetary Financed Projects in Favour of Women)

attached

Follow-up of the World Employment Conference: Basic Needs (65th Session, 1979: Report VII)

to be added

- Training and Women (attached)

- Le rôle économique et social des femmes face à la technologie, COMDI/T/1979/15
- Le travail de la femme et le développement des pays, COMDI/T/1980/2
- Report to the Government of Fiji on Vocational Training and Home Industries, Training for Women, Project findings and recommendations, FIJ/75/013, 1977
- Rapport au Gouvernement de la République algérienne démocratique et populaire sur le Développement de la formation professionnelle des femmes - résultats du projet et recommandations en décollant, ALG/77/007, 1978
- Training of Women for Entry into Non-Traditional Occupations (Intern. Seminar on Opening up to Women of Vocational Training and Jobs traditionally occupied by Men, Frankfurt, Nov. 1980)

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION

30 July 1982

I write with reference to the draft annotated outline of a world survey on the role of women in development, transmitted for our consideration in accordance with General Assembly resolution 36/74 by letter dated 28 June 1982 from Mr. S.U. Yolah, Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs.

The draft has been considered with great interest in the Secretariat. However, it does not appear that there is any contribution which IMO can appropriately make to any of the six major areas of discussion to be included in the scope of the world survey. We are, therefore, not in a position to make any observations or suggestions on the draft outline at this stage.

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

9 August 1982

I have for reply a letter (ref. SO 540) to the Managing Director related to General Assembly resolution 36/74. I have no specific comments to offer on section VI which might involve the area of competence of the Fund, but would welcome an opportunity to review a more complete draft later.

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

10 August 1982

We refer to Mr. Yolah's letter SO 540 dated 28 June 1982 pertaining to the General Assembly resolution referred to above and requesting our comments.

Concerning UNDP's contribution to the survey, we would like to refer to our Evaluation Study No. 3, Rural Women's Participation in Development, which contains material of immediate relevance to the proposed world survey. For ease of reference we attach a copy of our study although the Centre has received many copies in the past.

On the specific subjects to be dealt with by the survey we have the following comments:

1) Chapter on agriculture

Without detailed knowledge of the discussion that led to the recommendations for subject matters to be dealt with by the survey, it is difficult to judge the merits of the proposals. However, we wish to raise the point that agriculture is often no longer the predominant source of employment in rural areas. While men leave in search of alternative employment in the cities or in other countries, to an increasing extent women also leave the rural areas, leaving large segments of the population living in absolute poverty. To deal with these problems a diversified strategy of rural development, not limited to agriculture, will be needed and we find the suggested outline somewhat deficient in this respect. A subject matter of major importance that is not specifically identified and could be included here is the relationship between food production and nutrition and women's crucial role in both areas of activity.

2) Chapter on industry

In this chapter, particularly in section D, it would seem pertinent to stress the importance of small-scale industrial development, both from the point of view of development in general and from the point of view of women's participation in industrial development. As noted in Rural Women's Participation in Development: "Rural industries could supply basic needs goods suitable to local market conditions and provide opportunities for investing rural surpluses locally as well as means of satisfying and refining local entrepreneurial initiatives. In addition to rural industrial development, there is considerable scope for related activities, such as repair and maintenance, construction and productive development of the tertiary sector. Unless much more varied activities are established closer to where the rural population lives, it is difficult to see how the heavy rural-urban flow of migration can be contained, as is commonly desired". (para. 608). These matters are also stressed in the "International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade."

3) Chapter on trade

Throughout this chapter it would seem especially important to stress women's contribution, through their increasing participation in the trade of foodstuffs and consumer goods, to the survival of the poor, that is, to the more efficient utilization of scarce resources through a highly competitive and specialized marketing system.

4) Chapter on energy

Access to energy may be viewed as a basic service of special importance to women's work. Viewed from this perspective, the energy chapter points to the omission of any consideration of the importance of basic services in the survey. Without access to basic services, such as primary health care, education and training, water supply and sanitation facilities, energy, roads and transportation facilities, it is difficult to see how women's participation in development can become effective.

To conclude these brief observations, it seems that the suggested outline is somewhat deficient in that it omits a number of areas that are of crucial interest to women's role in development, such as the need to create non-farm rural employment opportunities and to pay increased attention to the provision of basic services including the development of community-based delivery systems. If the progress report on the work of the survey that will be presented to the General Assembly this year made proposals for the remedy of these matters, the value of the survey would be enhanced.

We hope that you will find these comments and observations useful.

UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES

11 August 1982

Referring to Under-Secretary-General Yolah's letter of 28 June 1982 with the attached annotated outline on the above mentioned subject, we are pleased to provide the following comments for your consideration:

The proposed outline is very well structured and covers the areas suggested in General Assembly resolution 36/74 on a comprehensive review.

We note with satisfaction that in Chapter II which deals with the role of women in agriculture, "population pressure" and reproductive behaviour have been included among those factors which are associated with women's status as well as the process of agricultural development. However, this attention to population variables does not seem to continue in the remaining chapters. We, therefore, would like to suggest that, if possible, in the design of the survey additional recognition be given to the fact that the desired increase in the participation of women in non-traditional jobs outside the home is influenced by a number of social and economic factors which may enhance or hinder such a process. Among those factors associated with women's participation are the nature of home responsibilities, marital status, and the presence of young children in the family as well as their number.

Various studies have shown that the rate of women's participation in the labour force is related to the age and number of their children. The higher birth rate which increases the burden of family responsibilities, combined with the absence of household conveniences which lighten the workload of women are therefore recognized as major factors discouraging women from seeking outside job opportunities. Similarly, educational attainment which is directly related to labour force participation may be interrupted by early pregnancies which result in withdrawal from school.

Consideration of the above mentioned issues may provide a clearer understanding of why it is difficult for women to benefit from expanding job opportunities without appropriate changes in the child and family-related aspects of their life.

We hope the above comments will be useful in finalizing the outline of the survey. Additionally, we would like to express UNFPA's willingness and interest in participating in the preparation of the survey under consideration.

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

12 August 1982

REYOUR LET REF S0540 AND REQUEST UNEP CONTRIBUTION CAN BE MADE
CHAPTER V THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE USE OF CONSERVATION AND
DEVELOPMENT OF ENERGY RESOURCES. (UNITERRA NAIROBI)
COL 1244-08 S0540 V

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

13 August 1982

Thank you for your letter (Ref. SO 540) of June 28, 1982, with which you sent UN resolution 36/74 on a Comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development.

We read with interest the said resolution as well as the proposed annotated outline for the survey and have no comments to offer at this stage.

17 August 1982

With reference to Shuaib U. Yolah's letter of 28 June and following my letter to you of 27 July, I am sending you, under separate cover, the promised material. The documents are in English with the exception of those available only in French.

-- Please find attached photocopies of our dispatch lists. As our unit does not keep stock of all the documents sent, it may be possible that one or some of them are not included because no longer available.

- Convention No. 110
 - Convention No. 129
 - ~~See~~ Recommendation No. 110
 - "environnement africain" (initiative de groupe et stérilisation administrative, les teinturiers de Bargny)
 - Development and mounting famine: a role for women (ILR)
 - Women's work as viewed in present-day Algerian society (ILR)
 - The economic slowdown and women's employment opportunities (ILR)
 - The plight of rural women: alternatives for action (ILR)
 - Handicrafts: a source of employment for women in developing rural economies (ILR)
 - Rural women and the basic-needs approach to development (ILR)
 - Programme: Rural women
 - Rural women - unequal partners in development
 - Women in rural development - the People's Republic of China
 - Women and rural development, some critical issues
 - Women, technology and the development process, ILO/W.3/1978
 - ... African women in development, ILO/W.3/1977
 - Women women in Asia today, ILO/W.5/1981/Rev.1
 - Women in industry in developing countries, ILO/W.6/1978
 - Women's participation in the economic activity of the world, ILO/W.3/
- A ajouter:
- ~~Women workers and the development process, ILO/W.7/1979~~ out of stock

UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

18 August 1982

Par sa lettre SO 540 datée du 28 juin 1982 qui nous est parvenue le 21 juillet 1982, M. Shuaib U. Yolah a attiré notre attention sur la résolution 36/74 relative au plan d'ensemble pour une étude mondiale sur le rôle des femmes dans le développement.

Après avoir pris connaissance de cette communication, notre Bureau vous informe qu'au stade actuel il n'a pas de commentaires à formuler à ce sujet, étant donné la nature des activités de l'Union postale universelle et compte tenu du fait que l'étude en question comporte une analyse axée en particulier sur le commerce, l'agriculture, l'industrie, l'énergie, l'argent et les finances et la science et la technique.

Cependant, notre Bureau prendra connaissance avec intérêt, le moment venu, du rapport y relatif du Secrétaire général à l'Assemblée générale.

18 August 1982

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) received the letter dated 28 June 1982 from Under-Secretary-General Shuaib U. Yolah, United Nations Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, transmitting the annotated outline for the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development: Selected Aspects of Women's Role in National Economies, along with General Assembly resolution 36/74, Comprehensive Outline of a World Survey on the Role of Women in Development, (4 December 1981-A/36/694/Add.11).

UNITAR is pleased to co-operate with the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, particularly with its Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs (CSDHA), in the preparation of this important survey.

Complimentary copies of our Institute's recent publication, Scientific-Technological Change and the Role of Women in Development were forwarded to H. Kubota, Assistant Director, Branch for the Advancement of Women, CSDHA, on 12 November 1981. This critique by women of male-generated and -dominated technologies grows out of a consciousness of women's positions as essential, yet unsalaried participants in production processes. The authors document the ways in which women suffer from technological development in industrialized and developing countries and assess how technological developments perpetuate inequities between nations, regions, classes and the sexes. They discuss the implementation of modern technology in agriculture and its effects on rural women, look at the position of women in basic and applied sciences and in science policy-making, and analyze the place of women in selected technology-based industries.

This UNITAR book is viewed as a contribution of our Institute to the preparation of chapters II, III, and VII of the World Survey, on the role of women in agriculture, industry and the development and application of science and technology, respectively. The listing of this publication in the Selected Bibliography of the World Survey would be greatly appreciated by the Institute.

Moreover, UNITAR and INSTRAW are considering the establishment, under joint auspices, of an independent international committee on alternative development with the participation of women. The purpose of this committee is to formulate a broad conceptual framework for analyzing contemporary patterns of international economic, social and cultural relationships incorporating women's experience, perspectives and priorities. The Committee is also envisaged to review and analyze how greater recognition in remunerable terms of women's role in society can effect the prospect of generating a more pragmatic development approach. The Committee's focus on the most recent international initiatives - particularly the NIEDO and the IES - will complement the World Survey's detailed account of women's role in selected aspects of national economies.

Looking forward to continued co-operation toward the full equality of women in economic, political and social development,

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR
THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

20 August 1982

With reference to the invitation extended to INSTRAW to participate in the expert group meeting on Women and the International Development Strategy, to be convened in Vienna in September 1982, please find enclosed herewith our comment on the annotated outline of the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development.

As to your request for a brief paper on women's role in services, it will be sent shortly after under separate cover.

I hope you will take into consideration the fact that we have received the invitation a little late and it did not ask for our comment on the World Survey.

1. Although the Annotated Outline follows rather faithfully the Comprehensive Outline as adopted by the General Assembly resolution 36/74, some general remarks could be made with regard to the overall structure of the Annotated Outline:

a. Section I - Overview should contain expressed reference to the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, in particular the special provisions relating to the integration of women in over-all development, since the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development should inter alia provide the basis for the mid-decade assessment of the implementation of the Third Development Decade.

b. Every section of the Outline refers to the principle of developing countries' self-reliance, which is understandable, since the Survey should concentrate on the position of women at national levels.

It would be more coherent, however, if the principle of self-reliance, particularly the collective self-reliance (i.e., economic and technical cooperation among developing countries) as referred to in

operative paragraph 4 of the General Assembly resolution 36/74, had been dealt with in a more consolidated manner. Therefore, it is suggested that a separate, final chapter of the Survey could be devoted to those issues.

It should be noted that developing countries devoted particular attention to their mutual cooperation at many regional meetings, particularly regional preparatory conferences held on the eve of the Mid-Decade Conference in Copenhagen. The assessment of the achieved results and main guidelines to be followed in the future could be most useful.

2. In Section II, The Role of Women in Agriculture, some areas that might be included for examination are:

Section A - the present role of women in agriculture.

a. The assessment of women's role in subsistence agricultural production which remains mainly invisible in national accounts and/or data;

b. The replacement of subsistence agricultural production by cash crop or export production and its effect on women's workload and decrease of their economic benefit due to the increase in price of imported food;

c. Change in land ownership because of new legislation accompanying land reform, land reclamation and green revolution;

d. Migration from rural areas; either the migration of male members of the family or women themselves;

e. Women's access to markets, agricultural credits and participation in agricultural cooperatives.

Section C - Ways and means of improving women's role in agriculture.

The strategies and measures should be clearly outlined, such as, for example, vocational training for rural women, which is essential for women in order to cope with new technology which is brought in either by agricultural mechanization or agribusiness; enhancing the traditional patterns of organization (e.g., Mexican ejido), etc.

Section D - Potential impact of improvement upon achievement of over-all development goals. If women's requirements in agriculture are taken into consideration, it is necessary to incorporate development goals to be attained: food security and the reduction in balance of payments deficit through decrease in import of food and foodstuffs.

3. Section III - The Role of Women in Industry

a. Reference to technology-related problems might be appropriate whenever the issue of redeployment of industries is tackled. In this respect women's training and re-training is most important to increase their skills so as to avoid loss of employment opportunities with the introduction of new industries.

b. The impact of activities related to transnational corporations should be analyzed, in particular with regard to women's employment:

c. The role of women in endogenous small industries and artisan works in order to protect those activities so that they should not disappear with modernization, since they are an important source of women's employment and increased income.

4. The Role of Women in Trade

Additional issues to be incorporated might be:

- a. Women's contribution to the production of main export commodities;
- b. Policy of protectionism and trade barriers and their impact on women;
- c. Women's role in formal trade activities;
- d. Women's role in petty trade.

Sections B and C. More specific annotations should be given, such as which portion of export earnings is used for women's benefit, as compared to their contribution in production, etc.

5. The Role of Women in the Use, Conservation and Development of Energy Resources

Women's role as users and providers of conventional and renewable sources of energy should be delineated so as to devise adequate measures in both spheres, such as rural electrification, the use of renewable sources of energy, etc. Possible topics might include:

- a. Census of household fuel shortages, such as decreasing supplies of traditional fuels, access to fuel supplies, destruction or depletion of supplies;
- b. Effects of shortages (alternative sources of energy, commercial fuels) or reduction of energy use;
- c. Impact of household fuel scarcities on women's work and family existence;
- d. Implications for policy intervention.

6. The Role of Women in Money and Finance

This section needs more careful delineation in terms of identifying the main issues, such as:

- a. Salient features of investment policy and the role of women in decision-making processes;
- b. Access of women to credit schemes, particularly those granted under concessionary conditions;
- c. Effects of inflation and monetary instability on family budgets;
- d. Employment of women in the sector of money and finance; their frequency in the top managerial and decision-making positions.

7. The Role of Women in Development and Application of Science and Technology

The most important features of particular components of the science and technology process should be delineated; e.g., those referring to "hard" technology (equipment) and "soft" technology (management, information, scientific systems, education, etc.). According to the classification adopted, the role of women should be highlighted, both as producers and users of scientific and technological achievements relevant to the development of particular sectors of national economy. Accompanying problems such as safety at work should also be included.

/...

8. Methodological Remarks

The most important task still to be resolved refers to the establishment of a firm methodological framework in view of the fact that women are not a homogeneous group and, therefore, the necessity arises of adopting some broader groupings for the sake of analysis.

A regional approach seems to be adequate, although the analysis should be concentrated on examples at the national level, in view of the expressed differences among countries in each region.

When considering the role of women in development, it may be stressed that it should be envisaged not only as the contribution to the transformation of the expressed dichotomy between traditional and modern sectors of production which prevails in the majority of developing countries. Cultures and countries should be carefully considered, as well as social mobility, social structures, etc.

Equally challenging is the inclusion of problems facing women in developed countries which could be tackled also by approaching problems in invisible sectors (such as household, some services) and formal sectors of the economy. However, in view of the methodological difficulties, the most salient features should be highlighted.

Finally, as refers to the basic research techniques, practical objectives have to be defined more closely, as well as methods and use of source material, time frame of research and final presentation of research results. It would enable INSTRAW to plan for its participation.

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES
IN THE NEAR EAST

20 August 1982

I refer to Mr Yolah's letter of 28 June concerning General Assembly resolution 36/74, which requests a "Comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development".

Given the decision to deal "primarily with selected aspects of the role of women in national economies", the survey falls outside the scope of UNRWA's mandate. I regret, therefore, that we are unable to offer a contribution to the study which would be relevant or helpful on this occasion.

25 August 1982

I refer to Mr. Yolah's letter of June 28, 1982 concerning General Assembly resolution 36/74 on a "Comprehensive Outline of a World Survey on the Role of Women in Development". He asked for Bank documents on the annotated outline of the survey as well as an indication of possible Bank collaboration with the study.

The proposed survey is comprehensive; relevant World Bank experience on which the survey could draw is concentrated in the agriculture, industry, and forestry sectors. The main issues which women face in the implementation of Bank-assisted projects and the Bank's approach to dealing with these issues are summarized in the following papers prepared by the Bank's Adviser on women in development and which are attached.

- 1) Women in Agriculture: Review of Some Sector Reports
- 2) Note on Some Activities of The World Bank Related to Women in Industry
- 3) Forestry Projects and Women.

"Project Design Issues" (copy attached) also covers a number of concerns relating to women at the earliest stages of the project cycle, including implications for technology choice; however, no similar experience in the role of women in relation to trade or money and finance has been undertaken.

Following your review of these papers, the Bank's Adviser on Women in Development, Mrs. Gloria Scott, would be pleased to follow up on any relevant gaps in the material which you might identify, and to comment on the consolidated outline, if requested.

UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

26 August 1982

I refer to memo No. SO 540 of 28 June 1982 from Mr. Shuaib U. Yolah on the subject of "World Survey on the Role of Women in Development: Selected Aspects of Women's Role in National Economies". We have studied the annotated outline and find that it covers all significant areas where women's role should be promoted, both as agents and beneficiaries of development.

However, perhaps because the survey is focussed on analysing the role of women in key developmental issues, it does not mention or touch on the role and situation of women refugees. You are aware that of the nearly 10 million refugees in the world about 60% are women and girls. The High Commissioner, in his efforts to find durable solutions for refugees, attaches great importance to developing the potentials of women refugees, assisting them towards self-support and involving them in the decision-making process relating to administration of camps and other matters affecting their lives and well-being. In the light of this and in view of the unabating problem of refugees we believe that an analysis of or reference to the situation, and role of women refugees in the development of their own conditions which may directly or indirectly contribute to the economies of their host or adopted countries deserves coverage by the proposed survey.

UNHCR submitted a paper titled "The Situation of Women Refugees the World Over" at the Copenhagen Conference which indicated the particular vulnerability of women refugees and suggested some ways for solving their problems and further studies. In the context of the proposed survey UNHCR can prepare a contribution which would include:

- a. a brief analysis of the situation of women refugees;
- b. role of women refugees in their integration and development of their conditions in host countries, and
- c. role of women refugees in some of the areas listed in the annotated outline.

The UNHCR contribution can appear as a separate item in the survey report or as part of Chapter I, the Overview. A reference should in any case be made in this chapter to the women refugees and their role in development with an indication of the fact that attainment of self-reliance by them will ultimately lessen the burden on host countries and the international community.

If you find the above proposal acceptable or would like to suggest other ways of giving coverage to women refugees we would be happy to prepare the contribution according to your suggestion.

26 August 1982

I refer to my letter of 18 August 1982 and to the letter dated 28 June 1982 by which Mr. Shuaib U. Yolah, Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs, forwarded a copy of General Assembly resolution 36/74 and of the Annotated Outline of the "World Survey on the Role of Women in Development: Selected Aspects of Women's Role in National Economies", asking that views and suggestions on specific issues should be forwarded to you.

You will recall that in operative paragraph 3, the General Assembly recommends that the world survey should cover, inter alia "(c) Ways and Means of improving women's role as agents and beneficiaries of development at the national, regional and international levels; (d) The potential impact of such improvements on the achievement of over-all development goals."

I realize that the World Survey that is being prepared is limited to selected aspects of women's role in national economies. However, I should like to bring to your attention the fact that at the UNITAR Colloquium on Women and Decision-making in the United Nations, it was noted that it was important that women should be included in decision-making positions in the United Nations, particularly in decision-making positions related to development, because women in such positions could have an influence on international programming and allocation of funds for the country level that would be responsive to women's needs and concerns. I wonder whether this will be dealt with in the "overview" section, or whether you think it would be worth adding a section entitled "The role of women at the international level as agents of development at the national level".

There are several UNITAR publications that are relevant in this respect, namely The Situation of Women in the United Nations (UNITAR Research Report No. 18), "The Situation of Women in the United Nations - Revisited" in Women and the UN (UNITAR News, Vol. 7, No. 5), and Women and Decision-making in the United Nations and Decision-making: the role of women (E.78.XV.CR/10 and CR/11). The essay on "Women and decision-making in the United Nations at the regional and country level) in Vol. II of the last named publication is of particular relevance. Ms. Kubota has copies of all these publications.

UNITAR is in the process of publishing a book on Creative Women in Changing Societies resulting from the UNITAR Oslo Seminar on this subject. This volume, too, will be of interest in connection with the compilation of the World Survey, from the viewpoint of women's role as agents of development at the national level in various ways and in various fields. I shall see that a copy is sent to you as soon as possible.

WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

27 August 1982

As requested by Mr. Yolah in his letter of 28 June 1982, I am providing you with a number of comments and suggestions concerning the "Comprehensive outline of a world survey on the rôle of women in development" called for by General Assembly resolution 36/74.

WFP will be happy to collaborate on ways and means of improving women's rôle as agents and beneficiaries of development in its various aspects (trade, agriculture, industry, energy, etc); and at the same time wishes to point out that WFP food aid could be treated in the survey as a tool for improving the status of women. By itself it is a cross sectoral instrument for promoting development and improving the nutritional status of women. Therefore, although WFP would not be in a position to contribute substantive material to the survey, it could provide information on how food aid is effective (or not, depending on the case) in improving women's status.

We feel that in the sections of the report of relevance to WFP - Chapter II, The Role of Women in Agriculture (Sections C and D), Chapter II, The Role of Women in Industry, with particular reference to small-scale industries (Sections C and D); Chapter IV, The Role of Women in Trade (Sections C and D); Chapter V, The Role of Women in the Use, Conservation and Development of Energy Resources (Sections C and D) - , special mention should be made of the rôle of women in improving nutrition, which is of special interest to WFP since food aid is a nutritional supplement, as well as being a means for improving agricultural production and nutrition habits through nutrition education.

...
In this connexion we are attaching a copy of the Manual on women prepared for the 1980 Conference (WFP/CFA: 9/6) which may serve as a source of material on ways to assist women to better their economic and social positions.

The advantages of food aid in reaching women are as follows: (a) its direct nutritional benefits; (b) its capacity to redistribute incomes (food) toward the poorer sections of the population; (c) its appeal in bringing women together to collect food rations from a central distribution point which can serve as a base for the provision of important social services; (d) through a project approach to development assistance, WFP can deploy food aid in a variety of ways to stimulate new developmental activities for women; and (e) the food aid distribution system itself can generate new employment and organizational opportunities for women. A list of proposals for reorienting on-going WFP-supported activities is attached.

...

We believe that emphasis should be given in the report to the "lessons learned" over the decade by sector. In other words, what types of projects were successful and why? Where projects aimed specifically at women were more successful than projects where sub-components included women's activities, such as forestry development projects with a fuel-wood lot or nursery components?

Close inter-agency cooperation would ensure the maximum benefit from the UN system's resources and maximize its impact on the beneficiaries.

I trust that these observations may prove useful to you in preparing the survey.

PROPOSALS FOR REORIENTING ONGOING WFP-SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

CLASSIFICATION OF WFP-SUPPORTED ACTIVITY	Measures to improve direct access of girls and women	Measures to improve long-term benefits
(a) Feeding of mothers and pre-school children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Women are primary beneficiaries, though eligibility restricted to pregnant/nursing - Reach the poor through active recruitment and mobile units 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emphasize production of local foods - Incorporate a longer training component - Work through women's groups for organization building
(b) Feeding in educational/training institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Food aid as an inducement to correct sexual imbalances in schools and vocational programmes, e.g. to build girls' schools, hostels, child-care in training-programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emphasize education/training with goal of employment - Support district training centres for intermediate level staff serving rural areas; also short-term training for village women
(c) Self-help community development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote female participation in decisions re. what to do - Promote participation as workers with training at same level as men (carpentry, masonry, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emphasize construction of facilities with long-term benefits for women (water supplies, grain storage and processing crèches, hostels, women's markets)
(d) Large-scale agricultural production crops, fishery, animals/dairy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recognize women's current productive role in raising food, animals, processing fish, etc. - Provide training for women in all aspects of agricultural production and equipment; access to credit; co-operatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Build organizational capacity so women gain greater returns to their labour - Control over technology - Emphasize crop production with potential spinoff to rural industries (food processing, etc.)
(e) Public works (food-for-work) roads, soils irrigation, forestry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integration of women in all projects, either mixed, or in specialized women's teams (e.g. tree nurseries, road finishing, sodding, etc.) - Transport and child-care facilities, flexible hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emphasize training/employment after food-for-work ends depending on local labour demands, e.g. small-scale agricultural cooperatives, construction maintenance teams, other income generating possibilities
(f) Land settlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Full participation in planning committees - Equal beneficiaries of land, supplies, training, other inputs (credit, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emphasize expansion of women's economic and social roles in new community - Long-range prospects for earning income, mobilizing for action

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

31 August 1982

I refer to Mr Yolah's letter of 28 June 1982 concerning the comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development, as well as to my cable of 26 August 1982.

We have studied this outline with great interest and have discussed it at a recent meeting of the WHO regional Focal Points for Women, Health and Development. We have some basic objections to the proposed outline and would like to offer the following specific suggestions for its revision:

1. As it is presently worded, the basic conceptual framework and assumptions on which the outline is based focus on a narrow male-biased concept of economic development. It emphasizes materialistic and cash-based economic production and undervalues the services and roles of women's work in economic terms, as well as the social goals of development. The outline limits itself to "formal" sector analysis, without looking at women's work/production roles in their fullest sense.
2. The place of health within the development assumptions is limited to a "social benefit" and it is implied that health is a consumer sector. This does not recognize the importance of investments in health as part of the development process, the economic values of women's paid and unpaid roles and services as health care providers, nor the cost/savings of the unpaid services provided by women (i.e. the current pattern of services in most industrial or industrializing countries rely on women's unpaid work).

Women's health roles and services cover the span of sectors described, such as food production, processing, etc. (nutrition), provision of water and energy sources, and health care services.

3. Women's reproductive role is also narrowly conceived, being classified under "benefits accruing to women", rather than in its relationship to production.
4. The section on science and technology does not seem to leave room for discussion of health science and technology.
5. In general, if the outline were to remain as it is, there are health impact statements which should be made in all sections.
6. The outline, as it is, would lead to repetitious text, without allowing for adequate discussion of the interrelationships of all the sections.

At the meeting of the WHO Focal Points, it was also suggested that an inter-agency meeting be convened by CSDHA/BAW to discuss and revise the outline on the basis of the comments received. It was felt that such a meeting could prevent a great deal of distorted and unproductive work by the UN system.

We hope that these comments can be taken into account when preparing the final text of the outline.

INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

6 September 1982

I acknowledge with thanks Mr. Yola's letter, reference 540, of 28 June 1982 inviting comments on the annotated outline for the above-mentioned survey and have pleasure in providing the following remarks :

The framework of the outline has clear sectoral orientation, i.e. the role of women in agriculture, industry, trade, energy, etc., which might, however, lead to unnecessary confusion. For instance, women in developing countries - particularly in Africa - are engaged in crop production and, at the same time, its processing and marketing. A functional framework, involving subjects such as the role of women in human development (education, health, nutrition), food production, etc., and including such topical factors as predicaments confronting women-headed households because of male migration, could prove useful. In this connection, we note that issues such as migration are missing from the proposed outline, as are subjects related to the effect of existing social structures on the place and role of women in development.

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INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

6 September 1982

With reference to the letter from Mr. S.U. Yolah, Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs, of 28th June 1982 and the annotated outline of the proposed "survey on the role of women in development in national economies" which is under preparation as an input for the "World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women : Equality, Development and Peace", the ITU has no particular suggestions concerning the proposed survey. Unfortunately neither are we in a position to provide a specific contribution to your work.

However, we look forward to receiving a copy of the survey, when finally prepared.

8 September 1982

With reference to letter SO 540 of 28 June 1982 from Mr. S. U. Yoloh, Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs, transmitting General Assembly resolution 36/174, as well as the "Comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development", I am pleased to send you the following observations on this outline.

The resolution calls for the analysis of the role of women in trade, agriculture, industry, energy, money and finance. We feel, however, that the contribution of media and its influence on women's development should also have been mentioned in the outline.

You will find attached three reports on the "Access of Women to Specialized and Scientific Education and Training and to Corresponding Careers", undertaken in cooperation with Unesco by three countries, namely: Czechoslovakia, France and Venezuela. These studies are relevant to the chapter on Women in the Development and Application of Science and Technology.

Three reports of meetings on vocational and technical education held in 1980 (Bonn, Frankfurt and Tokyo), which you might find useful, are also attached.

With regards to chapters V and VII of the proposed outline, we would suggest that special emphasis be put on the following issues:

Chapter V : Identification of technological processes involving significant rise in costs of non-renewable energy sources; degradation of traditional energy sources and reversal of environment degradation; availability of technology for small-scale energy resources utilization; evaluation of the potential impact of significant improvement in women's role in the use, conservation and development of energy resources.

Chapter VII : We would like to see women considered in the development and application of science and technology, particularly for the use of endogenous knowledge and decisions making in this area; development of more appropriate technology from endogenous sources and the beneficial fusion of endogenous with exogenous science and technology.

The annotated outline indicates various concerns and aspects to be identified and analysed. However, the most important items of the survey seem to be based on conventional economic indicators. For example, the contribution of women to the informal sector such as the household sector is not considered at all within the traditional framework of the national economy. It is suggested that the survey be related also to the informal sector of the national economy.

During the twenty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women in Vienna, a working session with the Agencies and the United Nations Secretariat was held on the above subject. The Secretariat stressed the need to put clear limits on the fields of investigation. It will not therefore be possible to propose additional items concerning Unesco's fields of interest, which could be linked to the concept of development.

Nevertheless, for greater efficiency, it may be possible to add at the end of the survey a chapter analyzing the obstacles and tracing the relationship between the status of women and development. This crucial chapter would thus deal with the reasons for the very low participation of women in the redistribution of the national product.

In this chapter, the problems of education, communication and decision-making could be introduced. It also could stress the lack of data on women and the inadequacy of the statistics which do exist.

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA

9 September 1982

Reference is made to Mr. Yolah's communication of June 28 to the Executive Secretary, Ref. SO 540, (which arrived on 20 July) regarding General Assembly resolution 36/74 on a "Comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development".

The outline enclosed in Mr. Yolah's communication covers key developmental issues as set forth in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade: Agriculture, Trade, Industry, Money and Finance, Energy and Science and Technology. It is very important for the survey to reflect regional differences in each of those areas as well as the contribution women make to national economies through their work in the domestic unit.

Since the domestic units are assigned the main responsibility for the production and reproduction of the population, it is particularly relevant for a worldwide study on the role of women in development to undertake the task of establishing the relationships between the social and economic changes of countries and regions and the ways in which the production-reproduction of individuals is socially organized. We strongly believe such a relationship will contribute to a better understanding of the participation of women in development.

In regards to our contribution to the survey we are gathering pertinent documentation on some of the areas to be covered, and will be sent shortly to you.

14 September 1982

I. FAO's Possible Contribution

Within the mandate of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (WCARRD), FAO's contribution will emphasize women in agricultural and rural production. We are presently undertaking or planning a number of activities which would contribute to the survey. These include:

A. Report to the 1983 Committee on Agriculture

This document is entitled Follow-up to WCARRD: The Role of Women in Agricultural Production. The purpose is to highlight the crucial link between recognition of the role of women development goals - namely growth with equity, sustained reduction of poverty and malnutrition, increased food security and people's participation. The general conclusions from this report are:

- (i) Support to women in agriculture is not a separate issue, but an integral part of solving the problem of world hunger; rural women are an appropriate concern of units throughout FAO if the goals of the organization are to be reached.
- (ii) Special efforts are needed to institutionalize standing concerns with rural women in the design and implementation of agricultural projects as a priority for the end of the UN Decade on Women.

B. Series of Women in Development Case Studies - FAO Projects

This is an analysis of a selected number of FAO projects as to factors which do or do not contribute to women's participation. The review assesses factors related to successful women's projects - what works, what doesn't and why. The projects reviewed include rural poultry, sheep and goat production, irrigated agriculture on settlement schemes and integrated rural development.

C. Women and Food Systems and Programmes

A number of activities are planned within this new programme including surveys and project activities within selected countries.

D. Demonstration Centres for African Women Farmers

As a direct follow-up to the 1980 World Conference on the UN Decade for Women, FAO is planning the strengthening and/or establishment of demonstration centres for African women farmers. The training will encompass technical assistance for women's household and agricultural responsibilities and will focus on food production efforts, particularly for the most disadvantaged rural women.

E. 1983 FAO Expert Consultation on Reaching Rural Women

A selected number of policy-level governmental and non-governmental technical officers and organizations will be invited to attend this Expert Consultation. The agenda will focus on substantive issues particularly related to women as agricultural producers. The results of this meeting, as well as the background papers, will provide results which could be utilized in the survey.

F. Guidelines and Checklists on Women in Rural Development

Under the auspices of the ACC Task Force on Rural Development, FAO is analysing guidelines and checklists on women in rural development issued by all UN Agencies and Organizations. The results of this analysis, which will be available in November 1982, indicate the development and use of guidelines and checklists and the implications in designing and evaluating programmes effectively involving rural women.

II. Suggestions regarding the Proposed Outline

The background documents related to women and rural development for the Expert Group Meeting on Women and the International Development Strategy (6-10 September 1982, Vienna) indicate a shift from technical consideration to an analysis of structural and political factors. As important as these policy issues are, it is suggested that considerably more substantive evidence must be presented about women's economic activities and contributions. The policy arguments need to be balanced by data about rural women's day to day life and the effects of modernization on this.

As stated at the February/March 1982 UN Commission on the Status of Women, it is suggested that the survey should ideally include the following:

- The comparative roles of women and men in different types of agricultural production structures for both crops and livestock; women's access to and control of means of production (e.g. seeds, fertilizers, services) as related to their tasks; access to training in relation to tasks in all phases of the production structure;
- Identification of labour and time allocation in agricultural production by sex; participation in decision-making as related to the specific tasks performed by women;
- Identification of socio-economic indicators reflecting the role and contribution of women in agriculture, i.e. female heads of households, work load;
- Inter-relationship between population pressure and land availability (land/man ratio) for women;
- Male migration in relation to labour supply and increase in work load for women, but not commensurate with increase in decision-making;
- The access of women to land, capital, technology in different land tenure systems.

UNITED NATIONS - ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR AFRICA (ATRCW)

22 September 1982

In reply to the letter of Mr Yolah, Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs of 28 June 1982 regarding the "comprehensive outline of a world survey on the role of women in development", I am sending you my comments on the proposed outline indicating the areas in which the African Training and Research Centre for Women would be prepared to contribute.

With regard to Section II on the Role of Women in Agriculture, ATRCW is presently setting up an innovative study on the role of women in agriculture, which it hopes to finish by the end of 1983, the results of which would be made available to CSDHA. The study involves a comparative study of women in three agricultural situations, one where the women are practicing agriculture with traditional inputs (Central African Republic), a second where a large-scale development project has had adverse impact on women's agriculture (Senegal), and a third, where the impact of modern well-designed inputs into women's agricultural activities is assessed (Gambia). This study would have useful data for parts A-D of the Section II outline. ATRCW has also completed a study on the role of women in agriculture in Nigeria (Women and Agriculture in Nigeria), a copy of which is attached which should be useful for Section II-A. With regard to II-C involving examination of national strategies which appear to have had a generally beneficial effect, the case of Kenya is suggested, particularly in light of the selection of Kenya as the probable venue for the 1985 Conference. Also with regard to II-C, ways and means of improving women's role, ATRCW wishes to suggest that the issue of retraining both men and women agricultural extension agents be dealt with; this is an important issue in the Africa Region because present curricula have meant that men farmers receive agricultural information from extension agents, while women farmers receive largely home economics inputs from female extension agents.

With regard to Section III, the Role of Women in Industry, ATRCW has presently requested funding, which it expects to receive, for a study of the role of women in the Industrial Development Decade in Africa (IDDA),

a project of the Economic Commission for Africa. The study will involve an analysis of how women are incorporated into present programmes for the IDDA, and what skills women will need for full participation in the Decade. It will propose an action programme and guidelines for the full integration of women into IDDA objectives. The result of the study will be a report to member States, to be first presented to the Spring 1983 meeting of the Africa Regional Coordinating Committee (ARCC). ATRCW would be happy to share the results of the study with CSDHA. ATRCW has also undertaken and published a study of Women Textile Workers in Ethiopia, a copy of which is enclosed.

With respect to Section IV, The Role of Women in Trade, ATRCW is proposing to undertake a study on this subject in Africa with the International Trade Centre, with concentration on the following issues: contribution of women's trade activities to national gross development product, analysis of activities in terms of their ability to generate employment and savings, study of ways in which women's trade activities could be made more effective, study of the major commodities handled by women. It is anticipated that the results of this study will be presented to the 1984 Regional Preparatory Meeting to the World Conference. ATRCW has also completed a study of the problems of market women in Ghana, the role of women in self-employment (largely trade) in Mali, Ivory Coast and Senegal, and has held a seminar on women and the food trade in West Africa. A copy of the Mali, Ivory Coast and Senegal study is enclosed; copies of the other two are presently under publication and will be forwarded to CSDHA as soon as they are ready. ATRCW has also undertaken a study entitled Women and the Fishing Industry in Liberia which attempts to quantify the contribution of women's activities in the fish trade in Liberia. Regrettably that study is out of print; however, CSDHA should already have a copy of the study in its library. Alternately, a microfiche copy could be obtained from CAMP, Northwestern University Library, Evanston, Illinois 60018, USA for US\$2.00.

With relevance to Section V, The Role of Women in the Use, Conservation and Development of Energy Resources, ATRCW has available the report of its "Seminaire sur le developpement du bois de feu et de l'energie pour la femme africaine en milieu rural", which was held in Bamako, Mali (copy enclosed). A report has also been made of the evaluation mission undertaken after this seminar; as soon as it is printed, a copy will be forwarded to CSDHA. ATRCW also intends to hold a similar seminar on fuel and energy for women in the East and Southern Africa Subregion in April 1983. The report of that meeting will also be made available to CSDHA.

Of interest to Section VI, The Role of Women in Money and Finance, ATRCW has completed a study of a guaranteed credit mechanism for women in Cameroon, the Congo and Gabon; as soon as that study is completed, ATRCW

will forward a copy to CSDHA. With regard to Section VII, The Role of Women in the Development and Application of Science and Technology, ATRCW is forwarding a copy of its publication Appropriate Technology and African Women. It is currently preparing for publication a study on women and Palm Oil Processing in several West African Countries. In 1976 it presented a paper on the Role of Women in the Utilization of Science and Technology to the Regional UNCSTD Conference held in Cairo. While that paper is now out of print, copies are also available from CAMP at the above-listed address.

I hope that this information is useful to you. ATRCW remains ready to cooperate in any way within its means in the undertaking of the world survey on the role of women in development. Best wishes.

26 September 1982

I am replying to a letter from Mr. Yolah dated June 28, 1982, regarding the World survey on selected aspects of the role of women in national economies. I understand that the findings of this study will constitute an input to the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women.

I have reviewed the annotated outline of the survey in detail and wish to suggest the addition of some specific areas of enquiry that are of central concern to UNICEF, and which I would hope could be incorporated into the questionnaire. These areas are:

1. Woman's Work in the Context of the Household.

Specifically:

- a. The interface between mothering responsibilities and work roles.
- b. The impact of woman's work upon other women in the household (particularly younger daughters).

2. Child/Adolescent Labor

Specifically:

- a. Reliance of women on child labor.
- b. Extent of child prostitution.
- c. Economic activities of the female adolescent.

3. Woman's Marginality in Labor Force.

Specifically:

- a. Critical appraisal of the relationship of women to the informal sector of the economy.
- b. The interdependency between the informal sector and the formal sector, and the extent to which women are "used" to meet the needs of this interdependency.

I might add that in its present form the annotated outline of the survey does not capture the totality of economic activities which women are engaged in. I am particularly concerned that the categorization by sector as it now stands will bury the critical importance of women's involvement in informal sector activities, and fail to highlight the marginal status of women workers in many countries. Urban women workers, in particular, cannot be accounted for unless a conceptualization between formal and informal sector activities is built into the enquiry. If this proves to be too complex, then a special section of "The Role of Women in Service Activities" should be added.

For rural women, I would suggest the following: that a clear distinction be made between type of agricultural work, i.e. subsistence, plantation work, farm wage labor, etc., and that additional enquiry be made of the non-agricultural activities that women engage in. An additional fruitful area of enquiry might be the access of rural women to productive resources, i.e. land, labor, credit, technology, etc.

I believe that this world survey is an exciting enterprise. It should yield systematic and comparative data that will be extremely useful for future research and planning.

If you wish me to elaborate further on any of the suggestions for inclusion mentioned above, I will be very happy to do so.

11 October 1982

Comments by UNCTC on Annotated Outline
of World Survey on the Role of Women in Development

1. The subject matter dealt with in the annotated outline on the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development was discussed at the meeting held in Vienna from 6 to 10 October in which UNCTC participated. Issues and comments were raised at that meeting by UNCTC, however, some of these will be reiterated and fresh comments made on the annotated outline as follows:

2. From a pragmatic viewpoint, if the annotated outline is to serve as a basis for research, more detail will be required in each chapter in order to highlight the treatment of the subject matter. For example, in chapter 3 relating to Industry, a few of the dominant manufacturing industries should be reviewed irrespective of whether there are export oriented or otherwise, in order to compare the type of work and level of expertise in those industries that are being held by women. It is also important that the manufacturing industrial sector should be looked at in order to examine women's role and their current level and effectiveness and how they will be integrated into other industries, which for the time being employ a minority of women.

A suggested revised approach and format, by way of example is as follows:

A. Overall Perspective of Involvement of Women In Industry

This introductory section will trace the general development of the industrial sector from a historical and growth perspective viewpoint and its absorption of women into this sector.

B. Current Integration of Women in the Industrial Sector

This section will examine and analyse some of the problems, issues and obstacles surrounding the integration of women into this sector. They will be analysed from the social, economic and technical background as well as from a developmental

background. In this sense, comparisons will be made whenever possible of the same industries at different stages of maturity. Thus, in some instances, the more mature industries in the developed countries will be compared with the newer industries in developing countries in order to assess the varying degrees of integration, and the differences, if any, in the issues, obstacles and benefits. The level of employment and type of work that is currently accessible to women will also be examined. Linkages of skills to other industries will also be examined.

The main industries contemplated therein will include a range of the significant manufacturing industries which represent a cross section of the industrial sector as a whole. Such industries (both export oriented and for domestic consumption) may include electronics, textiles, manufacturing of household appliances, wood-based and furniture industries, pharmaceutical and chemical industries, metal industries and consumer goods in general.

C. Future Development and Impact on NIEO

This section will review and recommend, based on the findings in (B), the areas for development and identify more specifically some of the posts that may be desirable for women. In this regard, review should be made of the availability and orientation of education, and training, including institutional training, academic training and on-the-job training. It will also be necessary to examine and recommend national and/or sectoral policies which will facilitate the role of women in industry. The issue of appropriate technology may also be referred to.

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Methodology

The data pertaining to this entire part will be based on available data from developed countries and from statistics which may be available from a number of developing countries where statistical gathering is fairly comprehensive. In each case, they will be supplemented by a questionnaire related to social, economic and technical issues, to selected national governments and enterprises. In the absence of the availability of such statistics, some field survey and case studies may be necessary. (Indications for extra funds may be included here).

3. With regard to chapter 5, the energy sector should not be confined to primitive energy sources in the rural sector and consideration should be given to modern energy sectors and the integration of women into these industries such as in petroleum, electricity, nuclear, solar energy, coal and other energy industries.

4. With respect to chapter 6, again the emphasis of this chapter appears to be more rural and it is suggested that due emphasis be given to more important areas of money and finance such as banking, financial institutions, including national development banks as well as regional financial institutions.

It is also suggested that chapter 4 relating to Trade and chapter 6 on Money and Finance, should be merged and retitled "The Role of Women in the Services Sector." The tourism industry may also be included in this chapter as it was discussed at the meeting of 6 to 10 October, 1982 although it is omitted in this annotated outline.

5. It is uncertain with regard to chapter 7, how this topic can be developed and it has already been discussed at the aforementioned meeting that science and technology cannot or will not be adapted particularly to

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suit women. Therefore, it may be more appropriate to consider the role of women in the development of R and D in this chapter. In which event the areas of national science and technology institutions and the various national science and technology policies should be examined to ensure that women will fully participate in the development and application of science and technology. Further, the degree, type and level of training should be dealt with here through in-depth analysis.

To facilitate research, technology transfer issues should concentrate specifically on the areas covered by the annotated outline.

6. Overall, this outline appeared to have been written without much specific focus on methodology at the national or regional level or amount of data that will be available in support of such an undertaking. It would be of greater benefit if the outline could, for example, when examining each topic, region by region, indicate in each case the countries that would be looked at in this connection or the regional information that can be expected to find. It is suggested that countries where statistics are likely to be available should be identified. In most developed countries such statistics should be available, whilst only a few developing countries would have the relevant data. In looking at the various sectors, it would be of interest to compare development in industrialized countries as opposed to developing countries and see how progress has been made in the integration of women in the various sectors by comparing the more matured industries from the sectoral viewpoint with those which are still in the process of development. Emphasis could also be given to identify problems and issues in order to find solutions for them in the future and also to ensure the extension and continuation of maximum benefits.

UNITED NATIONS CENTRE FOR SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

15 October 1982

1. In connexion with item 7 (U.N. Decade for Women) discussed at the current session of CCSQ (Prog.), this Centre has the following suggestions to make:

A. World Survey on the Role of Women in Development, Chapter VII of annotated outline (Science and Technology)

2. Part VII.D, second para., of the annotated outline proposes evaluating the "potential impact of a significant improvement" in women's role in industry. We suggest extending that evaluation to cover also the "potential impact of a significant improvement" in women's role in research and development and in science and technology policies and planning bodies.

3. We share the preference expressed by CCSQ regarding the modalities of preparing the Survey. That is to say, the first draft would be prepared by the Branch for the Advancement of Women, taking into account material provided by various parts of the U.N. system, who will, however, be given an opportunity to comment on the draft.

Participation of agencies/organizations in
Sectoral and Topical Issues

APPENDUM TO ATTACHMENT II, PART II
DOCUMENT RAW/IAM/1983/2
18 February 1983

Sector or Topic	Suggested lead agency/organization	Response of suggested lead agency/organization	Suggested collaborating agencies/organizations	Response of collaborating agencies/organizations	RAW/Conference Secretariat Comments
A) Rural development (including agriculture, food systems, services and industrialization in rural areas and small urban centres and rural housing and human settlements)	FAO	FAO agreed in principle to act as "responsible organization" for preparing a section on "rural development" (for the 80-81 biennial round); has submitted extensive comments; would review a draft analysis of the governments' replies and would provide further suggestions; suggested CSDFA act as overall coordinator for section II to enable a more centralized effort for the collection of data for all sectoral areas; concerned that rural development is given the same level of importance as tourism and hopes for attachment of more attention to it during the review and appraisal; considers vital that inter-agency meetings be held at least every 6 months prior to the Conference.	UNDP/HABITAT/WFP/WFC/IFAD/ILO and interested agencies/organizations/regional commissions. INSTRAW expressed readiness to cooperate, particularly in the evaluation stage of any point of the governments' replies to the Questionnaire.	HABITAT expected to contribute in so far as they relate to human settlements. WFP is not in a position to provide substantive information to sectoral papers but can provide information to lead agency on how food aid can be used to help women in development in this sector, Housing and Human Settlements (D), Health and Nutrition (I) and Employment (X). IFAD provided extremely useful comments on the interrelationships between Rural Development (A), Health and Nutrition (I) and Reproduction and Migration (L).	
B) Industrialization (except in rural areas and small urban centres)	UNIDO		UNCTC/UNDP/ILO and other interested agencies/organizations/regional commissions	UNCTC expressed willingness to contribute, but only in a very specific sector and or region due to new involvement in women issue (since June 1982) and consequently lack of infrastructure for obtaining necessary information and carrying out comprehensive review and appraisal.	
C) Services (including wholesale and retail trade and tourism)	BAW/CSDHA	Initial work is being undertaken by a consultant recruited by BAW/CSDHA.	UNDP/ILO and other interested agencies/organizations/regional commissions.		
D) Housing and human settlements (except in rural areas and small urban centres)	HABITAT	HABITAT agreed to the suggestion of CSDHA that lead agency be designated in each sectoral area and accepted to be the lead agency for housing and human settlements.; also supports suggestion that BAW/CSDHA should be responsible for the overall coordination and harmonization of the review and appraisal process.	UNDP/WFP and other interested agencies/organizations/regional commissions		

18 February 1983

Participation of agencies/organizations in

Sectoral and Topical Issues

Sector or Topic	Suggested lead agency/organization	Response of suggested lead agency/organization	Suggested collaborating agencies/organizations	Response of collaborating agencies/organizations	PAV/Conference Secretariat Comments
E) Energy, water and the natural environment	BAW/CSDHA and DTCD	DTCD is prepared to review the draft questionnaire so as to be able to propose the inclusion of questions that are relevant in the light of technical cooperation activities in the sector of energy and rural development and training throughout DTCD sectors; believes it is important to reflect DTCD's operational experience in the field of energy; wishes to consult further on ways in which to reflect its operational experience.	UNEP/UNDP/WFP/FAO and interested agencies / organizations / regional commissions	<u>HABITAT</u> expects to contribute in so far as they relate to human settlements.	
F) Science and technology	-	-	-	-	The topic of science and technology could be dealt with as a separate topic or, as originally proposed in the Note, integrated within the review of each of the sectoral areas. The Branch for the Advancement of Women feels that the topic could be more comprehensively treated as part of each sectoral examination given its relevance to all aspects of women's relationships with society. Questions relating to education for women in the fields of science and technology could be included in the topic of education and training.
G) Monetary factors	BAW/CSDHA		World Bank and interested agencies/ organizations / regional commissions	<u>WORLD BANK</u> is considering the possibility of undertaking a responsibility to write a paper on this sector. However, it expressed the view that "the prospect of replying to a questionnaire on each of the eleven items in part II in addition to the general development one from BAW is somewhat alarming".	
H) Trade	UNCTAD or BAW/CSDHA		Interested agencies/or ganizations/re- gional commissions		

18 February 1983

Participation of agencies/organizations in

Sectoral and Topical Issues

Sector or Topic	Suggested lead agency/organization	Response of suggested lead agency/organization	Suggested collaborating agencies/organizations	Response of collaborating agencies/organizations	PAW/Conference Secretariat Comments
I) Health and Nutrition	WHO	WHO agreed to review and revise health issues of a draft questionnaire prepared by RAW/CSDHA and to analyze responses and prepare report for health aspect.	Pop.Div.- DIFSA/UNDP/ WFP/UNFPA/ UNICEF/FAO and inter- ested agencies/ organizations/ regional commissions	POP.DIVISION/DIFSA as a relevant substantive unit feels it is appropriate to name them as cooperating agency/or- ganization.	
J) Education and training	UNESCO		Centre for Human Rights/ UNICEF/UNDP/ WFP/ILO/FAO and inter- ested agen- cies/or- ganizations/re- gional commissions UNDP/WFP/ FAO/UNESCO and inter- ested agen- cies/organ- izations/ regional commissions	UNCHR expects to receive further clari- fication on the contribution ex- pected from them.	
K) Employment (in- cluding training)	ILO	ILO intends to partly revise and update its Questionnaire on the Employment section (prepared for the biennial round of 1980-1981) and hopes through analyses, based on the responses to the Questionnaire, to provide a common balanced approach to women workers' problem and to influence strategies with regard to equality of opportunity and treatment for women workers and the elimination of discrimination against them. Furthermore, ILO emphasizes that the aim of its contribution to the third review and appraisal of degrees of women's employment will be to give comprehensive information on the situation of women in various aspects of employment from all regions, keeping in mind the future prospects to the end of this century.			

18 February 1983

Participation of agencies/organizations in

Sectoral and Topical Issues

Sector or Topic	Suggested lead agency/organization	Response of suggested lead agency/organization	Suggested collaborating agencies/organizations	Response of collaborating agencies/organizations	RAW/Conference Secretariat Comments
L) Reproduction and migration	Pop. Div./DIESA	The Division is prepared to contribute to the development of some questions, especially those relating to reproduction and migration, two extremely important topics to be taken into consideration in designing and implementing policy for women's integration into the development process. It also expressed willingness to provide substantive material and hope for further collaboration and consultation on this matter. UNFCR agreed fully with proposals in September Note providing a separate item titled "Refugee and displaced women" is added to the existing item of Annex A part II of the Note.	UNFPA/ILO and other interested agencies/organizations/regional commissions		
M) Refugees and displaced women	UNHCR	UNFCR agreed fully with proposals in September Note providing a separate item titled "Refugee and displaced women" is added to the existing item of Annex A part II of the Note.	ECA and other interested agencies/organizations/regional commissions	ECA expressed concern over the question of apartheid and refugees.	
N) Basic statistical indicators	Statistical Office/DIESA	The Statistical Office in collaboration with many other units and agencies, in particular WHO, FAO, UNESCO and ILO is proposed to provide in appropriate format all of the Statistical information required for the Conference			

SCHEDULE OF ACTIONS REQUIRED BY UN SYSTEM OF ORGANIZATIONS AND GOVERNMENTS

ADDENDUM TO ATTACHMENT J,
PART II, DOCUMENT
BAW/TAM/1983/1

TIME FRAME	UN SYSTEM AND GOVERNMENTS			
	Branch for the Advancement of Women	Specialized Agencies and other United Nations Organizations	Regional Commissions	Governments
<u>1983</u>				
<u>PREPARATORY PHASE</u>				
<u>1st quarter</u>				
January	Prepare Part I questionnaire. Send Part I for comments/reference UN system.			
February	Prepare sections Part II Q. with UN system, consultant.	Comment on Part I Q and transmit comments to BAW (J,F). Prepare sections Part II Q (F).	Comment on Part I Q and transmit comments to BAW (J,F).	
March		Interorganizational Meeting to finalize procedures		First Session of Preparatory Body for 1985 World Conference (F,M)
<u>2nd quarter</u>				
April	Consolidate Parts I, II Q. (mid A). Transmit above to regional commissions and agencies (mid A).	Transmit Part II Q. to BAW (mid-M)		
May		Comment consolidated Parts I, II Q. and transmit BAW.(M)	Receive consolidated Parts I, II Q. Prepare Part III Q. and transmit BAW. (mid M)	
June	Final consolidation of Q. (J)			
<u>TRANSMISSION PHASE</u>				
<u>3rd quarter</u>				
July	Processing of Q. for transmission to governments. Send out consolidated Q. and monitor its receipt by governments.	Undertake technical activities in routine programmes and as special preparations for 1985 World Conference		Receive consolidated questionnaire. (S)
August				
September				
<u>COMPLETION PHASE</u>				
<u>4th quarter</u>				
October				Preparation of replies (Oct. 1983-May 1984)
November				
December				
<u>1984</u>				
<u>1st quarter</u>				
January				
February				
March	Reminder Note for governments (M).			Commission on the Status of Women, 30th session
<u>2nd quarter</u>				
April		Initial planning and analysis of materials from existing sources and reports of previous reporting rounds for incorporation in main analysis and drafting report in 3rd quarter 1984. (A,M,J)		Finalize replies to Q. Transmit replies to BAW. (M)
May				
<u>RETRIEVAL PHASE</u>				
June	Receive and transmit government replies to UN system.			
<u>ANALYSIS PHASE</u>				
<u>3rd quarter</u>				
July		Analysis of information from government replies and other sources including technical preparatory meetings and World survey findings for review and appraisal reports (J,J,A).		
August				
September	Finalize draft global general report and sections of sectoral report and transmit to UN system for reference in preparing their report.	Finalize draft sectoral reports and transmit to BAW (mid Sept.) and other parts of UN system as additional resource for their report.	Finalize draft regional comprehensive report and transmit to BAW (mid Sept.) and other parts of UN for their report.	
<u>4th quarter</u>				
October	Preparation of global summary review-appraisal reports.			
November	Arrange processing of all reports for submission to meeting of Preparatory Body for 1985 Conference.			
December				
<u>1985</u>				
January				Preparatory Body for 1985 World Conference review reports and comment. (F,M)
February				
March				
April	Revise global "general" and summary review as necessary.	Revise sectoral reports if necessary.	Revise/update regional reports.	
May				
June	Arrange processing and transmission of review and appraisal reports for submission 1985 World Conference.			
July				
August				1985 World Conference

? take meeting next year