

General of the Voluntary Trust Fund for the International Year of the Family;

“4. *Reaffirms its invitation* to all States to take prompt action to establish national mechanisms, such as coordinating committees, to prepare for, observe and follow up the Year, in particular for the purpose of planning, stimulating and harmonizing the activities of the governmental and non-governmental agencies and organizations concerned with the preparation for and observance of the Year;

“5. *Requests* the relevant United Nations preparatory and coordinating bodies for the Year to keep preparations for the Year under constant review;

“6. *Invites* Governments, as far as possible, to contribute resources, including staff, to the secretariat of the Year;

“7. *Invites* all Governments, specialized agencies, regional commissions and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, as well as interested national organizations, to exert all possible efforts in the preparation for and observance of the Year and to cooperate closely with the Secretary-General in achieving the objectives of the Year;

“8. *Requests* that in the planning and executing of programmes and activities for the Year, special attention should be given to socio-economic and cultural conditions in developing countries as they affect the approaches taken to family issues;

“9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide effective means of coordination between the secretariat of the Year and the relevant non-governmental organizations, in support of the Year;

“10. *Urges* the Secretary-General to provide adequate staff to the secretariat of the Year and to reflect its strengthening in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993;

“11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-third session on the state of preparations for the Year;

“12. *Invites* the Commission for Social Development to ensure that all plans, programmes and activities related to the family are in accordance with the concept of equality between women and men as expressed in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>29</sup> and to ensure that the principle relating to policies aimed at fostering equality between women and men, as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>30</sup> is incorporated into the programme of the Year;

“13. *Requests* the Commission for Social Development to keep the Commission on the Status of Women informed of the preparations for the Year;

“14. *Decides* to consider the question of the International Year of the Family, on the basis of a report of the Secretary-General, at its forty-eighth session under the item entitled ‘Social development’.”

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<sup>29</sup> General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.

<sup>30</sup> See E/CN.5/1991/2, annex I.

## 1991/15. Crime prevention and criminal justice

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Aware* of the responsibility assumed by the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice under Council resolution 155 C (VII) of 13 August 1948 and General Assembly resolution 415 (V) of 1 December 1950,

*Bearing in mind* the important role of the United Nations in assisting Member States to formulate more effective strategies and policies to combat crime and humanize criminal justice systems,

*Concerned* about the escalation of crime in all its forms, particularly in its new dimensions and transnational aspects, and the violence in many parts of the world, which threatens the international community, impinges on the enjoyment of basic human rights and has a negative impact on the development process,

*Recognizing* the urgent need for an adequate global response to those crimes that transcend national boundaries or for any other reasons require coordinated action between States, including strengthened international mechanisms to provide criminal justice personnel with ready access to information, facilitate the exchange of technical know-how, further promote international cooperation in this field and ensure adequate coordination for practical action programmes,

*Determined* to ensure the continued focus on the conclusions and recommendations of the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders<sup>31</sup> and to make steady progress in their practical application,

*Noting with concern* the continuing increase in the workload of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, particularly in relation to the mandates entrusted to it by the Eighth Congress and by the General Assembly in its resolution 45/108 of 14 December 1990, and the need to prioritize its programme and to confine its activities to the areas where a positive contribution can be made through international action,

*Recalling* its resolution 1990/27 of 24 May 1990 concerning, *inter alia*, the timely implementation and proper follow-up of the recommendations of the Eighth Congress,

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution 45/121 of 14 December 1990, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to review the resources required to enable the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch to discharge its responsibilities in accordance with the new mandates,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on crime prevention and criminal justice;<sup>32</sup>

2. *Welcomes* the successful results of the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and urges Govern-

<sup>31</sup> See *Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August-7 September 1990: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IV.2), chap. I.

<sup>32</sup> E/1991/19 and Corr. 1.

ments to ensure the appropriate implementation of its conclusions and recommendations;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to pay particular attention to the operational aspects of the resolutions of the Eighth Congress in order to assist interested countries in promoting human resources development, reinforcing their national machinery, undertaking joint training activities and executing pilot and demonstration projects, and invites the United Nations Development Programme and the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development of the Secretariat and other relevant entities to consider giving increased support to those endeavours;

4. *Stresses* the importance of General Assembly resolution 45/108, on the review of the functioning and programme of work of the United Nations in crime prevention and criminal justice, in determining mechanisms for the more efficient focusing of the programme on those activities where the United Nations can make a positive contribution to the control of crime, and requests the Secretary-General to assist in the proper organization of the intergovernmental working group and the ministerial meeting to consider the creation of an effective international crime and justice programme, called for in that resolution;

5. *Notes with appreciation* the offer of the Government of France to act as host for the ministerial meeting in the second half of 1991;

6. *Recommends* that adequate provision be made for the participation of the representatives of the least developed countries that are members of the intergovernmental working group, as well as to ensure their participation in the ministerial meeting;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to use his best endeavours to provide resources within the existing level of the regular budget, as required, for public information activities related to the preparation and servicing of the meeting of the intergovernmental working group and the ministerial meeting;

8. *Invites* Governments to be actively involved and to provide their support to ensure the success of the ministerial meeting;

9. *Welcomes* the initiative taken by the Government of Canada to establish in Canada a new international centre for criminal law reform and criminal justice policy as an institute affiliated with the United Nations, and invites the Secretary-General to conclude an agreement with the Government, as appropriate;

10. *Requests* the General Assembly to give priority attention to the conclusions and recommendations of the ministerial meeting, with a view to taking appropriate action thereon that would lead to the creation of an effective international crime and justice programme;

11. *Recommends* that the General Assembly, in the light of this review, consider requesting the Secretary-General to enter into a commitment for the upgrading of the status of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, as called for in numerous General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions, the most recent of which being Assembly resolution 45/108, in a way commensurate with

its increased responsibilities and required professional expertise;

12. *Decides* to give priority attention at its regular session of 1992 to crime prevention and criminal justice under a sub-item of the agenda entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice"

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#### **1991/16. Strengthening and rationalizing the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Noting* the growing interest of Member States in the activities of the United Nations in the social and related fields and for the advancement of women,

*Reiterating* the various requests of the appropriate subsidiary bodies of the Council that issues in the social and related fields receive greater attention as well as resources,

*Recalling* section IV of General Assembly resolution 45/248 B of 21 December 1990, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to propose a comprehensive restructuring of United Nations entities at Vienna with a view to a speedy implementation of the wish of the Assembly to strengthen the United Nations Office at Vienna,

*Taking into account* the statement submitted by the Secretary-General on the programme budget implications of the present resolution,<sup>33</sup>

*Requests* the Secretary-General to add specific recommendations, within the overall level of the budget of the Organization, to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 to strengthen and rationalize the resources of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat in order to enable it better to fulfil its mandates and carry out its activities in the social and related fields and for the advancement of women.

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#### **1991/17. Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,<sup>34</sup> in particular paragraphs 306, 315, 356 and 358, in which importance is attached to the appointment of women in the Secretariat at senior decision-making and managerial levels,

*Recalling also* the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social

<sup>33</sup> E/1991/C.2/L.8.

<sup>34</sup> *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.