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Agenda item 85

UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN: EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

Draft Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Texts adopted by the Working Group on the Draft
Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination
against Women at its 5th meeting held on
3 November 1977

Article 1: Adopted by consensus. The text reads as follows:

"For the purpose of the present Convention the term 'discrimination against women' shall mean any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect of or the purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, on a basis of equality with men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural or any other field of public life."

Article 2: Introductory phrase - no consensus was reached by the Working Group. Both texts have to appear in the Draft Convention and the version proposed by the Byelorussian SSR will appear in the report of the Working Group to the Third Committee.

Paragraph (a): Adopted by consensus as amended by Australia, Denmark, Finland, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and as orally amended by the USSR. The text reads as follows:

"Each State Party undertakes to embody the principle of the equality of men and women in its national Constitution and other appropriate legislation if not yet incorporated therein, and to ensure, through law or other appropriate means, the practical realization of this principle."

Paragraphs (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g): The discussion was postponed.

Article 3: Adopted by consensus. The text reads as follows:

"The States Parties shall undertake in all fields, in particular the political, social, economic and cultural, all appropriate measures, including legislation, to ensure the full development and advancement of women, for the purpose of guaranteeing them the exercise and enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms on a basis of equality with men."

Article 4: The discussion was postponed.
