9. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to keep the Human Rights Committee informed of the activities of the Commission on Human Rights, the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and also to transmit the annual reports of the Human Rights Committee to these bodies;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session a report on the status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

11. Welcomes the measures already taken by the Secretary-General to improve the publicity for the work of the Human Rights Committee and encourages the Committee to continue its consideration of this question;

12. Urges the Secretary-General to take all possible steps to ensure that the Division of Human Rights of the Secretariat is able to assist effectively the Human Rights Committee and the Economic and Social Council in the implementation of their respective functions under the International Covenants on Human Rights, taking into account General Assembly resolutions 3534 (XXX) of 17 December 1975 and 31/93 of 14 December 1976;

13. Requests the Secretary-General to make appropriate arrangements, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 31/140 of 17 December 1976, for the holding of meetings of the Human Rights Committee in developing countries, and to report in this regard to the Assembly at its thirty-sixth session.

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35/133. International Year of Disabled Persons

The General Assembly.

Recalling its resolution 31/123 of 16 December 1976, by which it proclaimed the year 1981 International Year of Disabled Persons,

Recalling also its resolutions 32/133 of 16 December 1977, by which it established the Advisory Committee for the International Year of Disabled Persons, 33/170 of 20 December 1978 and 34/154 of 17 December 1979,

Recalling further resolution 2, entitled “Improving the situation of disabled women of all ages”, adopted on 30 July 1980 by the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, 63

Recognizing that the International Year of Disabled Persons should promote the realization of the right of disabled persons to participate fully in the social life and development of their societies and to enjoy living conditions equal to those of other citizens, as well as an equal share in the improvements in living conditions resulting from social and economic development,

Bearing in mind the importance of co-operation at the national, regional and international levels in the programming for the prevention of disability and the rehabilitation of disabled persons,

Convinced that the International Year of Disabled Persons should give the impulse for the establishment of a long-term world plan of action to follow up the activities of the Year.

Recognizing that the International Year of Disabled Persons should contribute to a greater awareness of the magnitude and complexity of the incidence of physical, sensorial and mental disabilities through, inter alia, effective public information activities,

Having considered the offer of the Government of Argentina 64 to act as host to the action-oriented international symposium of experts on technical assistance in the field of disability and technical co-operation among developing countries, to be convened during the International Year of Disabled Persons,

Concerned about the need to provide the secretariat of the International Year of Disabled Persons with the resources necessary for the implementation of the Plan of Action for the Year 65 and its follow-up,

1. Notes with satisfaction the steps already taken in the implementation of the Plan of Action for the International Year of Disabled Persons by Member States, organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, and encourages them to intensify their action and co-ordination during the Year;

2. Recommends that, in their efforts to promote the full participation of disabled persons in all aspects of life, Member States and organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system should pay particular attention to the participation of disabled persons themselves and of their organizations in the activities undertaken in connexion with the International Year of Disabled Persons and its follow-up;

3. Invites Member States which have not yet done so to establish national committees or similar bodies for the International Year of Disabled Persons;

4. Urges Member States to give higher priority to development assistance projects in developing countries in the fields of rehabilitation services, technical aids and training of appropriate personnel, including disabled persons themselves;

5. Welcomes the voluntary contributions made by Governments to the International Year of Disabled Persons and appeals for further voluntary contributions to the Year;

6. Decides to accept the offer of the Government of Argentina to act as host in 1981 to the action-oriented international symposium of experts on technical assistance in the field of disability and technical co-operation among developing countries, to be held in conformity with the Plan of Action for the International Year of Disabled Persons;

7. Requests the regional commissions to formulate appropriate programmes for implementing the recommendations contained in the Plan of Action for the International Year of Disabled Persons;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to examine the question of access to United Nations buildings, documents and information for persons with sensorial disabilities;


64 See A/34/455.

65 The Plan of Action for the International Year of Disabled Persons adopted by the General Assembly consists of the text appearing in paragraphs 57 to 76 of the annex to document A/34/158 and Corr. 1, with the deletion of the phrase “see sub-para. (i) below” in paragraph 74 (c), of paragraph 74 (a), and of the words following the word “nationally” in paragraph 75 (b).
9. Further requests the Secretary-General to strengthen the information activities and to provide the secretariat of the International Year of Disabled Persons with all the resources and personnel necessary for carrying out its work;

10. Welcomes the progress already made in the drafting of a long-term world plan of action and approves the procedure and time-scale for its adoption proposed by the Advisory Committee for the International Year of Disabled Persons at its second session;  

11. Requests the Secretary-General to convene a session of the Advisory Committee in 1981;  

12. Requests the Advisory Committee to examine the possibilities of continuing the activities of the International Institute for the Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons in Developing Countries in the light of the experience of the International Year of Disabled Persons;

13. Invites all heads of State or Government, the President of the thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General to issue special messages at the beginning of the International Year of Disabled Persons;

14. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-sixth session the item entitled "International Year of Disabled Persons" and, in view of its importance, recommends that this item be considered by the General Assembly in plenary meeting, in observance of the Year;

15. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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35/134. International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 34/157 of 17 December 1979, in which it expressed the desire that the consultations concerning the agreement with the Government of the host country would be expeditiously concluded and requested the Secretary-General to consult Member States with a view to nominating the Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women as soon as possible,

Having received the report of the Board of Trustees of the Institute on its session held at Geneva from 22 to 26 October 1979,  

Having also received the report of the Secretary-General,  

1. Urges the Secretary-General to appoint the Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, taking fully into account the consultations held with Member States to that end;

2. Expresses its desire that the necessary consultations concerning the agreement with the Government of the Dominican Republic will be expeditiously concluded;  

3. Expresses also its desire that the Institute will start to function in the Dominican Republic and that its installation in the host country will not be unduly delayed;

4. Reiterates the guidelines set out in Economic and Social Council resolution 1996 (LX) of 12 May 1976 regarding the activities of the Institute, in particular the need for close collaboration with the regional institutes which have similar objectives;

5. Invites Governments to contribute to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, both financially and in kind;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1981 on the implementation of the present resolution.

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35/135. Refugee and displaced women

The General Assembly,

Having considered the resolutions adopted by the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women and the recommendations contained in the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace relating to refugee and displaced women,  

which are of concern to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

Recognizing that the problems of refugees and displaced persons affect every continent and place special burdens on developing countries,

Aware that the increasingly serious situations of refugees and displaced persons place heavy social and economic burdens on those countries which provide asylum, relief or rehabilitation,

Noting with great concern that women and children constitute the majority of refugees and displaced persons in most areas,

Recognizing that the needs of refugee and displaced women as mothers and as women who have sole responsibility for the support of their families require constructive recognition by all parties to their relief and rehabilitation,

Recognizing also the particular vulnerability of refugee and displaced women to intimidation, exploitation and physical and sexual abuse,

Aware that the special problems of refugee and displaced women have to date not been fully studied,

Strongly emphasizing the need for increased support from the international community for the large number of refugees and displaced persons,

1. Requests all States to co-operate with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in order to assure full protection of the well-being of women and children in particular, in accordance with their fundamental rights under international law and national legislation;

2. Calls upon all States and donors providing immediate relief to refugees and displaced persons to en-