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### Press Release: Revised Section of Draft World Plan of Action on Women's Role, Discussed by Consultative Committee for World Conference

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Section  
Office of Public Information  
United Nations, N.Y.

(FOR USE OF INFORMATION MEDIA -- NOT AN OFFICIAL RECORD)

Consultative Committee  
for Women's Year Conference  
10th Meeting (PM)

Press Release IWY/16  
13 March 1975

REVISED SECTION OF DRAFT WORLD PLAN OF ACTION ON WOMEN'S ROLE  
DISCUSSED BY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE FOR WORLD CONFERENCE

The Consultative Committee for the World Conference of the International Women's Year considered this afternoon an introductory chapter to the draft World Plan of Action on the role of women, as revised by its Working Group.

The draft Plan, which will be completed at the World Conference in Mexico City June/July, contains recommendations for action over the 10-year period 1975-1985 as a "part of a sustained, long-term effort" to achieve equality of sexes and to promote the role of women in society.

The revised chapter (document E/CONF.66/CC/L.4), entitled "Introduction and Background to the Plan", was submitted by an informal, open-ended Working Group of the 23-member Committee which examined various amendments proposed to the text of the draft Plan, originally prepared by the Secretariat at the request of the General Assembly. The revised version incorporates in 14 paragraphs the first two chapters of the Secretariat's text, on background, scope and purpose.

In discussing the revised text, some delegations expressed the hope that the draft Plan, as revised by the Committee, would be circulated to all Governments well in advance of the World Conference.

The Committee will meet again at 10:30 a.m. tomorrow, 14 March, to consider its report and the remaining chapters of the draft Plan. Its two-week session is scheduled to end tomorrow.

The new introductory chapter stresses that the progress made in implementing various international instruments and declarations on equality has been "slow and uneven", and states that despite national differences, "basic similarities unite women of all countries, the most notable being the persisting de facto gap between the economic and social status of women and that of men" within countries.

The revised draft further asserts that "three quarters of humanity is faced with urgent and pressing social and economic problems" as a result of the "uneven development which prevails in international economic relations", and that such problems greatly affect the status of women in such parts of the world. Improvements in the situation of women, therefore, should be considered as "an integral part of the global project for the establishment of a new economic order".

(more)

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The revised draft states that the main aim of the Plan is to stimulate "national and international action to solve the problems of underdevelopment and of the socio-economic structure" which placed women in an inferior position, and to ensure the "complete assimilation of men and women in the social order", rather than granting a preferential role to women.

It is also stressed in the new text that the Plan aims "at ensuring that the original and multidimensional contribution -- both actual and potential -- of women is not overlooked in existing concepts for development and an improved world economic equilibrium."

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