



THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

GA3/I/1

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Implementation of the Outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the Twenty-Third Special Session of the General Assembly Entitled: Women 2000: Gender Equality, Women and Peace in the Twenty-First Century

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly

1 *The General Assembly*

2
3 *Celebrating* the contributions, dignity, and equality of women in the social, economic,
4 political, and cultural realms,

5
6 *Concerned* with the disproportionate effect of poverty on women and its significance as a
7 barrier to the advancement of women's social, political, and human rights,

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9 *Noting* the complex connections between poverty, educational achievement, literacy, skills,
10 and social equality and women's and human rights,

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12 *Reaffirming* the commitments of the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and
13 Cultural Rights, the Millennium Development Goals, the Beijing Platform for Action, the Final
14 Declaration of the International Conference on Financing and Development, and the Convention
15 on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women and its Protocols,

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17 *Emphasizing* that the eradication of poverty cannot be accomplished without concrete
18 commitment to the alleviation of the burden of poverty for women and to promote the social,
19 political, and economic rights of women,

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21 *Recognizing* women's essential economic, social, cultural, and familial roles,

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23 *Encouraging* member states in their efforts to promote social, economic, and political equality
24 for women,

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26 1. *Supports* the conclusions of ECOSOC's *Report on the World Social Situation 2003* and *2004*
27 concerning the challenges faced by women in pursuing economic and social equality, the UNCTAD
28 2004 report *Trade and Gender: Opportunities and Challenges for Developing Countries* and the ILO Report
29 *Global Employment Trends for Women 2004*;

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31 2. *Suggests* economic bodies such as the IMF, ECOSOC, the World Bank, and other
32 relevant organizations consider ways to measure and include undocumented household work and
33 family services provided by women in official economic statistics, as a way to emphasize the crucial

34 and positive economic role played by women and to encourage gender mainstreaming in all their
35 activities;

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37 3. *Promotes* sustainable development as a mechanism to increase women's participation in
38 the economy through, *inter alia*, work in environmental projects, service as educators and healthcare
39 workers, volunteering, research, and planning for sustainable development;

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41 4. *Encourages* member states to work toward the Millennium Development Goals' targets
42 for equal access to education for men and women by, *inter alia*, providing direct multilateral or
43 bilateral aid to member states requiring assistance in developing their educational infrastructure,
44 financially, materially, or otherwise, supporting relevant NGOs, and encouraging women to become
45 educators at the primary, secondary, and university levels;

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47 5. *Advises* those governments with adequate financial resources and willing to provide
48 assistance to developing countries in fighting the effects of poverty and discrimination against
49 women to bear in mind the best interest of the nation and women in question by implementing
50 programs including such mechanism as lowered subsidies for agricultural products, direct financial
51 assistance through grants and extension of low-interest or no-interest microfinancing, directly,
52 through nongovernmental organizations or specialized United Nations agencies, or via developing
53 country governments, to assist women in establishing small business ventures and sustainable
54 development projects;

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56 6. *Advocates* the use of culturally relevant economic programs to empower women to work
57 for their own social and political rights, suggesting such methods as, *inter alia*, providing
58 occupational job and career training, encouraging women to enter professional life by encouraging
59 education in areas such as medicine, business, and law, and establishing legal protections of
60 women's rights to equal pay for equal work, to own and inherit property, to have an equitable and
61 effective education and enforcing such protections;

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63 7. *Invites* states to promote an equitable trading environment, particularly in those areas in
64 which women make up the majority work force, by, *inter alia*, reducing subsidies on agricultural and
65 manufactured goods where possible, lowering or eliminating tariff or non-tariff barriers to trade in
66 these goods and services where possible, and promoting and financially supporting sustainable
67 development programs focusing on the role of women;

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69 8. *Calls* upon UNESCO to assist women, particularly in the developing world and among
70 indigenous populations, to express their culture as artists, musicians, folklorists, and so on, with
71 particular attention to encouraging the use of the Internet as a means of communication,
72 expression, and income generation;

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74 9. *Recommends* interested states incorporate a gender perspective into their Information-
75 Communication Technology plans and programs, with a view to encouraging women's use of the
76 Internet for economic, social, and cultural benefits;

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78 10. *Calls* upon United Nations agencies, including *inter alia*, UNESCO, the UN Office for
79 Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN),
80 UNIFEM and nongovernmental organizations to pursue further best-practice
81 dissemination and research to find innovative and effective means to alleviate women's poverty and
82 promote the empowerment of women;

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84 11. *Supports* the efforts of Member Nations to provide child care assistance and other
85 related services that assist women in making time for formal economic activities, pursuing further
86 education and training, and finding other ways to advance their social, economic, or political status;
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88 12. *Calls* for increased commitment to gender mainstreaming in all the activities of the
89 United Nations, Member Nations, and non-governmental organizations through, *inter alia*,
90 increasing women's representation in policy making bodies and making budgetary decisions with
91 the interests of women in mind;
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93 13. *Requests* the support of Member Nations for technology dissemination programs for
94 women, following the example of the South African Technology for Women in Business Program;
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96 14. *Declares* that women have an inherent right to equal access to culturally-sensitive
97 healthcare services, with particular attention to neo-natal and post-natal care for mothers and
98 children and efforts to supply anti-retroviral medications and other treatments to women with
99 HIV/AIDS;
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101 15. *Further Requests* Member Nations to actively work to decrease the disproportionate
102 impact of HIV/AIDS on women by, *inter alia*, establishing and firmly enforcing laws against rape
103 and sexual assault, promoting HIV/AIDS education programs, which are culturally sensitive &
104 unique to each country's situation educating women about their own rights, to bring against
105 attackers should they become victims of rape or sexual assault establishing programs to provide
106 anti-retroviral medications to pregnant women, and providing funding, where possible, for the
107 establishment of culturally sensitive women's clinics for HIV/AIDS victims;
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109 16. *Reminds* Member Nations, non-governmental organizations, United Nations bodies, and
110 other concerned individuals to consider the unique needs of indigenous women when planning
111 programs to promote women's advancement, working particularly to find cooperative, culturally-
112 sensitive ways to provide healthcare, education, and to empower women to express their unique
113 cultural experiences;
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115 17. *Strongly encourages* Member Nations to provide an environment in which all women have
116 full and free rights to the expression of their own customs, beliefs, and cultural practices;
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118 18. *Calls* upon those Member Nations that have not done so to strongly consider signing,
119 ratifying, or acceding to the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights and
120 the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women and its
121 Protocols;
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123 19. *Advises* Member Nations to take special care to include women in the planning and
124 enactment of any programs affecting their interest, particularly in those areas advocated in this
125 resolution;
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127 20. *Advocates* the increased participation of women in the political process as, *inter alia*,
128 leaders, policy makers, policy analysts, and activists;
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130 21. *Strongly Advocates* commencement of negotiations on a draft Convention on Women's
131 Rights and Poverty Reduction, with a view to establishing an action program on women's rights as
132 they relate to poverty, guided by, but not limited to, the provision set forth in this resolution.

Final Vote: 73 in favor / 3 opposed / 16 abstentions