

**1993/4. International Conference on Population and Development and its preparatory process**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 1989/91 of 26 July 1989, 1991/93 of 26 July 1991 and 1992/37 of 30 July 1992, in which it decided on the convening, mandate and preparatory process of the International Conference on Population and Development,

*Taking note* of General Assembly resolution 47/176 of 22 December 1992, in which, *inter alia*, the Assembly recognized the importance of ensuring an adequate intergovernmental preparatory process for the Conference, as well as the importance of the participation in the Conference and its preparatory process of all relevant non-governmental organizations from developed and developing countries,

1. *Decides* that the second session of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population and Development shall be rescheduled to take place from 10 to 21 May 1993 in New York;

2. *Also decides* to convene the third session of the Preparatory Committee from 11 to 22 April 1994, within the overall resources of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995 to be approved by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session in accordance with its resolution 47/213 of 23 December 1992 and without prejudice to the utilization of resources available through contributions to the voluntary trust funds for the Conference, taking fully into account the need to ensure the success of the Conference in fulfilling its mandate and the need to ensure an adequate intergovernmental preparatory process for it;

3. *Further decides* to postpone the twenty-seventh session of the Population Commission to 1994 and to consider at the Council's substantive session of 1993 the possibility of scheduling it in conjunction with the third session of the Preparatory Committee, within the overall resources of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995 to be approved by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session in accordance with its resolution 47/213;

4. *Adopts* the modalities for the participation in and contribution to the Conference and its preparatory process of non-governmental organizations, as set out in the annex to the present resolution;

5. *Decides* that, in order to support the full and effective participation of developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, in the Conference and its preparatory process, each least developed country, to the extent that extrabudgetary funds are available, may be provided, from the voluntary trust funds for the Conference, with travel expenses and, on an exceptional basis, daily subsistence allowance for one representative attending the sessions of the Preparatory Committee and the Conference itself;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of non-governmental participation in the preparatory process and the Conference itself and encourages all support to enable representatives of non-governmental organizations from developing countries to participate fully.

**ANNEX**

**Participation of non-governmental organizations in the International Conference on Population and Development and its preparatory process**

1. Nongovernmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council which express their wish to attend the International Conference on Population and Development and the meetings of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference shall be accredited for participation. Others wishing to be accredited may apply to the secretariat of the Conference for this purpose in accordance with the requirements of the present resolution.

2. The secretariat of the Conference shall be responsible for the receipt and preliminary evaluation, in accordance with the provisions of the present resolution, of requests from non-governmental organizations for accreditation to the Conference and its preparatory process.

3. All such applications must be accompanied by information on the competence of the organization and the relevance of its activities to the work of the Preparatory Committee, with an indication of the particular areas of the Conference preparations to which such competence and relevance pertain, and should include the following:

- (a) The purposes of the organization;
- (b) Information on its programmes and activities in areas relevant to the Conference and its preparatory process and in which country or countries they are carried out;
- (c) Confirmation of its activities at the national and/or international level;
- (d) Copies of its annual reports with financial statements, and a list of members of the governing body and their countries of nationality;
- (e) A description of its membership, indicating the total number of members and their geographical distribution.

4. In the evaluation of the relevance of applications of non-governmental organizations for accreditation to the Conference and its preparatory process, it is agreed that a determination will be made based on their background and involvement in population issues or

population and development issues, including those mentioned in paragraph 4 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/93 of 26 July 1991.

5. Non-governmental organizations seeking accreditation shall be asked to confirm their interest in the goals and objectives of the Conference.

6. In cases where the secretariat of the Conference believes, on the basis of the information provided in accordance with the present resolution, that the organization has established its competence and the relevance of its activities to the work of the Preparatory Committee, it will recommend to the Preparatory Committee that the organization be accredited. In cases where the secretariat does not recommend the granting of accreditation, it will make available to the Preparatory Committee its reasons for not doing so. The secretariat should ensure that its recommendations are available to members of the Preparatory Committee at least one week prior to the start of each session.

7. The Preparatory Committee will decide on all proposals for accreditation within twenty-four hours after the recommendations of the secretariat of the Conference have been taken up by the Preparatory Committee in plenary meeting. In the event of a decision not being taken within this period, interim accreditation shall be accorded until such time as a decision is taken.

8. A non-governmental organization that has been granted accreditation to attend a session of the Preparatory Committee may attend all its future sessions.

9. In recognition of the intergovernmental nature of the Conference, non-governmental organizations shall have no negotiating role in the work of the Conference and its preparatory process.

10. Relevant non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council may be given an opportunity to briefly address the Preparatory Committee in plenary meeting and its subsidiary bodies. Other relevant non-governmental organizations may also ask to speak briefly at such meetings. If the number of requests is too large\* the Preparatory Committee shall request the non-governmental organizations to form themselves into constituencies, each constituency to speak through one spokesperson. Any oral intervention by a non-governmental organization should, in accordance with normal United Nations practice, be made at the discretion of the chairman and with the consent of the Preparatory Committee.

11. Relevant non-governmental organizations may, at their own expense, make written presentations during the preparatory process in the official languages of the United Nations, as they deem appropriate. Those written presentations will not be issued as official documents except in accordance with United Nations rules of procedure.