

1998/48. International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 52/95 of 12 December 1997 on the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

Reiterating the importance of the autonomous status of the Institute, as set out in article I of its statute,¹⁴³

¹⁴³ A/39/511, annex.

Welcoming the recent appointment of the Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

Bearing in mind that the entire operation of the Institute depends solely on voluntary contributions,

Expressing deep concern over the serious financial situation of the Institute, and noting the efforts undertaken to date by the Director to assuage that concern,

Welcoming the growing number of developing countries that contribute to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

Reiterating the content of paragraph 334 of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women² and the relevant provisions contained in agreed conclusions 1997/2 of 18 July 1997 of the Economic and Social Council, on mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system,⁴⁵ which emphasized the need for research and related training activities and the role of the Institute within the United Nations system,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women on its eighteenth session¹⁴⁴ and the decisions contained therein;

2. *Also takes note* of the programme budget of the Institute for the biennium 1998–1999, approved by the Board of Trustees at its eighteenth session;¹⁴⁵

3. *Commends* the Institute for its efforts to coordinate its activities with the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Secretariat, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and other entities of the United Nations and through relevant inter-agency and Administrative Committee on Coordination subcommittees and its efforts to develop joint activities and fund-raising with the specialized and related agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, so as to promote programmes that contribute to the advancement of women;

4. *Stresses* the importance of strengthening independent research, training and the compilation of related databases, which are crucial elements for mainstreaming a gender perspective into policy, planning and implementation;

5. *Requests* the Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, in cooperation with the Board of Trustees and all interested partners, taking into account the outcome of the planned Inter-Agency Brainstorming Workshop and the planned International Dialogue on Research Priorities, to draw up a strategic and comprehensive work plan, without delay, setting out a vision for the future, taking into account the comparative advantages of the mandate of the Institute within the United Nations system;

6. *Requests* the Joint Inspection Unit, in accordance with its proposed work plan, to carry out an evaluation of the

¹⁴⁴ E/1998/46.

¹⁴⁵ *Ibid.*, sect. V.

Institute which should include a detailed analysis of the reasons for the financial and staffing situation of the Institute, and the implications thereof for the Institute at all levels, and the results of the activities mentioned in paragraph 5 above;

7. *Requests* the Director, in cooperation with the Board of Trustees, to present a report to the Economic and Social Council at its next substantive session, containing the following:

(a) A detailed analysis of the reasons for the financial and staffing situation of the Institute and the implications thereof for the Institute, at all levels, including an up-to-date balance sheet of its finances and reserves and of all the steps taken to strengthen its financial and staffing situation, in accordance with the relevant articles of the statute of the Institute, including financial administration as contained in the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, as well as the system support;

(b) Information on the progress of the preparation of a strategic and comprehensive work plan and on steps taken for its implementation;

(c) Information on the outcome of the planned Inter-Agency Brainstorming Workshop and the planned International Dialogue on Research Priorities;

8. *Calls upon* the regional commissions, the specialized agencies and other organizations and bodies in the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to coordinate fully with the Institute and to give support to it, in particular in the programming and implementation of joint activities;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide support to the Institute, in particular in fund-raising activities, by encouraging voluntary contributions to the Institute;

10. *Invites* Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women or to increase their contributions, taking into consideration the importance of those contributions in enabling the Institute to continue to respond effectively to its mandates.

*47th plenary meeting
31 July 1998*