

**1999/54. Revitalization of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* its resolution 1998/48 of 31 July 1998 on the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

*Reiterating* the importance of article I of the statute of the Institute,<sup>150</sup> setting out its autonomous status,

*Reiterating also* the importance of paragraph 334 of the Beijing Platform for Action<sup>21</sup> and the relevant provisions contained in its agreed conclusions 1997/2 of 18 July 1997,<sup>35</sup>

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<sup>150</sup> A/39/511, annex.

*Underlining* the importance of research and training for the advancement of women,

*Expressing grave concern* at the financial situation of the Institute,

*Taking note* of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit containing an evaluation of the Institute,<sup>151</sup>

*Taking note also* of the report of the Board of Trustees of the Institute on its nineteenth session,<sup>152</sup>

*Taking note further* of the report of the President of the Board of Trustees of the Institute in compliance with paragraph 7 of resolution 1998/48 and the position paper prepared by the Board of Trustees,<sup>153</sup>

*Emphasizing* the need to reorganize the structure of the Institute by maintaining administrative costs at a minimum and by funding its project activities through voluntary contributions,

*Expressing appreciation* to those Governments and organizations that have continuously contributed to or supported the activities of the Institute, in particular throughout the period of crisis that it has confronted,

1. *Decides* to engage in the revitalization of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Board of Trustees of the Institute, to draw up a new structure and working method for the Institute and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, taking into consideration the views of interested States Members of the United Nations and building upon the following parameters:

(a) The core staff of the Institute should be constituted of a small number of persons, focusing on coordination and servicing;

(b) Each training and research activity should be structured in projects that are to be financed and managed separately;

(c) New technologies should be used for training, research and communications;

(d) The web site of the Institute should be developed to include categorizing and making accessible third-party gender research projects, thereby also providing a channel to include the results of these projects in United Nations policy-making for the advancement of women;

(e) An effective network of national and international research institutions should be created;

3. *Urges* the Secretary-General:

(a) To appoint, as expeditiously as possible, a Director of the Institute, in consultation with the Board of Trustees;

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<sup>151</sup> See A/54/156-E/1999/102.

<sup>152</sup> E/1999/57.

<sup>153</sup> E/1999/105, annexes I and II.

(b) To address the administrative anomalies noted in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit,<sup>151</sup>

(c) To convene an ad hoc meeting of donors and other interested States Members of the United Nations to discuss the revitalization of the Institute and its immediate and long-term funding;

4. *Recommends* that the Institute:

(a) Strengthen its collaboration and the coordination of its activities with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, the Commission on the Status of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women, as well as establish close collaboration with the United Nations University and other research and training institutes within and outside the United Nations system;

(b) Coordinate its research with other United Nations institutions, especially those involved with women and gender issues, and continue to participate in the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality of the Administrative Committee on Coordination in order to coordinate actions and establish collaboration;

5. *Requests* the Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, in close consultation with the Board of Trustees, to submit a report to the Council at its substantive session of 2000 on the implementation of the revitalization measures;

6. *Urges* States Members of the United Nations and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to consider contributing to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and to identify and consider contributing to specific research projects.

*45th plenary meeting  
29 July 1999*