

2000/24. Revitalization and strengthening of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1979/11 of 9 May 1979, in which it recommended that the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women be located in the Dominican Republic, a developing country,

Recalling also its resolution 1999/54 of 29 July 1999, in which it requested the Institute to adopt a new approach to research, training and communications through increased use of new information and communications technologies,

Recalling further the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Institute⁹⁰ and General Assembly resolution 54/140 of 17 December 1999 on the revitalization and strengthening of the Institute,

Recalling the importance of information and communications technologies for the advancement of women and the role of the Gender Awareness Information and Networking System in gender research, training, information dissemination and networking, in particular for women in developing countries, while at the same time supporting traditional methods of information dissemination, research and training,

Taking note of paragraph 85 (c) of the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", held in New York from 5 to 10 June 2000, which called for support for national efforts, particularly in developing countries, for enlarged access to new information technology as part of the efforts to develop collaborative research, training and information dissemination, including through the Gender Awareness Information and Networking System being developed by the Institute, while at the same time supporting traditional methods of information dissemination, research and training,⁹¹

Stressing the need to rectify continuing anomalies noted in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on an evaluation of the Institute,⁹²

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 twentieth session⁹³ and of the recommendations and decisions contained therein;

2. Also takes note of the report of the Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,⁹⁴

3. Commends the Institute for undertaking important measures for its revitalization, in particular the development and launching of the prototype of the Gender Awareness

Information and Networking System at the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", and its presentation at the information technology exhibit held in this connection at the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council from 5 to 7 July 2000;

4. Acknowledges and appreciates the support of those Governments and organizations that have contributed towards the revitalization efforts of the Institute and the preparation of the prototype of the Gender Awareness Information and Networking System;

5. Expresses grave concern that, despite these efforts, the level of contributions has not adequately increased to a level to enable the full implementation of the System nor the operational viability of the Institute beyond 31 December 2000;

6. Urges Member States to inform the Institute as soon as possible if contributions will be forthcoming in order for it to be able to plan its operations beyond 2000;

7. Urges the Institute, in order to improve its financial situation, to continue to explore new and innovative means of funding, and in this regard decides to amend article VI, paragraph 1, of the statute of the Institute,⁹⁵ as follows:

"The activities of the Institute shall be funded by voluntary contributions from States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, foundations, including the United Nations Foundation, private sources and other sources in accordance with article VII of the statute";

8. Urges the Secretary-General:

(a) To continue to invite Member States to contribute to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women so that it can continue to fulfil its mandate beyond 2000;

(b) To encourage other relevant sources of funding within the United Nations, such as the United Nations Foundation, to contribute to the restructuring of the Institute;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session information on:

(a) Progress made in securing an adequate financial base for the operational viability of the Institute beyond 2000;

(b) Progress made in addressing the administrative anomalies noted in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit;⁹²

⁹⁰ A/54/352.

⁹¹ See General Assembly resolution S-23/3, annex.

⁹² See A/54/156-E/1999/102.

⁹³ E/2000/58.

⁹⁴ E/2000/59, annex.

⁹⁵ See A/39/511, annex.

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Council at its substantive session of 2001 on the implementation of the present resolution.

*45th plenary meeting
28 July 2000*