

7th COUNCIL OF WAY, New Delhi

Development Commission

THE ROLE OF WOMEN

It was agreed that the role of women today is of greatest importance to society, especially in this time when women and society are undergoing the transformations and evolution caused by an industrialised society.

The men and women are fundamentally equal as regards their essence and therefore have the same rights, however that the woman also has the right to be different and that the man and the woman play complementary roles in society.

That in our time we are in need of women with a clear vision of their task as women, and who help to re-establish the social equilibrium by creating a vital current of the great qualities of woman: loving spirit, sense of maternity, intuition etc.

That our present task consists in examining the following points:-

- a) To define the true conception of the role of women;
- b) To establish the fundamental difference between men and women;
- c) To examine the fundamental role of women in society.

Convinced of the urgent need of WAY to study these problems and of the necessity of participation of women in its work and considering the fact that unfortunately the Assembly has not implemented the very effective resolutions adopted in Berlin and Singapore, the discussion group requests the Council to consider the following points:-

1. The regional Seminars for the study of women's problems (6th Council of WAY, Art.IV) have not been organised.
2. The recommendations adopted in Singapore solve the problems of women since they constitute ample theoretical material which unfortunately has not been put into practice by the Assembly of WAY.
3. It is recommended to organise as soon as possible a seminar on the study of the situation of women and how WAY can meet this situation. It is suggested:-
 - a) To organise a Regional Seminar in Asia or
 - b) a seminar under the auspices of UNESCO in the framework of its major project "Mutual understanding between the cultures of East and West".
4. To request the Young Workers Commission to include in their agenda a special seminar for working women or at least to dedicate a great part of its seminars to the study of the problems of working women.
5. We urge National Committees to emphasize the selection of women candidates for leadership training at Aloka.
6. Furthermore National Committees should include in their Committees women in leading position, always grant one travel grant to a woman to participate in Council and Assembly meetings thus stimulating and increasing the number of female members of the Executive Committee of WAY, which is necessary in order to ensure that the objectives of the role of women in society are reached.

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7. To appoint one person or organisation in each National Committee to dedicate itself to women's problems, maintaining contacts with the Documentation Centre of WAY in order to publish and distribute articles on the situation of women in the different countries of the world.
8. WAY should supply information and documentation of the various congresses and seminars on women's problems which are organised on the international level and should also intensify its participation in these meetings by sending representatives.

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