



RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
OF 5 COMMISSIONS OF THE
PARIS WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Le 2 mars 1972

Fundação Cuidar o Futuro

The Commission of "Women's Legal Rights", considering the differences in the legal systems of countries represented at the Conference, felt that it was not in a position to put forward any resolution.

COMMISSION Nº 1 - WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN POLITICS, TRADE UNIONS AND PROFESSIONAL LIFE

1) The members of the Commission demand that governments taking part in the Paris Conference for Women should seek ways of ensuring the equitable representation of the feminine population in political, economic and professional life in order to prevent any imbalance harmful to society, the family or the individual. With this object the members ask all governments to facilitate the access of women to all levels of participation and decision. Governments should ensure that methods of financing parties and feminine associations or the adjustment of electoral systems, according to country and needs, make such access possible.

2) Considering that participation at all levels and in all fields implies appropriate training the Commission urges governments to ensure that all levels are available to women.

The Commission demands that compulsory and specific information on careers other than those traditionally considered feminine should be assured by the governments and by employers or trade union organizations and that regionalization of such information should be assured.

This participation should enable women to assume trade union and professional responsibility at all decision-making levels and its application, particularly at a time when public and private undertakings are confronted with problems of change.

3) The members of the Commission ask all women with political responsibility to intervene to persuade their governments to ratify and implement the U.N. Convention on a maximum participation of women as well as men in all fields.

4) The members of the Commission recommend that publicity and information media should no longer consider woman as an object but as a PERSON.

5) The members of the Commission demand the liberation of women and men in all countries who are imprisoned for political reasons.

APPENDIX

The Greek delegate demands that a commission be sent to Cyprus to examine the situation in the island.

The delegates of the Confédération Générale des Cadres (France) and the Confédération Nationale des Cadres (Belgium) demand the principle of equal classification and salaries for equal competence and responsibility should be respected in accordance with the law.





New times have brought new values and the need to study the situation of women with new terms of reference.

Women are playing and will play an ever-increasing part in the economic life of their countries both as producers and consumers. This is an irreversible situation which requires a certain number of fundamental political decisions.

- 1) Women's work should no longer be regarded simply as a regulating factor in times of expansion or recession.
- 2) Women's right to work and to have children should be considered as essential and non-contradictory values. Facilities should be given to the mother or the couple to enable them to reconcile their professional and family life which are both essential to the well-being of any society.
- 3) Specific legislation on the right to work should concern only the protection of pregnant women, mothers and parents of young children.
- 4) All necessary measures must be taken to allow women, irrespective of their qualifications and their standard of living, to make a free choice as to the orientation of their personal and professional life.
- 5) Because women's conception of the economy must henceforward be realistic their preparation for all classes and types of employment will only be effective if their basic education, and professional and permanent training are mixed.
- 6) All de facto discrimination in training, job selection, pay and promotion should be suppressed.
- 7) Without questioning the family policy of any country, no tax provision or social transfer shall infringe women's rights to work and to motherhood.
- 8) Women, who handle the family budget are in a position to play a decisive role in consumption and therefore in production.
They are becoming conscious that they form a pressure group which will have a decisive effect on the world's economic development.
- 9) Women in rural areas whose role has been and remains essential in the economy of all countries demand to be considered as full-fledged workers with all the rights of that function.

As producers of food, so scarce in many countries, they wish to share with woman farmers throughout the world, and particularly African women, in the fight against malnutrition.

In conclusion all women wish to join in that solidarity which should ensure a fairer distribution of goods and resources throughout the world.

In this way new objectives for economic growth can be defined in order to modify progressively the balance between production and consumption for the benefit of mankind.

COMMISSION Nº 3 - "EDUCATION, TRAINING, CULTURE, SPORTS"

- 1 - That all masculine and feminine stereotyped images should be systematically criticized.
- 2 - That society should be open to real liberty and hence to responsible choice of roles and duties.
- 3 - That the freedom of each woman to organize her life as she chooses and thus achieve a fair balance between her different roles and the different periods of her life should be recognized.
- 4 - That the right of all women to Education and permanent and flexible professional training, together with adequate means of implementation should be re-emphasized. This implies:
 - an educational system adapted to real conditions,
 - cultural, artistic and basic physical training,
 - recognition and support of those organizations providing training for adults and young persons whether or not this training leads to economic activity.
- 5 - That public opinion be informed of the problems confronting handicaped persons in obtaining social integration.
- 6 - That governments and international institutions should study with special care the position of rural women in every country and in particular in developing countries.
- 7 - That research be undertaken to attempt definitions of the repercussions on society as a whole of changes in women's condition.



COMMISSION Nº 4 - "FAMILY, HOUSING, BIRTH"

I) Family

Considering that the problem of the family is not specifically feminine;

considering that there is a consensus on the two following points:

1. The child's right to be brought up either by parents or suitable persons in such a way as to ensure his satisfactory development.
2. The right of woman to decide whether to work outside or inside her home. Outside work implying that the father and mother can reconcile their professional and parental tasks, the conditions necessary for exercising this free choice should be provided in the matter of training, of time schedules for all members of the family group and of social and educational equipment which are everywhere inadequate at the present time.

The solutions should be sought without discrimination of any kind with priority given to women bringing up their children on their own or less privileged in other ways. It is only when these conditions are met that women will be able to choose the best means of expressing her personality and deciding how much of herself she devotes to family and professional life. The equilibrium of the family group depends on that of the woman.

II) Housing

Considering that housing is a basic problem for the future of the family, the group proposes that governments and local authorities ask for the views of qualified women and users concerning the construction and layout of housing.

Housing types and basic rents should meet the needs of those for whom they are intended in town and country.

Open spaces and community facilities (at least community halls available to all) are necessary to assure the quality of life of the inhabitants and should be incorporated in housing developments.

The old and the handicapped should have their own place in modern buildings.

III) Birth

Considering that men and women should exercise a free choice concerning the birth of their children a policy of sexual information and education should be available to all.

Contraception should be really available to all. The fight against infant mortality, the development of health services, the fight against the causes of sterility should be made possible according to the particular situation in each country.

The primary objective of a policy for the family is not to encourage a high birthrate, but to give the family the material and psychological means to ensure its life and well being.



- a) That the different existing sources of information should be listed and coordinated with a view to furthering its circulation first on a local, regional and national basis and eventually internationally.
- b) That during working meetings press representatives should be made aware of the necessity of transforming the image of women.
- c) To promote the broadcasting of attractive information programmes at peak audience periods and to encourage the decentralization of such programmes by means of regional stations, in order to further the exchange of ideas throughout the country.
- d) To establish a system of information applicable in schools from childhood under the responsibility of the Ministries of Education of the different countries.
- This teaching should inculcate in each individual a critical and responsible attitude in all circumstances.

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