

**R E S O L U T I O N S → 1979.**

adopted by

**THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN**

from

Foundation in 1888

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Compiled by: E.E. Monro, 1979

MEETINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

	<u>Plenary Meetings</u>	<u>Executive Committee Meetings</u> (other than meetings held at the time of Plenary Meetings)
Foundation Meeting	1888 Washington	
First Quinquennial Meeting	1893 Chicago	1898 London (First regular meeting)
	1899 London	1900 Paris 1901 The Hague 1902 Copenhagen 1903 Dresden
	1904 Berlin	1906 Paris 1908 Geneva
	1909 Toronto	1911 Stockholm 1913 The Hague
	1914 Rome	
		<b>FIRST WORLD WAR</b>
	1920 Kristiania	1922 The Hague 1924 Copenhagen
	1925 Washington	1927 Geneva 1929 London
	1930 Vienna	1933 Stockholm
First Triennial Meeting	1934 Paris	1935 Brussels
	1936 Dubrovnik	1937 Brussels
	1938 Edinburgh	

MEETINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN  
(CONTINUED)

SECOND WORLD WAR

	1946 Brussels
1947 Philadelphia	
	1949 Lugano
1951 Athens	
	1952 Reading
1954 Helsinki	
	1956 Venice
1957 Montreal	
	1959 Vienna
1960 Istanbul	
	1962 Rome
1963 Washington	
	1964 Interlaken
1966 Tehran	
	1967 London
1970 Bangkok	
	1972 Amsterdam
1973 Vienna	
	1975 Paris
1976 Vancouver	
	1978 Oslo

## ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATION

(Amendments to Constitution & Standing Orders through the years not listed)

LONDON 1899

Headquarters Office

That a Headquarters Office be appointed for the International Council, and that the said office be in the country in which the President lives.

International Congress of Women

That the ICW do not in future undertake the responsibility of organising International Congresses of Women, but that it do adhere to the arrangements for the management of its own Quinquennial Meetings as set forth in its Constitution, leaving the organisation of International Congresses in the hands of National Councils who may desire to convene them.

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recommends the National Council of the country where the Quinquennial Meeting is convened to organise an International Congress which should not conflict with the meetings of the International Council.

BERLIN 1904

Quinquennial Meeting 1909

That this Council accept the invitation of the Canadian Council to hold its Quinquennial Meetings of 1909 in Canada.

Political and Racial Representation

That a Committee on which each National Council shall have a delegate be appointed at this session to examine the question of political and racial representation.

(At a later session Mlle Vidart was unanimously elected as Chairman of this Committee. "On a question being put by Mlle Vidart, the Chair states that the duty of the Committee on race representation will be not only to draw up a map of the world showing all the nations where a National Council exists or might be formed, but also to define philosophically and historically what is a nation as a basis for just action on the part of the International Council."

This resolution was passed in order to solve the problem of Australia being then represented by New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania. It was contended that this gave the country concerned a disproportionate number of votes on the Executive Committee.)

TORONTO 1909

Amended Constitution and Standing Orders

That the Quinquennial Meeting of the ICW do now confirm the action of the Special Council of Geneva, and hereby adopts the amended Constitution and Standing Orders as submitted.

Application for Affiliation

That an Advisory Board be instituted to which applications for affiliation from countries forming new National Councils may be referred by the Executive, and that this Board consist of seven members and that the General Officers be the Board.

Quinquennial and Executive Committee Meetings

That the invitation from the National Council of Women of Italy to hold the Quinquennial Meeting of 1914 in Rome, and the invitations from Sweden and the Netherlands to hold the two Executive Committees at Stockholm in 1911 and that the Hague in 1913 be accepted with grateful thanks.

Executive  
The Hague 1913

Reports

That an Annual Report as well as the Transactions of the Quinquennial Meeting should be published in 1914, and that the Councils shall send in an annual report as usual to the Corresponding Secretary and also a quinquennial report (i.e. a short summary of the five annual reports sent in during the period), both to be in the hands of the Secretary by March 31st, 1914.

Australian National Councils

That the Australian National Councils shall continue their representation upon the ICW as a federal unit of that body, on the same basis and terms existing during this quinquennial period, but Presidents or their proxies shall be permitted to attend and speak at all International Meetings, including Executive Meetings, though only the one chosen as Australian President shall have voting power, and that it will be permitted to each of the Australian National Councils to send a representative upon each of the Standing Committees, but that only one vote shall be rendered from all the Australian Councils.

ROME 1914

Standing Orders for the Standing Committees

That the draft of Standing Orders for the International Standing Committees be accepted by the Council as corrected by the Conveners and President and passed by the Executive Committee.

ROME 1914

Application for Affiliation from the National Council of Portugal

That the affiliation of the National Council of Women of Portugal be accepted pending its Constitution being received in due conformity with the Constitution of ICW.

KRISTIANIA 1920

Origin of ICW

That no one individual be considered as the founder of the ICW, but that the small group of American women mentioned in the Report as the early organisers of the Council be remembered with deep appreciation and gratitude by its members; and that, above all, honour be given to Miss Susan B. Anthony, whose idea it was to convene an International Conference of Women not limited to women suffrage workers, and to Mrs. May Wright Sewall, whose suggestion it was to create a permanent International Organisation of Women, and who, with this in view, proposed the formation of National Councils of Women in all countries as the basis of an International Council of Women, and drew up its first Constitution. (Editor's Note: It should be noted that the 1888 Washington Assembly mentioned in above resolutions was convened as an "International Council of Women" and is so termed in all the published reports of the proceedings. If held under present conditions it would probably have been termed an "International Congress or Conference" to distinguish it from the permanent organisation, and this explains the use of this term in the resolution.)

Founding of the ICW

Report of the Committee appointed to select from authentic documents the data essential to a correct historical knowledge of the founding of the ICW: That the Report be accepted.

Place of Meeting for the Quinquennial Council Meeting in 1925

That the ICW cordially thanks the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland, the National Council of Women of Jugo-Slavia, for the invitations they have kindly given to hold the Quinquennial Meeting of 1925 in their respective countries.

The ICW proposed, however, that in view of the uncertainty which prevails in the world, the final decision as to the place of the meeting of the Quinquennial of 1925 shall be remitted to the Executive which will meet in 1922, and that in case further invitations are received the Executive shall duly consider them.

KRISTIANIA 1920

Place of Meeting of the Executive Committee in 1922

That the invitation from the National Council of Women of the Netherlands to hold a meeting of the Executive Committee in their country in 1922 be accepted with grateful thanks to the National Council of Women of the Netherlands.

Place of Meeting for the Meeting of the Executive Committee in 1924

That the best thanks of the ICW be conveyed to the National Council of Women of Denmark for their kind invitation for 1924, but that the decision regarding the place of meeting of the Executive Committee in 1924 be referred to its meeting in 1922.

Tribute of Lady Aberdeen

That the members of the ICW wish to thank Lady Aberdeen for the years of devoted work given on behalf of the Council, and to assure her of their constant gratitude and appreciation.

Request for Honorary President

In view of the adhesion of so many new National Councils, and of the special difficulties of international work during the coming years, the Council begs Lady Aberdeen, in accepting election as Honorary President, to consent to collaborate with Madame Chaponniere-Chaix in the conduct and responsibilities of the President's office.

Resolutions adopted at the Informal Conference held on the afternoon of Wednesday, 15th September 1920, when the work of the ICW and its relations with other great international organisations were considered.

1. That this ICW, met in Conference, decline the invitation to support the proposal of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance for an annual official women's conference under the League of Nations, and held at their expense.
2. That this ICW, met in Conference, recommends to the Executive Committee and General Officers of the Council to keep in view the desirability of co-operation with other great international women's organisations on subjects of common interest on which they were agreed.

Executive  
The Hague 1922

Co-operation with the International Woman Suffrage Alliance

That a Joint Committee be formed with the International Woman Suffrage Alliance for the sole purpose of recommending suitable women to serve on bodies within the League of Nations.

Possible Amalgamation of ICW and International

Woman Suffrage Alliance that a Sub-Committee be formed

To consider how a plan may be devised whereby propositions for an amalgamation of the ICW and the IWSA may be brought before the two organisations, and that this small Committee consist of Lady Aberdeen, Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, Mme Avril de Ste-Croix and Dr. Alice Salomon, it being understood that before coming to any decision the President and Corresponding Secretary be informed.

ICW Publications

That the Quinquennial volumes of Transactions are not included in the term "ordinary publications" mentioned in the Constitution, and which refer to Standing Orders, printed Programmes, Agendas and the Annual Report of the ICW.

Official Representation at Conferences and Assemblies

That the acceptance of requests for official representation be left to the discretion of the President.

Invitations for 1925 Quinquennial and 1924 Executive

That the invitation of the National Council of Women of the United States for the Quinquennial Council Meeting in 1925 be accepted and that of the National Council of Women of Denmark for the Executive Committee Meeting in 1924 be accepted.

May Wright Sewall Memorial

That the May Wright Sewall Memorial take the form of a prize to be offered for an essay on "The Peace Movements of To-day from the Woman's Point of View", the award to be made at the time of the next Quinquennial Council meeting.

**Executive**  
**THE HAGUE 1922**

**Election of President for Remainder of Quinquennial Term Till 1925**

That the Marchioness of Aberdeen and Temair be elected President for the remainder of the current Quinquennial term till 1925.

**Madame Chaponniere-Chaix's Election as Special Member of Board of Officers and Executive**

That Madame Chaponniere-Chaix be elected a special member of the Board of Officers and of the Executive Committee, and be also asked to act as a special representative of the Council in connection with the great international movements that have their headquarters at Geneva.

**Executive**  
**COPENHAGEN 1924**

**Affiliation of New Councils**

**That the application of:**

the National Council of Women of Czecho-Slovakia,  
the National Council of Women of Guatemala, and  
the National Council of Women of Ireland

be accepted.

**That the application of the National Council of Women of Poland be accepted.** (Note: The President explained that the Board of Officers recommended the acceptance of this Council provisionally, as a slight difficulty had arisen over the Constitution: it was hoped that the necessary change would be made before the Quinquennial Council Meeting in 1925.)

Executive  
COPENHAGEN 1924

Language of ICW Reports

With regard to a resolution proposed by the National Council of Women of the Netherlands:

"That henceforth the International Annual, Biennial and Quinquennial Reports be edited in a French, a German and an English version so as to give more room to the reports of the Councils and International Standing Committees, without raising the price:

which was not carried, the following resolutions were adopted:

- a) that the resolution lie on the table till backed up by financial estimates;
- b) that the order of the three official languages on the title page of the reports be changed in each edition.

Bureau of International de la Paix

In view of the Bureau International de la Paix's intention of issuing a book with particulars about all societies working for Peace, it was decided:

"That the ICW send particulars for insertion in the book and that the Honorary Treasurer pay the Frs.80 required."

Quinquennial Council Meeting 1925

In view of the increased financial difficulties during the last few years in the European countries which would make it impossible to secure a full representation from the National Councils at the Quinquennial Council Meeting held in the United States of America, the ICW Executive regretfully decide not to attempt to carry out the proposal accepted at The Hague in 1922. They hope that the kind invitation will be repeated on another occasion. That the invitation of the National Council of Women of Austria to hold the Quinquennial Council Meeting in Austria be accepted with thanks.

(Note: After the close of the meeting of the Executive at Copenhagen, we received communications from the National Council of Women of the United States in which the President - Mrs. Philip North Moore - explained that her Council wished to offer hospitality to all delegates desiring it during the fortnight covering the Council Meetings, and that, moreover, the USA Council was prepared to offer

**Executive  
COPENHAGEN 1924**

\$20,000 to assist in meeting the travelling expenses of delegates unable to meet the sum under the present economic conditions. At the request of Mrs. Moore a new vote of the Executive was taken, by letter, by the President, the new items of information mentioned above being also circulated. The result of this vote showed 32 in favour of the Quinquennial Meeting being held in America and 12 in favour of Austria. There was thus a large majority for Washington, and the Quinquennial Meeting of 1925 will accordingly be held in that city in the beginning of May.)

**The Bulletin**

That for the present year 1924/1925 the Bulletin should continue to be edited at the Secretary's office, and that Fru Backer's name appear on the front page as Editor.

**The Bulletin**

That as the work of editing the Bulletin is a heavy addition to the work of the Honorary Corresponding Secretary, this arrangement should only be accepted provisionally until the Quinquennial Meeting and that it be referred to the Board of Officers to frame a practical proposal for the conduct of the Bulletin during the next Quinquennial period, to be placed on the Agenda for the Executive and Council Meeting next year.

WASHINGTON 1925

Board of Officers

That the Sub-Executive Committee be in future known under the title "Board of Officers".

Fraternal Delegates at Quinquennial Council Meetings

That the ICW Executive Committee shall determine from time to time a list of women's international organisations that shall be invited to send fraternal delegates to attend the Quinquennial Meetings of the Council, with the right to take part in discussion on matters not affecting the Constitution of the Council, but without a vote.

Nomination of International Officer, Conveners and Vice-Conveners

That in order to assist Councils in their nominations of International Officers, Conveners and Vice-Conveners, each National Council shall be asked to prepare a list of suitable women in their own country from whom such nominations can be made when desired.

Methods of Work of Standing Committees

1. The Standing Committees of the ICW, formed for a definite object, have as their work to examine matters within their scope submitted to the Council with the view of securing such reforms as they may consider necessary.
2. No Standing Committee may take up a new line of work, or memorialise officially any other association in the name of the ICW, without first having secured the approval of the Executive Committee or Board of Officers of the ICW.
3. The Convener of an International Standing Committee is responsible only to the ICW. She stands in the same relationship to her own National Council as to every other National Council. She may work only through the members appointed by the several National Councils. If any National Council should decline to appoint a member for a particular Committee, the Convener of the said Committee may not impose her department of work within the limits of that National Council without consent.

WASHINGTON 1925

4. Each Convener shall send an outline of the proposed work of her Committee annually not later than July to the Corresponding Secretary for the approval and suggestions of the President.
5. The subjects placed on the programme shall be proposed by the Convener of the Committee, or by one of the representative members in the name of her National Council.
6. Each Convener shall send to the members of her Committee annually not later than August the programme of work for the year, mentioning the points to which she especially wishes to draw attention.
7. The members shall send their replies to the Conveners within five months of the dispatch of the programme. They shall add any suggestions with regard to subjects their Council may wish to submit for the consideration of the Committee.
8. A copy of all communications sent by a Convener to the members of her Committee must be sent at the same time to the President and the Corresponding Secretary of the International Council, and to the Presidents of the National Councils.
9. The Convener of each Standing Committee of the ICW shall furnish the Corresponding Secretary with a list of the names and addresses of the members of her Committee, and with an account of the work in progress in her Committee, for the purpose of publication in the Annual Report of the International Council, such account not exceeding 5,000 words in length, to be in any of the three official languages, and to be in the hands of the Corresponding Secretary not later than April 30th in each year.
10. The Conveners shall report on the work of their Committees at each meeting of the Executive Committee. In this report each National Council will find a short notice of its work. The delegates shall not have the right to complain if their report is not mentioned in cases where it has not been received on the date fixed by the Standing Orders.
11. Whenever possible the annual report of a Committee shall be submitted in proof form to that Committee previously to being submitted to the Executive Committee. Under no circumstances shall a report be published without having been accepted by the Executive Committee or the Board of Officers.

WASHINGTON 1925

12. If at a time when no meeting can be summoned it be deemed desirable by the Convener to take the vote of her Committee by post, such a vote shall be valid.
13. An annual allowance shall be made to the Conveners of Standing Committees to cover necessary outlays on postage. The amount of this allowance shall be settled by the officers or the Executive Committee after each Quinquennial Meeting for the ensuing quinquennial period.
14. Any Standing Committee may invite experts (men or women) on the special subject of the Committee to take part in their proceedings.
15. Vice-Conveners automatically become Conveners from the day on which the latter resign office. If a member of a Standing Committee has for two years running failed to answer letters from the Convener, her National Council shall be asked to appoint a new member.
16. In the case of a Convener not having answered any letters or undertaken any work for a year, she shall be considered to have resigned.
17. Members of Standing Committees shall be requested to send copies of their replies to their Convener's communications also to the Vice-Convener.
18. It is advisable that reports from members of Standing Committees be submitted to their National Councils with a view to ensuring that these reports are in harmony with the opinions of the Council.

Change of Committee Name in French and German

That the title of the Committee on Trades and Professions remains the same in English, but be changed in French and German to "Commission Permanente de Travail Feminin" and "Standiger Ausschuss fur Frauenarbeit".

Executive  
GENEVA 1927

Formation of Committee of Experts on Economic Questions

That a small Committee of Experts be formed to deal with questions concerning the economic intercourse (tariffs, etc.) between States, the members to be appointed by the Board of Officers and to serve until the Quinquennial Council Meeting, when the possibility of forming a permanent Committee on the subject can be considered.

News for the Bulletin

That the Editor of the Bulletin should be free to insert press matters sent to her direct by the members of the various Councils and also items of news which she has herself collected.

The Appointment of a Temporary Committee to Consider the Work of Women's Rural Organisations

That a temporary committee be formed to consider the conditions under which women's rural organisations work and possibly to suggest plans by means of which these organisations can get into touch with one another and with the wider movements already represented in the ICW.

Executive  
LONDON 1929

Report on Result of Action Taken on Resolutions

That before the next Quinquennial Meeting a report be drawn up, showing the results of action taken on the resolutions passed by the ICW during the last ten years.

Order of Election

That in future the election of the Board of Officers and of the Conveners and Vice-Conveners of the International Standing Committees shall take place in the following order:

Election of:

- 1) President of the ICW
- 2) Other members of the Board of Officers and Conveners
- 3) Vice-Conveners, Vice-Treasurer and Vice-Secretaries

Affiliation of New Councils

That the application of the National Councils of Women of Lithuania and Albania for affiliation be accepted, and that the President be authorised to accept the affiliation of the National Councils of Japan and Turkey if and when their formal applications are received and their Constitutions are ascertained to be in harmony with the principles of the International Council.

List of Information Bureaus and Clubs

That on the last page of all international reports published by the ICW there be printed, as formerly, a list of Information Bureaus approved by the National Councils of Women, or other addresses where information can be obtained. This list might also include the addresses of the chief Women's International Clubs throughout the world.

Executive  
LONDON 1929

International Conference of Rural Women's Organisations

That this Executive Committee approves of the scheme adopted by the International Conference of Rural Women's Organisations whereby a Committee has been appointed with powers to arrange a Conference on rural subjects, to be held at the same time as the Quinquennial meetings of the ICW in Vienna, and to nominate representatives to attend some of the ICW Standing Committees on that occasion in the capacity of observers.

Co-operation with International Alliance of Women  
for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship

In view of the great advantages that would accrue to the women's movement and the more effective work that could be accomplished, be it

**RESOLVED** that a Joint Committee of four representatives of the ICW and four representatives of the International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship be formed as soon as possible, to draw up a scheme for co-operation between the two organisations and to examine the possibilities of future amalgamation.

That the National Councils affiliated to the ICW and the Auxiliaries of the International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship be asked to send through their respective Headquarters any suggestions which might be of use for the deliberations of the Joint Committee.

VIENNA 1930

Book of Appreciation

That a Book of Appreciation be established in which the names of all those men and women who wish to give expression to their appreciation of the ICW and what it stands for may be entered, subject to such names being recommended by their own National Councils and accepted by the ICW, on their subscribing to the ICW funds a sum equivalent to Sterling 100 or more.

Roll of Honour

That in order to keep in perpetual remembrance the names of those leaders and workers who have done invaluable and outstanding work for the ICW from its inception, and to whose memory in appreciation of their work the ICW wish to do honour, a **Roll of Honour should be inaugurated** by the ICW on which Roll the names of such women may be inscribed for all time. Also that a book be kept for reference at any time, wherein the reasons for placing of such names on the Roll of Honour be recorded.

Committee on Economic Questions

That the existing Committee of Economic Experts be enlarged and act as a consultative committee dealing with economic questions.

Committee of Investigation

That the Board of Officers be empowered to appoint a Committee of Investigation whose task shall be to study under what conditions Councils of countries which do not as yet possess complete political independence may in future be received into the ICW.

VIENNA 1930

Resolutions Concerning Co-operation with International Organisations

I. Co-operation between the ICW and the International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship

A. The possibility of co-ordinating the work of the Committees.

That it be a recommendation to both Societies that they ask the Chairman of their International Standing Committees how far they would be prepared to co-operate with the Committee of the other Society dealing with the same subject, in particular in regard to:

1. the drafting of joint questionnaires.
2. the organising of joint conferences on special subjects.

B. Joint Demonstrations on certain occasions.

1. That it be suggested that the Board of one Society should meet, if possible, at the same place and time as the big general meeting of the other Society.
2. That on these occasions the Society holding its big general meeting should, when arranging public meetings of interest to both Societies, invite the other Society to put forward a speaker or speakers who would express their views and take part as officially representing that Society.

II. Co-operation with other International Organisations  
That the International Women's Organisations be invited to co-operate with the ICW on the following lines:

1. Special Conferences or Demonstrations to be held jointly when matters of international importance arise which would make common international action desirable and effective.
2. Communication between the respective women's international organisations which would enable them to be kept informed as to any plans of work or proposed conferences likely to be of common interest.

Executive  
STOCKHOLM 1933

Joint Meetings of Standing Committees

That questions which concern two or even three Standing Committees shall be studied at special Joint Meetings, to which the members of the respective Committees shall be invited, shall be convened regularly and of which the Agenda shall be drawn up by the Conveners in co-operation with each other.

Closer Co-operation with the International Alliance  
for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship

That a Sub-Committee be formed to discuss with the Sub-Committee of the Alliance the question of closer co-operation: it is to be dissolved when the discussion is over.

Roll of Honour

- a) Considering the necessity to widen the resolution with regard to the Roll of Honour adopted at Vienna, the Executive Committee expresses the wish that not only the names of women who have collaborated with the ICW shall be inserted in the Roll of Honour, but also those of women who in all fields of work have rendered great services to society and the progress of humanity.
- b) That the name of the Marchioness of Aberdeen and Temair be inserted first in the Roll of Honour.
- c) That the name of Miss Henni Forchhammer be placed on the Roll of Honour.

ICW and the National Council of Women of Germany

That the Executive Committee of the ICW desire to express their deep and heartfelt sorrow at the severing of the ties between the ICW and the National Council of Women of Germany which for nearly 40 years has so splendidly upheld the ideals for which ICW was formed in bringing together women of all races, classes and religions for the promotion of the highest welfare of the family and the commonwealth, and for the best good of humanity, at the same time keeping in view that the international ideals shall conform with their sense of patriotism and the interests of their own country.

The ICW earnestly hope that means may be devised in the near future whereby their German fellow-workers with their wide experience may be enabled to co-operate as in the past with the activities of women in Germany and that the accustomed interchange and collaboration in this international body between the women of Germany and those of other countries may be again renewed.

**DUBROVNIK 1936**

**Jubilee Meeting in 1938**

That in view of the fact that the year 1938 will mark the 50th anniversary of the origin of the ICW, the next Plenary Council Meeting shall be held in that year instead of the year 1939 and shall take the form of a Jubilee Celebration.

**Survey of the History of National Councils**

The ICW asks its National Councils to write a short survey of their history. Such a book would serve as documentation testifying to the utility, necessity and the great importance of women's work all over the world.

**Importance and Wider Circulation of ICW Bulletin**

The ICW desire to emphasise the importance and value of rapid interchange of information between members of the Council and begs that more use be made of the Bulletin, especially in reporting successes and advances that can be helpful in other countries. It also urges all National Councils to make more use of the useful information made available in this way by largely increasing the circulation of the Bulletin.

**Bibliography or Card Index re Woman's Movement**

The ICW request National Councils, either alone or in co-operation with other women's organisations in their respective countries, to keep a bibliography or a card index recording national developments in the woman's movement, in order that a complete survey may at any time be available within the Council.

EDINBURGH 1938

Length of Resolutions from National Councils

Resolutions sent by affiliated Councils to the ICW shall not be accepted unless framed in concise terms, within the limit of approximately 100 words.

Geographical Distribution of National Councils

The ICW requests the Board of Officers to survey the present position and geographical distribution of the National Councils throughout the world, and to take steps towards the formation of new Councils, and the strengthening of such as need assistance, and generally to aim at greater uniformity of the influence of the ICW in the different continents.

Executive  
LUGANO 1949

International Council of Women - Conseil International des Femmes - Internationaler Frauenrat

The name of the ICW in German shall be "Internationaler Frauenrat", this being the exact translation of the English and French names.

Regional Conferences between National Councils of Women

The ICW approves the principle of regional conferences between National Councils of Women who may wish to organise such conferences, on the understanding that they are purely consultative. Should it be desired to make representations to ICW as a result of a Conference these should be submitted through the usual channels.

National Council of Women in Italy

In view of the fact that the organising mission given to certain women in Rome has not arrived at satisfactory results, while during the same time important Italian groups have formed in other cities, including Rome; THE BOARD OF OFFICERS of the ICW has been forced to reconsider the situation. In its great desire to arrive at the formation of an Italian National Council composed of the women's groups of the country, the Board of Officers decides to ask both groups to hold in common a General Assembly composed of delegates from all their affiliated associations during which elections will take place. Awaiting the result for which it hopes, the Board proposes to the Executive Committee, subject to constitutional ratification by the next Conference, to recognise as National Council of Women in Italy the Organisation founded by the Congress of Milan, whose methods of work are in agreement with those of the ICW.

ATHENS 1951

Motto of the ICW

The ICW urges that the Motto be used whenever possible on correspondence and publications, since it embodies the spirit which brought the ICW into being and actuates the work of all National Councils of Women.

**ARTS, LETTERS AND MUSIC**

## ARTS, LETTERS AND MUSIC

1927 Letters (sub-committee of  
Press Committee)

1927 Arts (sub-committee of  
Press Committee)

1930 Letters

1930 Fine and Applied Arts

1947 Arts and Letters

1954 Arts, Letters & Music

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Executive  
THE HAGUE 1913

### Bibliography - Women's Movement

That the National Councils be asked to enquire if any bibliography of books and pamphlets dealing with the woman's movement exists in their country, and if this is the case, that they should kindly send such to the Office Central de Bibliographie in Brussels.

Executive  
GENEVA 1927

### Sections for Letters and Arts - Co-operation with the Institute for Intellectual Co-operation

That each Council shall appoint as soon as possible a section for Letters and Arts, and place on its programme co-operation with the National Committee of Intellectual Co-operation and with the Institute and its organisations, such as the International Museum Office and the International Translation Office.

VIENNA 1930

Committee on Letters

That the Sub-Committee on Letters be constituted as an independent Committee.

Committee of Fine and Applied Arts

That the Sub-Committee on Arts be constituted as an independent Committee and called Committee of Fine and Applied Arts.

International Committee of Popular Arts

That the National Councils give all possible support to the International Committee of Popular Arts and to the realisation of its programme.

Library Facilities

That the ICW urges the National Councils to ascertain whether the various public and private libraries provide the necessary technical books on arts, crafts and industries.

Executive  
STOCKHOLM 1933

Exhibition of Samples of Popular Art in Paris 1934

The Arts Committee proposes to organise for the next Conference an exhibition of samples of popular art and that each National Council should send 15 to 20 very characteristic small objects.

Development of Artistic Education of Youth

The Executive Committee recommends the National Councils to do all they can to develop the artistic education of the youth of their country, and that through the Bulletin the artistic movements of other countries should be made known.

Prize Instituted by the Arts Committee

The Arts Committee of the ICW institutes a prize for artistic solidarity. The Princess Cantacuzene (Roumania) offers to this end a prize of FF 1000 which will be offered at the next Conference to a woman artist who will be chosen by the Swedish National Council. In following years this same prize will be decided by lot for one of the women whose names will be chosen by the Arts Committee of the different National Councils.

DUBROVNIK 1936

Professional Position of Women in Literary Careers

The ICW decides to put on its programme the study of the professional position of women in literary careers.

Youth Theatres

The ICW decides to interest itself in the development of Youth Theatres.

Children's Libraries

Considering the importance of children's libraries for the intellectual and moral and social development of children and young people, the ICW urges its National Councils to study the functioning of these libraries and to contribute to their increase by interesting public authorities and private enterprise in this question. It draws attention to the inquiry which is being made by the International Institute for Intellectual Co-operation on the Social Role of Public Libraries for Young People.

PHILADELPHIA 1947

Children's Literature

The ICW draws the attention of writers, editors, parents and teachers throughout the world to the importance of children's literature and its accompanying artistic illustrations in the building up of a spirit of peace and international understanding.

It draws attention to the bad taste, crudity and violence which are too often the themes preferred by writers and artists of children's newspapers and books.

The ICW urges the women's organisations in all countries to support every effort made to solve this problem.

Women as Critics of Literature and Arts

The ICW recommends that more women in all countries be urged to qualify themselves as critics of literature and arts and to seek opportunities and press for appointment as such.

**Executive**  
**LUGANO 1949**

**Comics**

The ICW draws the attention of National Councils to the disastrous influence which a certain type of "comics" may have on children and adolescents and asks each country to consider urgently effective means of dealing with this problem.

**International Understanding Through Music**

The ICW, realising the importance of stimulating international understanding through the study and enjoyment of music,

**WELCOMES** the proposal of the International Music Council to organise an International Conference on Music Education in Brussels in 1953;

**URGES** the National Councils to co-operate where possible in the work being undertaken by the International Music Council and the International Folk Music Council.

**ATHENS 1951**

**Terms of Reference**

To collect and distribute information on questions touching the intellectual life of women; to draw up bibliographies of women's work; to promote the translation of selected books; to encourage personal relations between literary women, musicians and artists in different countries; to stimulate popular interest in literary, artistic and musical work and to endeavour to promote concerts and exhibits between the various countries.

ISTANBUL 1960

Terms of Reference

To collect and distribute information on questions touching on the intellectual and artistic life of women; to draw up bibliographies of women's work; to promote the translation of selected books; to encourage personal relations between literary women, musicians and artists in different countries; to stimulate popular interest in literary, artistic and musical work and to endeavour to promote concerts and exhibits between the various countries.

TEHRAN 1966

Terms of Reference

To promote high standards and active participation in all forms of art; to stimulate interest in the preservation of the national arts heritage (arts, crafts, historic buildings, rural scenic beauty); to study and encourage the implementation of international conventions dealing with art, literature, drama and music; to collect and distribute information relating to the intellectual and artistic life of women and young people; to emphasise the value of art and music teaching in schools and universities, and to encourage the official qualification or the proper registration of music teachers; to stimulate interest in creative literature for children and in children's libraries; to keep the ICW informed of significant works by women artists, authors and composers.

Recreational Books for Newly Literate Young People

✓ APPRECIATING the work undertaken by UNESCO in many developing countries through its literacy campaign,

AWARE of the need to publish and make available more recreational books for newly literate young people,

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

URGES UNESCO to sponsor publication of such books for certain developing countries, written by their own nationals (for example, the short stories for children collected from 12 Asian countries in 1965 by the Women's Council, London) in order to encourage newly literate young people to use their acquired knowledge.

BANGKOK 1970

Author's Rights

CONSIDERING that intellectual creative work should receive the same protection as any other production,

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

REQUESTS its affiliated Councils to promote the establishment of an equitable system for the protection of authors' rights throughout the world.

In developing countries, authors' rights could be guaranteed either by organising the direct levy of these rights in the countries concerned, or - as a temporary measure until the levy system has been organised - by financial assistance to such countries, which would enable the payment of the rights due to authors.

This recognition of the real value of intellectual creative work would have the corollary of encouraging the creation of an intellectual and creative elite among populations that are developing their culture.

NAIROBI 1979

RECOVERY THROUGH THE ARTS OF YOUTHFUL DROP-OUTS AND DELINQUENTS

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Whereas the problem of drop-out exists in most countries;

And Whereas such youth presents a grave educational and social problem;

And Whereas many different ways have been tried to reintegrate such youth into society;

And Whereas non-formal approaches have proved particularly successful in assisting such youth to overcome their difficulties;

IT IS HEREBY RECOMMENDED that National Councils:

Call upon their governments and local authorities to undertake special imaginative programmes for the rehabilitation of drop-out youth;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Emphasises the proven value of the creative arts in programmes designed to reabsorb young people as a constructive element in society;

And hopes that National Councils would encourage for this purpose the establishment of special amateur theatrical groups, art classes, dance and music groups, as a community therapy effort to help such youths.

VIENNA 1973

Satellite Transmissions and Copyright Problems

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

AWARE of the problems of copyright protection raised by the expected growth of transmissions via space satellites;

WELCOMES the initiative of UNESCO and the World Intellectual Property Organisation in convening committees of governmental experts in April 1971 and May 1972 to consider problems in the field of copyright and of the protection of performers, producers of recordings and broadcasting organisations raised by transmission via space satellites:

REQUESTS UNESCO and WIPO to ensure:

1. that the rights of authors which are protected under the copyright laws of the various countries should not be prejudiced in any way by the use of satellites for the transmission of programmes;
2. that any new convention or amendment to any existing convention should not reduce in any way the rights at present enjoyed by authors; and

URGES its affiliated Councils to press for the prohibition by all countries of public dissemination of signals transmitted by space satellites without the consent of the originating organisations and of the authors of works carried by such signals, subject to minor exceptions in the fields of teaching and scientific research, and the use of short extracts for reporting current events.

VIENNA 1973

Role of the World Intellectual Property Organisation

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

NOTING that the Economic and Social Council at its forthcoming session in July 1973 will be considering the question of concluding an agreement with the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) whereby the latter would become a Specialised Agency in the United Nations family under Articles 57 and 63 of the Charter;

NOTING also that United Nations bodies have in recent years laid increasing stress on the importance of WIPO's role in economic and social development;

CONVINCED of the need for the widest recognition of and respect for the economic and social rights of creators and for the international diffusion of works of the mind;

LOOKS FORWARD to co-operating with WIPO in achieving these purposes and welcomes the steps that have been taken with a view to bringing WIPO into relationship with the United Nations family.

VANCOUVER 1976

Lending Libraries - Authors' Rights

**WHEREAS** authors and publishers whose products are in public libraries do not benefit financially from their use as much as they would if each reader had to buy their works himself;

**IN ONLY** five countries - Australia, New Zealand, Denmark, Sweden and Norway - governments have granted, and make themselves responsible for the payment of Public Lending Rights to their own authors. This gives authors a fee per book per annum for every volume they have produced that is in the stock of the public libraries in their country. The grant recompenses publishers for their library sales, and this encourages publishers to reprint. Authors' rights may be inherited by spouse and/or children. Such rights expire 50 years after the first publication of the book;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

**URGES** its National Councils to seek from their governments the granting of Public Lending Rights to their own authors and publishers.

Indigenous Art Treasures

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

**URGES** its National Councils to ask their governments to preserve their indigenous art treasures from export by private art dealers.

## CHILD AND THE FAMILY

1920 Special Committee on Child Welfare

1925 Child Welfare

1960 Child and the Family

#### CHILD AND THE FAMILY

1920 Special Committee on Child Welfare (Convener - Lady Aberdeen. This Committee drafted the "Children's Charter")

1925 Child Welfare

1960 Child and the Family

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TORONTO 1909

#### Study of Questions Concerning Children

That the ICW request National Councils during the quinquennial period 1909/1914 to devote a large share of their attention to questions concerning children, and to hold special discussions on such questions at the next Quinquennial meeting of the ICW.

ROME 1914

#### Equal Rights of Parents in Regard to Children

#### THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

URGES that in all countries the law should give equal rights to father and mother in all respects with regard to their children, and further that in cases of differences of opinion, at the demand of one of the parents, a state authority shall be empowered to make such decisions.

KRISTIANIA 1920

Endowment of Motherhood - Study of the Question

That the ICW urges the National Councils to study the question of the endowment of motherhood.

Endowment of Mothers in Necessitous Circumstances

That the ICW support the principle of the endowment of mothers in necessitous circumstances. Mothers who have their children with them ought to be secured a fixed minimum income in proportion to the number of their children. The difference between this minimum income and that of their household should be paid out of Government or Municipal funds, or out of both conjointly. Effective control should secure that this endowment should be expended exclusively for the benefit of mother and children.

Saving of Children in the Famine-stricken Districts of Europe

That the ICW calls upon the women of all countries to do their utmost to save the children in the famine stricken districts of Europe.

Rights of Children Born out of Wedlock

That the ICW recommends that legislation should be enacted in all countries giving the child born out of wedlock the right to his father's name, and to provide procedure for finding the identity of the father and securing an adequate maintenance for the child.

Executive

THE HAGUE 1922

Illegitimate Children

That opinion be collected from the affiliated National Councils on the following questions:

- a) Is it desirable in the interests of the community as a whole that illegitimate children should obtain equal legal rights with legitimate children and would such a position affect the constitution of the family?
- b) What changes in the existing laws of their countries relating to illegitimacy are advocated by the several National Councils of Women?

IT WAS AGREED that the Convener should circulate previous resolutions passed by the ICW on the position of illegitimate children.

Executive  
THE HAGUE 1922

Infantile Birth and Death Rate

That the Committee collect from the various Councils official statistics showing:

- a) number of births and the general birth rate
- b) the infantile mortality rate
- c) the births and birth rate of illegitimate children
- d) the deaths and death rate of illegitimate children

Executive  
COPENHAGEN 1924

Death Rate of Legitimate and Illegitimate Children

That the statistics concerning the death rate of legitimate compared with illegitimate children under one year be circulated and that the affiliated National Councils be asked to investigate what remedial measures they recommend.

Cooperation between the 'Save the Children' Fund International Union and the ICW

In view of bringing about some form of practical cooperation between the 'Save the Children' Fund International Union and the ICW, it was decided:

- a) That this meeting formally re-endorse the Declaration of Geneva, made by the 'Save the Children' Fund International Union.
- b) That the National Councils be recommended to collaborate with the National Committees of 'Save the Children' Fund in their respective countries in preparing a Children's Charter suitable to the needs and conditions in each particular country.

Executive  
COPENHAGEN 1924

- c) That these Charters, after submission to both international organisations and approval, be published as the joint production of both organisations and with both names printed on it.
- d) That pending the decision of the Quinquennial Council Meeting on the proposals of affiliation or some form of federation for international societies cooperating with the ICW, representatives of the International 'Save the Children' Fund be invited to attend the meetings of the ICW Child Welfare Committee.

Position of Alien Children

- a) The Executive Committee of the ICW authorises the Child Welfare Committee in communication with the affiliated National Councils to make the position of alien children under the law of each country a subject of serious study and to report on this at the next Quinquennial Meeting.
- b) The Child Welfare Committee requests the Executive Committee to place a resolution on the agenda of the Quinquennial Council meeting with a view to obtaining as soon as possible an improvement as regards the status of alien children.

WASHINGTON 1925

Formation of a Standing Committee on Child Welfare

That the Special Committee on Child Welfare be now re-constituted as a permanent Standing Committee of the ICW. (Power was given to adjust the name in accordance with any decision taken by the League of Nations.)

Alteration in the ICW Children's Charter in Collaboration with 'Save the Children' Fund International Union

This resolution repeats Clause a) of the resolution "Position of Alien Children" listed above, with the alteration of "The Executive Committee of the ICW..." to "The ICW...".)

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN IN CASE OF HOSTILITIES

Considering the increasing number of cases where children are directly or indirectly involved in hostilities and

Considering that the protection of children in case of hostilities is not embodied in the Declaration of the Rights of the Child,

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN, having in mind in particular:

1. The International Year of the Child (IYC) draws the attention of National Councils of Women to the Protocols additional to the Geneva Conventions (Red Cross), adopted in 1977 which define the measures to be taken in favour of children, particular:

PROTOCOL 1, Article 77, Protection of Children

...  
2. The parties to the conflict shall take all feasible measures in order that children who have not attained the age of fifteen years do not take a direct part in hostilities and, in particular, they shall refrain from recruiting them into the armed forces.

PROTOCOL 11, Article 4, Fundamental Guarantees

...  
3. Children shall be provided with the care and aid they require, and, in particular

...  
c) children who have not attained the age of fifteen years shall neither be recruited into the armed forces or groups nor allowed to take part in hostilities;

d) the special protection provided by this Article to children who have not attained the age of fifteen years shall remain applicable to them if they take a direct part in hostilities despite the provisions of sub-paragraph (c) and are captured;

Commentary to the Draft Additional Protocols, '973, p. 164

The parties to the conflict shall neither encourage nor tolerate any participation whatsoever by children in the hostilities; not only shall direct participation in hostilities be prohibited, but also any other act in relation with the latter; transmission of military information; transport of arms, ammunition and war material; sabotage, etc."

Nairobi 1979

HEALTH OF THE CHILD AND FAMILY

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Aware that children are a particularly vulnerable group who have special health needs and are exposed to serious risks;

Concerned by the magnitude and gravity of the health problems of mothers and children mainly as related to the interaction between malnutrition and infection in combination with adverse environmental factors and inadequate health care and social services;

Recognising the crucial importance of family health, particularly for the infants, as well as for pre-school and school children, for subsequent adult health and the quality of life of future generations;

Considering that 1979 has been declared the International Year of the Child, the significance and objectives of which should serve as a stimulus to continuing actions which by virtue of their scope and continuity will make these aspirations a reality;

Urges National Councils to

1. Develop further educational programmes for men and women in maternal and child health with special emphasis on areas such as nutrition, food, hygiene, personal hygiene, family life, child bearing and child rearing.
2. To request their governments to undertake and further develop social legislative education, preventive and curative measures that will promote family health, particularly maternal and child health, with special emphasis on areas such as nutrition, communicable disease control, and education for family life, and others as appropriate to local, social and economic conditions and cultural habits in child bearing and child rearing practices.

Nairobi 1979

ABDUCTION OF CHILDREN FROM LEGAL CUSTODIAN

Where a child has been taken from the custody of a parent to whom the child had been principally committed by court order and removed to another country,

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recommends study of this question to its affiliated National Councils with the object of obtaining from National legislatures compatible regulations as to enforcement of custody orders made in other countries.

4576m/1

Nairobi 1979

CHILDREN AND THEIR MOTHERS

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Noting the Report of research into the needs of children prepared by its Standing Committees for IYC,

Recalling ICW's many resolutions concerning the welfare of mothers and children—in particular (a) Vienna (1930) "Charter of the Rights of Mothers", (b) Bangkok (1970) "Parental Rights and Duties",

Aware that the responsibility for the nurture and raising of children still rests principally with the mother,

Convinced that society must increasingly assist her to carry out this responsibility,

Aware that the role of the mother is often discriminated against, overburdened, denigrated and economically disadvantaged,

Knowing that due to the pressures of rapid change aimed, inter alia, at integrating women into development, the role of the Mother is often a dual one,

Believing that little can be done for the child unless more is done for the Mother,

Suggests that its affiliated Councils urge their governments to consider with their United Nations colleagues the advisability of formulating a Declaration of the Rights of the Mother setting out her rights to (1) shared parental responsibilities, (2) equality of status, opportunity, independence, rest and recreation with other members of society, so that her role will be supported and enhanced and the full development of the child of today as the citizen of the future will be ensured.

Nairobi 1979

A. CHILDREN AND TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Aware of the increasing number of traffic accidents involving children, Urges its affiliated Councils to call the attention of their National Authorities to the following suggestions to avoid accidents to children:

1. To ensure that measures be taken by traffic authorities to slow down speed especially in suburbs e.g. by the installation of "bumpers".
2. More traffic education in road safety.
3. Special legislation requiring children under 12 to be seated in the back seat or in a safety harness.

B. INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Concerned about the problems facing handicapped children and their families suggests:

1. Adoption of legal measures to ensure special treatment, support and education of handicapped children.
2. Integration so far as possible of the often isolated and handicapped child.
3. Provision of better and easier facilities at home and in Public Buildings and Institutions.
4. Publicising the problems of the handicapped in order to create a better understanding and more appreciation of their problems.

CHILDREN OF SEPARATED PARENTS

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Observing that in separation proceedings between spouses the most painful emotions are aroused by questions of guardianship of children;

and that this problem is aggravated in cases where the parents are of different nationalities;

Urges its National Councils to work to achieve that existing International Conventions on this subject be ratified without delay, and that action be taken in the different countries to bring into harmony their laws concerning the guardianship of children, in order to prevent, insofar as possible, harmful effects upon children of the separation of their parents.

4579m/1

Nairobi 1979

PROPERTY RIGHTS OF CHILDREN

Whereas on the dissolution of marriage the children's financial and property rights should be safeguarded,

And whereas these financial and property rights are best safeguarded by the Court or other authorities,

Therefore National Councils should promote legislation which will ensure that:

1. Any financial arrangements reached by parents should be approved by the Court so that the children's financial and property rights be safeguarded.
2. In those cases where the Court considers it necessary a separate and independent attorney (trustee) should be appointed to represent the children's financial and property rights.
3. An Annual Report submitted to the Court and/or proper government authorities that financial and property rights of children have been properly handled.

Seoul, 1982

ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY WOMEN

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recalling its Resolutions adopted in 1938 and 1976 which supported the payment by public authorities of maintenance and/or other such benefits to women in necessitous circumstances and to their children born in or out of wedlock, and

Remembering studies made in 1979, the UN International Year of the Child, to help children;

Urges its National Councils to press their governments to pay the cost of confinement, and to give free ante-natal and post-natal support to all needy women. It is suggested that this assistance may take the form of specific monetary payments to the mother, free health insurance or free hospital and medical care and advice, including such items as free milk or other food or necessities and, if necessary, family planning advice.

4581m/1

Seoul, 1982

TERTIARY EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN OF DIVORCED PARENTS

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Accepting that in cases of divorce or separation legislation should require parents to pay maintenance for children until completion of the children's secondary education, and

Recalling studies undertaken in 1979, the UN International Year of the Child, on children's needs;

Recommends to its National Councils that they request their governments to pass legislation so that, in cases of divorce or separation, maintenance payments for children should be continued for tertiary education.

4582m/1

Seoul, 1982

CHILD LABOR

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Concerned that child labour is on the increase in the world;

Realising that child labour has serious consequences on a child's physical, mental and moral development, on its future and on the future of its country;

Realising further that child labour, especially full-time labour, interferes with normal schooling;

Realising that the causes of child labour are economic and social;

Convinced of the value and importance of the Resolution of the International Labour Conference (Geneva, June 1979) on the International Year of the Child, the Elimination of Child Labour, Resolution 7B (XXXII) (5th September 1979) of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities of the UN Commission on Human Rights;

Urges its National Councils to contribute to the elimination of the exploitation of child labour and its causes in their countries and to recommend to their governments to ratify and implement the Instruments of the International Labour Office, in particular Convention 138 - Convention concerning the minimum age for admission to employment - and Recommendation 146 - Recommendation concerning the minimum age for admission to employment.

London, 1986

JUVENILE JUSTICE

Recalling

- 1) that the ICW, Istanbul 1960, stressed the importance of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child, and
- 2) that the ICW has worked for and supported the premise that "mankind owes the child the best it has to give", especially during and arising from the International Year of the Child 1979, and this has been followed by ICW's support for the International Year of Youth 1985; therefore

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recommends that its National Councils should work for the establishment by their governments of special Juvenile Courts with suitable and specially trained judges, in all countries where such courts do not exist.

London 1986

INTER-COUNTRY ADOPTIONS

Recalling that in 1966 the ICW requested its affiliated Councils to use their influence with their respective governments in order that an instrument might be drawn up on the inter-country adoption of children, which would protect these children;

Recognising that the ICW policy of 1966 was based on the draft International Convention on the Inter-State Adoption of Children drawn up in 1964 by the Conference of International Private Law in the Hague but that no further action has been taken;

Believing that inter-country adoption of children may result in exploitation and abuse;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Requests its affiliated Councils

- 1) who have a policy on this matter to review it;
- 2) to use their influence with their respective governments, where no policy exists, to draw up an instrument on the inter-country adoption of children which would protect these children, and
- 3) to press their governments to give favourable consideration to the United Nations "Draft Declaration on Social and Legal Principles Relating to the Protection and Welfare of Children with Special Reference to Foster Placement and Adoption."

Washington, D.C., 1988

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Aware of the gravity of problems relating to children and of the extreme urgency of finding solutions;

Referring to its resolution adopted in Toronto in 1909 on "Questions Concerning Children", its following resolutions on the Geneva Declaration (1924), the United Nations Declaration (1959) on the Rights of the Child and on its cooperation with UNICEF (1957 and 1960) and on the Year of the Child (1976) at Vancouver;

Considering the very important role played by international non-governmental organisations in the dissemination and implementation of international law;

Welcomes the progress made by the UN Commission on Human Rights towards the creation of an International Convention on the Rights of the Child;

Hopes that this Convention will be adopted, ratified and enforced as soon as possible, so that there will be a rapid improvement in the fate of children all over the world;

Urge its National Councils:

- 1) to inform the public about the plans for this International Convention on the Rights of the Child;
- 2) to exercise influence on their governments from now on, so that the language of the Convention is gender neutral; the Convention is adopted at the UN General Assembly in 1989; the signing and ratification of the Convention shall follow as soon as possible after its adoption.

FAMILY AND PARENTAL SKILLS

Recognising the very important role of the family in society, and in the development process;

Recognising also that the structure of the family differs in different parts of the world;

Noting that all the various forms of the family have common tasks in society, such as the nurturing and education of the children; the provision of shelter and care for members of the family on the material, emotional and psychological level; and the transmission of cultural values;

Considering that the father and mother have equal responsibilities towards their children and recognising that these tasks lie heavily on the single-parent family;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Agrees to urge its National Councils to promote international and national action in favour of the family;

Undertakes to contribute to specific programmes concerning the family instituted by the United Nations within the framework of ICW goals and principles;

Urges its affiliated National Councils of Women to ensure that their governments promote programmes in support of the family which are in harmony with all the conventions, covenants and declarations adopted by the UN and its Agencies guaranteeing the rights and responsibilities of the individual members of the family; and furthermore

Considering that the parents are the basis of the family institution which functions as the primary medium in the promotion and development of the total quality of life of the child;

Convinced that adequate skills are required to develop a healthy and sound family life;

Urges National Councils of Women:

1) to promote, with their governments, programmes and facilities for the enhancement of parental skills for all those who are responsible for child-rearing, including substitute parents;

2) to promote education and widely to disseminate knowledge of responsible parenthood.

Washington, D.C., 1988

SPECIALISED CARE FOR DISABLED CHILDREN

Recalling the resolution adopted in Nairobi (1979) on the problems facing disabled children and their families;

Welcoming the introduction of an International Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the prospect of its adoption;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Calls upon its National Councils to persuade their governments and non-governmental organisations to create a wide variety of services and specialised institutions for disabled children, involving appropriate ministries, giving particular attention to small units which can more easily be incorporated into the community.

4588m/1

ADOPTED CHILDREN

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Welcomes the consideration given in the United Nations Status of Women Commission to the situation of adopted children, and

Urges its affiliated National Councils of Women to work with their national legislatures and other relevant bodies,

To ensure that adopted children shall have a status identical with that of other children in particular with regard to legal situation, rights of education, social security and inheritance.

CHILDREN OF PARENTS OF DIFFERENT NATIONALITIES

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recalling the consideration given to this question at its 1976 Triennial Conference (Vancouver) and subsequent study by its Standing Committee on Laws and Suffrage.

Invites its affiliated National Councils to work with relevant authorities in their countries to ensure that,

In cases where the parents have different nationalities, the child shall be enabled at birth to become a national by descent of both its father's and its mother's country and that,

When the child reaches the age of majority he should be able to choose which nationality he wishes to retain.

WASHINGTON 1925

Care of Abnormal Children

That the ICW shall request all National Councils to take an active interest in the care and protection of abnormal children, and to report on the measures taken in this direction in the various countries.

Death Rate of Illegitimate Children

This resolution repeats "Death-rate of Legitimate and Illegitimate Children" listed under Executive COPENHAGEN 1924.

Executive  
LONDON 1929

Popular Pamphlet in Support of Child Health and Play Day

That a small popular pamphlet explaining the reasons why it is advisable to hold a Child Health and Play Day be prepared in the three languages (and, if possible, also in Spanish for the use of South America) in readiness for the Quinquennial Council Meeting, for distribution for the Quinquennial Council Meeting, for distribution amongst the Councils to enable them to carry out a campaign in support of the course advocated.

VIENNA 1930

Protection of Children

The ICW insists on the need for National Councils to study and then urge their governments to support the three last Conventions of the League of Nations in regard to the protection of children.

Charter of the Rights of Mothers

That the ICW, representing more than 40 million of women in 40 different countries, declares itself in favour of a Charter of the Rights of Mothers.

VIENNA 1930

Annual National Child Health and Play Day

That with the view of educating public opinion as to the need for definite provision for recreation and supervised playgrounds from the point of view of public health and child welfare, all National Councils be urged to take steps for the establishment of an Annual Child Health and Play Day, such as has now been decreed by President Hoover at the United States Congress.

Minors in Foreign Countries

The ICW recommends that a message be sent to the League of Nations insisting on the necessity of taking up again the study of the protection to be given to minors in foreign countries.

Executive

STOCKHOLM 1933

Investigation Regarding Children's Prisons, Reformatory Houses and Penitentiary Institutions

That the ICW make by means of its Child Welfare Committee an all-round investigation regarding children's prisons, reformatory houses of detention, state penitentiary institutions and police stations and the way in which children, who are charged with an offense or a crime, are treated in the various countries.

Protection of Children from Dangers Resulting from Long Unemployment of Parents

WHEREAS in every country the long-continued unemployment of the parents is resulting in physical, moral and spiritual injury to the children,

BE IT RESOLVED that the ICW urges all its affiliated National Councils to further and sustain all provisions for the care of infants and little children, for adequate feeding and medical care for all school children, and for older children greatly increased facilities under wise guidance for recreation, both in and out of doors, for classes, clubs and handicrafts. The economic distress of the parents must not be allowed to imperil the future of the nations by breaking the forces of the rising generation.

PARIS 1934

The two Stockholm resolutions listed above were repeated.

Treatment of Erring and Delinquent Minors

The National Councils of Women are requested to study the Report of the Child Welfare Committee of the League of Nations regarding "Institutions for Erring and Delinquent Minors" and to investigate and report on the conditions in their respective countries on the basis of the League's report, with a view to the preparation of a special report on the subject by the Child Welfare Committee of the International Council in 1936.

Protection of Children from Dangers Resulting from Unemployment of Parents

AFTER HAVING HEARD the reports from several countries on the question of the influence of unemployment of parents on the health of the children, and the various measures being taken officially and through private organisations for the assistance of the children; AND REALISING that there are still, unfortunately, a number of countries where in spite of all efforts some thousands of children are suffering from under-feeding and its menace to their normal development during this period of economic crisis; THE ICW urges the affiliated National Councils to give all possible support to the means being taken in their respective countries for the assistance of the children; AND TO SEND a report before 31st January 1935 to the Convener of the Child Welfare Committee of the ICW who will supply a resume to our representative on the Committee for the Protection of Children of the League of Nations.

Criminal Assaults upon Young Children

The ICW urges its National Councils of Women to endeavour to secure in their respective countries that in cases of criminal assaults upon young children the children be examined by women doctors and that evidence be taken in the presence of a woman.

It is also strongly advised that definite instructions and supervision be given to school children for their safety.

DUBROVNIK 1936

Position of Children in the Different Countries

With a view to the unification of the legal codes affecting children, the ICW begs its affiliated National Councils to make an enquiry into divergencies that may exist between the legislation regarding children actually operating in their respective countries and the principles which form the basis of the Declaration of Geneva. (Children's Charter).

Education and Technical training of Crippled Children

The ICW urges its affiliated National Councils to give every encouragement in their respective countries to organised work for the education and technical training of crippled children, in order to render them self-supporting. It also urges that day schools be provided at least in towns for physically deficient children.

Infant Mortality and Pre-natal Care for Mothers

The ICW urges its affiliated National Councils, while recognising the value of pre-natal care not only to the mother but to the unborn child, to continue to promote by every means in its power the full use of pre-natal clinics in the organised work for mother and child. It further urges that each National Council undertake to report to the next Council Meeting data as to the increased use of ante-natal clinics and the rate of new born and infant mortality in their respective countries in relation to previous years.

EDINBURGH 1938

Help to Children, Victims of War and Civil Disturbances

CONSIDERING the necessity of help being given to children who in various countries have been victims of war and civil disturbances; CONSIDERING that it is the duty of women mutually to support one another in relief work;

THE ICW urges its affiliated Councils to take all possible part, either alone or together with other organisations such as the 'Save the Children' International Union or the International Red Cross, in the relief work against famine and mental depression among children in countries which are at war, and among refugee children.

EDINBURGH 1938

Assistance to Destitute Orphans

The ICW, considers that it would be desirable that every destitute orphan should receive adequate assistance from the authorities. This assistance should endeavour to keep the child with his remaining family or in surroundings suitable for children of its age. Where the child has to be placed in an institution it should have a voluntary protector outside the institution with whom it should be in personal and regular contact.

Co-ordination of Efforts of Institutions of Assistance

The ICW, realising that in the field of protection of children and adolescents the efforts of the various institutions of assistance very often lack co-ordination, begs its affiliated Councils to undertake, in their respective countries, an inquiry into the various aspects of the question in order to draw the attention of the public to the matter, with a view to finding means to co-ordinate existing efforts.

PHILADELPHIA 1947

United Nations Appeal for Children

The ICW, having taken note of the United Nations "Appeal for Children", strongly endorses the ideals and objectives, believing that it will be not only a powerful factor in the relief of distress among the children of the world but also a demonstration that the individual in all countries has faith in international collaboration, and wishes to act in the support of this humanitarian initiative.

RECOGNIZING that the appeal is addressed to the peoples of the world, that it is one which calls on such voluntary effort, and which will depend in great measure for its success on voluntary contributions to the Fund, the ICW requests all its member Councils:

- 1) to press for representation of voluntary bodies on the National Committees which it is proposed to set up, and to see that an adequate number of women is chosen amongst them;
- 2) to give maximum support to Committees so formed;
- 3) to give all possible publicity to the appeal.

PHILADELPHIA 1947

Creches and Nursery Schools

The ICW urges its affiliated Councils to work for the extension of facilities for creches (day nurseries) and nursery schools, under proper supervision, both full and part time, according to the needs of the mothers and children in their respective countries.

Birth Certificates

In order to avoid the stigma of illegitimacy the ICW urges that provision should be made for an abbreviated birth certificate for general use which should not disclose parentage.

Executive  
LUGANO 1949

No Separation of Parents and Children

The ICW re-affirms its strong conviction that children should not be removed by violence from their parents or natural protectors, and deplores the fact that the Greek children have not yet been repatriated. It therefore urges the United Nations and the International Red Cross to take immediate steps to secure the early return of these children to their own country.

Family Aid with Specialised Social Service

The Standing Committee on Child Welfare has noted with satisfaction that measures of family aid which guarantee a maximum of security to children are becoming increasingly general in all countries. The ICW Committee on Child Welfare expresses the wish that in the countries where the system of family allowance has been adopted, a special social service function permanently in connection with this system. This social service is to help and advise those who receive an allowance; to propose, if necessary, an additional aid for special cases, but in no case should it initiate sanctions such as withdrawal of the allowance. The Committee also expresses the desire that in principle the allowance be given to the mother. The allowance may be partly in cash, partly in kind.

ATHENS 1951

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To work separately and in conjunction with the Public Health, Laws and Education Committees on all aspects of Child Welfare.

Support for UNICEF: Consultation with NGOs

THE ICW, being deeply impressed with the outstanding work performed through the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) since its inception in 1946, in the relief of distress among the children of the world, and

HAVING NOTED the action of the General Assembly in 1950 continuing UNICEF for the purpose of providing assistance to Governments in the development of their long-range programmes for children, as well as for serious emergencies,

WELCOMES the decision of the UN to enlist the co-operation of the Specialised Agencies in their respective fields of activity, and EXPRESSES the wish that competent NGOs be consulted in the planning, and implementation of programmes for the benefit of children, AFFIRMS its readiness to explore the possibilities of increased collaboration with the appropriate international organs on all matters of mutual interest, and

REQUESTS all its National Councils of Women to co-operate with the Specialised Agencies and the UNICEF by giving all possible publicity to their operations, by lending assistance to national efforts to procure contributions to the Fund, and by placing practical experience at the disposal of the tasks of child welfare.

Draft Declaration of the Rights of the Child

THE ICW

IN VIEW OF the fact that fundamental principles of the UN Charter as well as the decisions taken by the UN organs have not been respected by all Member States,

IN VIEW, particularly, of the flagrant violation of a principle fundamental for all women, such as the violation of the parents' right over their children and, in particular, the detention by certain States of thousands of Greek children deported by force, IN VIEW OF the fact that in this case these States did not comply with the decision of the UN concerning the restitution of these children to their country,

EXPRESSES its indignation in this respect, and DECIDES to propose to the UN to study once again the means, if necessary through moral, economic or other sanctions, of inducing the Member States of the UN and other Governments concerned to respect integrally their international obligations.

HELSINKI 1954

Maintenance of Illegitimate Children

The ICW draws the attention of its National Councils to the lowering of moral standards and the encouragement of irresponsible conduct which may result from the establishment in different countries of armed forces of other nationalities.

It urges the need for international consultation and measures to safeguard the interests of illegitimate children born of such unions and for action to introduce some form of affiliation order for the maintenance of an illegitimate child which will be internationally valid.

Mental Hygiene

The ICW, considering the knowledge recently acquired in the domain of mental hygiene, requests the National Councils to watch over the diffusion and application of all that pertains to mental hygiene:

- 1) by encouraging the further education of parents, teachers and social workers, insisting particularly on the influence of the mother on the mental and emotional development of young children from their earliest years;
- 2) by requesting the increase of facilities for mental hygiene in connection with child guidance;
- 3) by seeking peaceful and humane solutions to solve problems which are at the root of insecurity and anxiety and are causes of maladjustment of the child.

United Nations Children's Fund

The ICW, deeply impressed with the outstanding achievements of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) in aiding governments, particularly in under-developed areas, to develop programmes of long range benefit to children as well as to meet serious emergencies,

HELSINKI 1954

**WELCOMES** the unanimous action of the General Assembly in continuing UNICEF and in recognising its leading role in the whole international programme for the protection of the child,  
**RECOGNISES** that the work of UNICEF can only go forward through the continued support of governments, voluntary organisations and individuals,  
**EXPRESSES** its appreciation to the UNICEF Executive Board and the Administration for the strengthening of its relationship with the international NGOs and pledges its continued cooperation,  
**REQUESTS** its National Councils of Women to cooperate with UNICEF by improving public understanding of its work, by participating in the work of national committees for UNICEF, by lending assistance to national efforts to procure contributions to the Fund, by calling the attention of governments to urgent child needs which could be met with the aid of UNICEF, and by placing practical experience and resources at the disposal of the providers of child welfare at both national and local levels.

**Parental Authority**

The ICW re-affirms its conviction that in all matters regarding family relationships and management both spouses must have equal authority, and that in order to establish equality of rights in the matter of their children the term "parental authority" ought in all cases to replace the term "paternal authority".

MONTREAL 1957

Co-operation with UNICEF

The ICW, wishing to pay tribute to the significant achievements of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) in aiding some 100 governments and territories, particularly in underdeveloped areas, to establish permanent children's services,  
IMPRESSED particularly by the unifying value of UNICEF, not only from a humanitarian point of view, but in increasing the capacity of the countries for economic and social progress,  
WELCOMING the increasing emphasis of UNICEF, in close collaboration with the UN Bureau of Social Affairs, the relevant Specialised Agencies and Non-Governmental Organisations, in viewing aid for children as a balanced part of broader activities to improve family and community environment, with particular attention to the importance of education of mothers in child care,  
CONGRATULATES the Executive Board and the Executive Director of UNICEF on their outstanding work,  
PLEDGES to UNICEF its continued cooperation, and  
REQUESTS its National Councils to stimulate interest among citizens and their governments in the world wide need ~~sof~~ of children, and in the need for more adequate support of UNICEF to help meet these needs.

Facilities for Assistance to Mothers Working Outside the Home

The ICW, taking into consideration the increasing participation of married women in the economic and social life in many countries, wishes to draw the attention of the Status of Women Commission to the importance of the provision of adequate facilities for assistance in the supervision and care of children, both pre-school and of school age, when the mother is away from the home. Day care, play centres, holiday homes, as organised in a number of countries, should be expanded commensurate with the growing needs.

ISTANBUL 1960

UNICEF

The 16th Assembly of the ICW expresses its interest in the work of United Nations Children's Fund in relation to the general theme of the Conference: "Woman and Family in a Changing World". It notes with special attention the resolution of the Executive Board of UNICEF of March 1960:

- 1) To undertake a survey of the needs of children.
- 2) To emphasise the importance of professional training for those working with children.
- 3) Finally, to help the Governments to put into practice the principles of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations.

It requests its affiliated Councils to support in every possible way UNICEF work for children, and especially recommends them to help in the important work of informing and educating the public on this subject.

Declaration of the Rights of the Child

The ICW in conference assembled in Istanbul in August 1960 mindful of the importance of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child pursuant to the humanitarian goals of the Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the human conscience that "mankind owes the child the best it has to give";

- a) expresses its deep appreciation for the Declaration of the Rights of the Child as adopted by the General Assembly at its 14th Session;
- b) supports wholeheartedly the resolution (1386 XIV) of the General Assembly concerning publicity to be given to the Declaration of the Rights of the Child;
- c) requests its National Councils to undertake such activities as to publicise as widely as possible the text of this Declaration;
- d) expresses the hope that a Convention be drafted in the near future, and urges its affiliated Councils without waiting for this Convention to make sure that in their respective countries the principles proclaimed by the Declaration are implemented and respected.

WASHINGTON 1963

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To work separately and in conjunction with the Health, Laws and Suffrage and Education Committees on all aspects of child welfare.

(Note change in titles of Standing Committees referred to.)

Education for Responsible Parenthood

WHEREAS the ICW is deeply concerned with the health and welfare of the child, the family and with its responsibility to the community,

WHEREAS the basic rights of the child have been recognised;

WHEREAS repeated and often unwanted pregnancies at short intervals can be detrimental to the health of the mother, and her ill-health can adversely affect the whole harmony of the home,

WHEREAS the rate of growth of the world population threatens in many countries to increase human tragedy and suffering alarmingly in the very near future,

WHEREAS intensive studies by research scientists have been and are being made on human fertility, and there now exist medically approved ways to space children which are acceptable to all cultures and all religions,

NOW, THEREFORE, THE ICW RECOMMENDS:

- a) that a programme of education be encouraged concerning the medical, ethical and moral aspects and the dangers of the world population increase;
- b) that parents be educated in their duty and responsibility to plan their families in such a manner as to meet the requirements of their children;
- c) that, wherever possible, child-spacing information should be made available to all parents as part of the regular medical services to the community, and that instruction acceptable to their personal, moral and religious convictions be given by suitably trained persons to all parents who ask for it.

BANGKOK 1970

Urges that parents be educated in their duty and responsibility to plan their families,

Suggests that child-spacing information be made available to all families as part of the regular services to the community,

Supports the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in its study of the effect of family planning on the status of women and urges that the relevance of family planning to maternal and child health, to the employment of women outside the home, to women's participation in public and civic life and to the improvement of national economic conditions should be mentioned in the report of this study.

Parental Rights and Duties

Having studied the status of the mother under various legal systems existing in the world,

Having noted that in many countries such status is not in harmony with the principles of equality of men and women proclaimed by the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Considering that the Declaration of the Elimination of Discrimination against Women provides that "all appropriate measures shall be taken to ensure the principle of equality of status of the husband and wife, and in particular....parents shall have equal rights and duties in matters relating to their children;

Considering Resolution 1325 (XLIV) of the Economic and Social Council inviting non-Governmental Organisations "to take certain measures for the recognition in law and in fact of the principles contained in the Declaration",

Recalling the resolution of the International Conference on Human Rights (Tehran 1968) that "efforts be made....to ensure the equality of men and women in the field of civil and family rights",

Re-affirming the resolutions on parental rights and duties adopted at its Plenary Council Meetings in 1954 and 1963,

THE ICW

Urge its affiliated Councils to press their governments to take legislative and other measures to ensure the mother a status of equality with the father in their parental rights and duties.

WASHINGTON 1963

Parental Rights and Duties

The ICW

NOTING that in many countries, though both parents have equal responsibilities for the maintenance and education of their children, they do not have equal legal rights,

CONVINCED that, as stated in the resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its 20th Session in August 1955 "the sharing by the parents of rights and duties with respect to their children is of benefit not only to the status of women but also to that of the children and to the family as an institution",

BELIEVING also that such limitation of the authority of the mother is incompatible with the principle of equality of the spouses during marriage and at its dissolution, as well as with the right of both parents to choose the kind of education to be given to their children, as proclaimed in Articles 16 and 26 (3) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

RECOMMENDS its affiliated Councils take the necessary action with their governments so that the law governing parental authority, or the laws to be passed to this effect, give both parents equal rights towards their children or do away with all discrimination between the spouses in the exercise of parental authority.

TEHRAN 1966

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Small changes in order of words, to read:  
To work, both separately and in conjunction with the Education, Health and Laws & Suffrage Committees, on all aspects of child welfare.

Inter-State Adoption

RECALLING that since the first World War many sad cases have arisen and are still arising from the difference between national laws governing inter-State adoption;

RECALLING that a draft International Convention on the Inter-State Adoption of Children was drawn up in 1964 by the Conference of International Private Law in the Hague, but that no further action has been taken as regards this draft;

THE ICW

REQUESTS its affiliated Councils to use their influence with their respective governments in order that an instrument may be drawn up on the inter-State adoption of children which would protect these children.

BANGKOK 1970

Children Born Out of Wedlock

HAVING NOTED that the number of children born out of wedlock is increasing in many countries; that they are often deprived of a normal family life and suffer economically, socially and psychologically and in respect of their civil rights,

ANXIOUS to improve the position of these children,

THE ICW

URGES affiliated Councils to press their governments in order that:

- 1) the principles of the UN Declaration of the Rights of the Child be implemented;
- 2) the state and society acknowledge that the child born out of wedlock should not suffer because of this situation;
- 3) the official documents (and registration certificates) available to third parties should give no indication whether the child is legitimate or born out of wedlock;
- 4) legal guardianship and custody of the child be given to the unmarried mother as of right;
- 5) these children shall enjoy the same economic advantages as legitimate children, particularly in respect of family allowances;
- 6) social assistance shall be brought to the unmarried mother who wishes to keep her child, especially in respect of accommodation and admission to a day nursery;
- 7) in countries where establishment of paternity is authorised by law, legal aid be given to the unmarried mother;
- 8) affiliated Councils should be concerned with more study and research into the problem of children born out of wedlock.

Population and Responsible Parenthood

Re-affirming the resolution on "Education for Responsible Parenthood" adopted at its Plenary Council Meeting in 1963,

THE ICW

DRAWS THE ATTENTION of its affiliated Councils to the effects of uncontrolled population increases on the quality of life,

BANGKOK 1970

URGES that parents be educated in their duty and responsibility to plan their families,  
SUGGESTS that child-spacing information be made available to all families as part of the regular services to the community,  
SUPPORTS the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in its study of the effect of family planning on the status of women and urges that the relevance of family planning to maternal and child health; to the employment of women outside the home, to women's participation in public and civic life and to the improvement of national economic conditions should be mentioned in the report of this study.

Parental Rights and Duties

HAVING STUDIED the status of the mother under various legal systems existing in the world,  
HAVING NOTED that in many countries such status is not in harmony with the principles of equality of men and women proclaimed by the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,  
CONSIDERING that the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women provides that "all appropriate measures shall be taken to ensure the principle of equality of status of the husband and wife, and in particular....parents shall have equal rights and duties in matters relating to their children",  
CONSIDERING Resolution 1325 (XLIV) of the Economic and Social Council inviting non-Governmental Organisations "to take certain measures for the recognition in law and in fact of the principles contained in the Declaration",  
RECALLING the resolution of the International Conference on Human Rights (Tehran 1968) that "efforts be made....to ensure the equality of men and women in the field of civil and family rights",  
RE-AFFIRMING the resolutions on parental rights and duties adopted at its Plenary Council Meetings in 1954 and 1963,  
THE ICW  
URGES its affiliated Councils to press their governments to take legislative and other measures to ensure the mother a status of equality with the father in their parental rights and duties.

VIENNA 1973

**Battered Children** (the usual term is "Battered Babies")

The ICW notes with grave concern the serious rise in incidence of assaults on children, which lead to temporary or permanent physical and mental damage.

It therefore urges all member Councils to recommend to their governments that legislation be provided for the protection of these children. Such laws should provide that assaults be notified to the appropriate authority, and that failure to do so would lead to prosecution. All informants of cases of child assault should themselves receive legal protection, and it should be made lawful, within the context, for one spouse to testify against the other. National Councils are further urged to support the work of voluntary organisations whose aim is the prevention of cruelty and the protection of battered children.

**World Population Year 1974**

The ICW

- 1) **DRAWS** the attention of its affiliated Councils to the known value to the health and well-being of all members of the family of planning the number and spacing of children;
- 2) **APPRECIATES** the social problems created by unlimited increases in population and urges consideration of the effect which rapid population growth has on the quality of life for all people and on the potential for economic improvement of the individual family and of society;
- 3) **APPLAUDS** efforts being made in certain countries to encourage families to limit the number of their children;
- 4) **RESOLVES** that Councils should encourage the setting up of services to provide information and advice on child-spacing. Such services should include domiciliary and hospital visiting;
- 5) **DRAWS ATTENTION** to the United Nations designation of 1974 as "World Population Year" and suggests that Councils take the opportunity which this offers to study the relevance of human population to economic, social and ecological progress.

**ECONOMICS**

Nairobi, 1979

CREATION OF ICW STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMICS

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Convinced of the necessity of establishing a new world economic order, based upon the interdependence of the industrialised countries and those in the process of development, and taking into account the many problems arising from the evolving situation with regard to sources of energy throughout the world;

Considering that ICW should take an important part in the establishment of this economic order, so as to ensure that its working conforms to the high purposes of ICW, considering that this implies devotion not only to informing a wide public but also to giving continued attention to the training of women who in order to take a serious part in the process of decision-making must exhibit that competence from which authority flows; and since in ICW action normally flows through the working of specialized international Standing Committees;

Decides to create, in conformity with Article 8 of its Constitution, a new International Standing Committee whose name shall be: "Economics".

Terms of Reference

Study the economic, monetary and financial situation of world economy and that of the countries in which National Councils of Women exist, in order to promote:

1. The sharing in the production and distribution of goods and services in such a way as to facilitate the fulfillment of every human need, physical, social and cultural.
2. The non-wasteful use of available sources of energy and the harmonious development of such resources.
3. The participation of women in all economic activities on the basis of equality.
4. The provision for women of higher training and lifelong education in the fields of economics and energy.

Nairobi, 1979

COUNCIL COOPERATION WITH UN REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS IN  
DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Welcomes the directive recently issued by the United Nations Development Programme to its Regional Representatives, and

Suggests that National Councils of Women, in making their plans to participate in national or regional projects of development, should get into contact with the Development Officer of the UN Economic Commissions of their regions and, where feasible, offer their cooperation as voluntary organisations in governmental and/or inter-governmental efforts

4591m/1

Nairobi, 1979

A NEW WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recalling its resolution adopted on this subject at Vancouver 1976

Aware of the urgent necessity of establishing a new international economic order based upon the interdependence of the industrialised states and those of the Third World,

Earnestly hopes that the new order will be based upon other principles, such as that of fostering understanding among peoples and the cherishing of the human resources available in every community of people, including those of minorities;

Expresses the hope that exhaustive studies will be undertaken into the social effects of technological innovation and progress;

Looks forward to the reconvening and continuance of the North-South Conference;

Suggests that it would be helpful if public information on this general subject could be provided, and would hope that National Councils of Women would take part in such a campaign of information in order to promote a human approach to the work of this Conference.

Seoul, 1982

GLOBAL RESOLUTION: "INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY FOR DEVELOPMENT"

Considering the conclusion of the conference in Mexico in 1975 and in Copenhagen in 1980 as well as the objectives of the New Economic Order (NEO) pursued in the North-South and South-South dialogue;

Having studied the dimensions and effects of the International Strategy for Development in the context of the present economic crisis;

Convinced that accelerated involvement of women in development can help towards finding a solution in a more equitable distribution and utilisation of resources and the increased participation of women in decision-making bodies at all levels;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

- 1) Supports North/South and South/South negotiations as well as strategies for development;
- 2) Urges its National Councils to press their respective governments for
  - a) an intensification of information and training programmes so as to increase the sense of responsibility and initiative amongst women;
  - b) effective participation of women in decisions which affect and direct policies for development;
  - c) the inclusion of priorities as defined by women in their nations' programmes as well as in those of UN Specialised Agencies;
  - d) the inclusion of a women's component in all technical cooperative projects.

Seoul, 1982

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recognising that there must be a substantial increase in the transfer of resources of all kinds to developing countries in order to stabilise the world economy for the benefit of all peoples;

Urges National Councils in developed countries to request their governments to increase Official Development Assistance progressively in order to reach the United Nations target of 0.7% of Gross National Product by the end of 1985 and 1% by the year 2000.

4595m/1

## EDUCATION

EDUCATION

1909 Education

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Executive  
PARIS 1906

The Education of Girls

That this Executive recommend to the ICW to place the interests of Girls' Education upon its programme of work and propaganda.

TORONTO 1909

Standing Committee on Education

That a Standing Committee on Education be formed by the International Council and that the National Councils who have not already an Education Section be recommended to adopt a similar course.

Rider: The influence of the National Councils is desired not only in facilitating international interchange and discussion in regard to education, but also for the promotion of special objects within each country, such as the scientific and practical teaching of domestic subjects to girls of all classes and the foundation of a national system of Educational Information and Employment Bureaux under public authority and connected with the schools.

KRISTIANIA 1920

Training in Citizenship and Instruction of Girls  
in the Laws of their Country

That in all schools more adequate provision be made for training in citizenship, and that in upper classes of High Schools and Continuation Schools instruction be given to girls in the leading principles of the laws of their country.

International Interchange of Public School Teachers

That it is a matter of international importance that action be taken to facilitate the interchange of teachers of the public schools in the various countries, and that, with this in view, it is desirable that in all countries where a Teachers' Pension Scheme is established, either now or hereafter, provision should be made therein for meeting the case of teachers serving for limited periods in countries other than their own.

Executive  
THE HAGUE 1922

Education of Young Citizens on Facts Demonstrating the  
Vital Necessity of the Maintenance of Peaceful Relations  
Between Nations

That the affiliated National Councils of Women continue to urge on the Government and education authorities of their respective countries the need for an organised system of teaching whereby during the years of school attendance the young citizens may acquire a knowledge of facts - geographical, economic and social - and an attitude of mind that shall enable them to realise the dependence of nations one upon another and the vital necessity of the maintenance of peaceful relations between nations for the future well-being and prosperity of the world.

School-leaving Age

That full-time education should be obligatory during eight years, the school-leaving age not to be less than 14 years with two additional years of part-time education or its equivalent in full-time school attendance.

Education Committee - Subject of Study 1922/1923

That the subject of study during the coming year be based on the following questions:-

- 1) What is being done to develop the aesthetic nature of the child - his moral nature - his sense of kindness to animals? Methods and results.
- 2) What is being done or planned to make university and technical education accessible to gifted young people of all classes, including girls? Are any changes in conditions for admittance to institutions for higher learning contemplated?
- 3) What is being done or planned for adult education outside the university?
- 4) What is being done in teaching sex hygiene to young people? Methods and results.

WASHINGTON 1925

Interchange of Teachers and Students

The ICW favours the encouragement of the widest possible interchange of students and teachers between different countries. It believes that a first-hand knowledge of, and an insight into, the life and outlook of other nations is of vital importance in the interests of the peace of the world.

Moral and Social Training of Children

As without more efficient moral and social training it is impossible to secure peace, it is desirable that such moral and social training be given in each country theoretically by adequate teaching in ethics and sociology practically to the the Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, the Junior Red Cross and other organisations.

Practical Teaching of Science at all Schools

Recognising the innumerable applications of science in everyday life at the present time, and the importance of approaching the vital questions of sex and morality from the side of natural law, the ICW requests the National Councils of Women to urge in their respective countries the teaching of "Nature Study" and simple biological facts in all the public elementary schools, and the inclusion of practical and theoretical courses of science (e.g. physics and chemistry, biology, and the laws of health) in the curriculum of the higher grade and secondary schools, both for boys and girls.

Instruction Regarding the League of Nations

Considering the importance of the resolution of the Fourth Assembly of the League of Nations, which urges the government of the States Members to arrange that the children and youth in their respective countries, where such teaching is not given, be made aware of the existence and aims of the League of Nations and the terms of its Covenant, the ICW

urges the different National Councils to bring pressure to bear on the authorities of their respective countries to ensure that such teaching is included in the code.

In those countries which have not yet modified their teaching in the sense indicated, this would be a good opportunity for having recourse to Parliamentary intervention.

In those countries which have already adopted the resolution the National Councils should stimulate its application.

In either case, the National Councils are invited to prepare a full report upon the question for the next Executive Meeting and to incorporate it in the programme of study for the coming year.

WASHINGTON 1925

Education and National Minorities

The ICW

urges that all affiliated National Councils should devote special attention to educational conditions in regions where groups of different nationalities are living together as in districts which have changed sovereignty or in frontier zones. It urges that in the schools of such districts, as well as in every aspect of culture and education, the character and genius of each nation be fully respected.

University Teaching in Domestic Science

That all National Councils be urged to demand in their own countries the scientific study and investigation of conditions and practice in the whole field of domestic science and of home-making in all branches which concern the family, and that the result of such investigations be made available for the use of every home. **And be it further resolved** that research and teaching in this field, taken in its widest sense, should be added to the already existing departments of the universities.

Equal Pay for Equal Work in the Teaching Profession

That the ICW support all movements tending towards equalisation of the position of women in education with that of men, making salary and promotion depend on ability, learning and experience, not on sex. It demands for women equal pay for equal work, and equal opportunity for professional advancement, including the possibility of access to university facilities and to higher administrative positions in education.

Educational Opportunities for all Gifted Children

Whereas it is in the interest of every nation that its most intelligent citizens should have the best possible education and be enabled to use their powers for the welfare of society, regardless of class and sex, **be it resolved** that in all countries means should be provided by which preparation for and access to the university and to all institutions of higher learning shall be made possible for every specially gifted child.

**Executive  
GENEVA 1927**

**Teaching of Biology in Schools**

Arising out of the resolution on the practical teaching of science in all schools passed by the full Council at Washington, the Executive Committee assembled here in Geneva make appeal to the Council of the League of Nations to refer to the Advisory Committee on Child Welfare and Traffic in Women a recommendation that in order to secure this higher standard of conduct and health in the rising generation teachers should be adequately grounded in biological sciences and their application to character training and social life.

**Compulsory Continuation Schools**

Recognising the great value of continuation schools and classes for the education and training of young people who are already engaged in gainful occupations, the ICW urges that attendance at such schools be made compulsory in all countries. Moreover, since it appears that in by far the greater number of the countries reporting on such schools no provision is made for young people engaged in agriculture or in domestic service, the ICW recommends that all countries provide continuation courses for them.

**VIENNA 1930**

**Compulsory Continuation Schools**

(The Executive GENEVA 1927 resolution was repeated.)

Executive  
STOCKHOLM 1933

Personal Service in Helping to Promote Clubs for Educational Recreation Purposes for the Unemployed

Whereas the long-continued lack of employment can hardly fail to result in those untrained to a wise use of leisure in a certain deterioration, physical, mental and moral, which will render them less capable of good work in the future and will re-act unfavorably on the economic and spiritual life of every nation,

The ICW urges all its affiliated National Councils to encourage or to supply in their own countries such opportunities for classes, lectures, libraries, clubs, healthful and stimulating recreation, both in and out of doors, and work of public value as will enable the adult unemployed of both sexes to make this time of enforced leisure one of improvement in health, education and training for their future calling.

Protest Against Curtailment of Educational Facilities

Whereas almost all National Councils report far-reaching economies in expenditure for schools and other educational institutions due to the economic situation, and

Whereas thorough mental, moral and physical training is especially necessary for the young in times of economic depression and must form the only firm foundation for the permanent prosperity of the nations, The ICW calls upon each National Council to urge upon its government the importance of preventing the economic distress of the present from resulting in the curtailment of its educational institutions and so in permanent injury to its people. The school budget should be the last, not the first, to be cut down.

PARIS 1934

Protest Against Curtailment of Educational Facilities

(The Executive STOCKHOLM 1933 resolution was repeated, with the following addition which was inserted before the last sentence: ".....in permanent injury to its people, and to insist that, on the contrary, facilities for education and training be increased, especially for adolescents to whom in most countries this time of crisis has brought unemployment and enforced leisure. The school budget....")

Education of the Rising Generation in a Spirit of Conciliation

In this critical time when the mentality of the young generation is influenced by difficult conditions of life and by the serious conflicts between and within the nations, it is of the greatest importance that the intellectual and physical training (education) of young people in the home and educational institutions be conducted in a spirit of willing self-sacrifice to an ideal of justice, of self-respect, and of understanding between races, nations and classes.

**PARIS 1934**

The ICW therefore emphasises the duty of redoubling the efforts in this direction as recommended by the ICW since 1909; efforts encouraged by the Committee on Moral Disarmament appointed by the Disarmament Conference, which have always been powerfully supported by the International Committee for Intellectual Co-operation since its foundation, as well as by the Institutes of Paris and Rome.

**DUBROVNIK 1936**

School-leaving Age

The ICW urges that in those countries in which the school-leaving age is 14 or under, National Councils shall press for it to be raised immediately by at least one year, without prejudice to its being raised still further in due course.

The ICW also urges the National Councils to approach their respective governments with a view to obtaining the longest possible prolongation of compulsory school attendance in order to assure a more complete education for young persons and of which one of the consequences would be a decrease of unemployment.

Better Education for World Understanding

Considering the growth interdependence between the different parts of the world and the importance of international collaboration, The ICW recommends to the National Councils to promote a better education for world understanding,

- a) by fostering in the schools a spirit of goodwill and understanding,
- b) by reforming, where necessary, the textbooks and the teaching of such subjects as history, geography and civics.

DUBROVNIK 1936

Study of Modern Languages

In view of the rapidly increasing intercourse between nations and the desirability of promoting friendly relations, National Councils of Women are urged to do all in their power to support the efforts of the Paris Institute for Intellectual Co-operation in its schemes for the exchanges of teachers and scholars from one country to another and its fostering of correspondence between schools and to encourage the study of modern languages both by the usual methods of teaching and by the system of radio teaching now provided in most countries and other modern methods.

Part-time Education After Leaving School

In view of Article 427, No. 6, of the Treaty of Versailles 1919, namely: "The abolition of child labour and the imposition of such limitations on the labour of young persons as shall permit the continuation of their education, and assure their proper physical development",

AND in view of the growing complexity of modern life, not only in economic organisation, but also in social and political environment,

DUBROVNIK 1936

THE ICW urges:

- 1) the importance of the continuance of part-time education and training for all young persons after the close of the period of compulsory attendance of full-time school, the duration of which shall be regulated according to the length of compulsory education, their hours of employment being such as to permit attendance without undue prolongation of the working day;
- 2) the provision of day continuation schools by the State in cooperation with the commercial, industrial, agricultural and domestic interests concerned, due consideration being given to varying local needs;
- 3) the laying of an obligation on all unemployed young persons up to the age of 16 years to attend classes for a specific number of hours per week.

EDINBURGH 1938

Pre-School Education

Whereas lifelong attitudes and habits are largely formed as a result of environmental influence during the pre-school years, the ICW recommends to its constituent members that they work untiringly to have pre-school education of the highest type provided for all children.

Teaching of Economic Problems

IN VIEW OF the fact that the general public is often ignorant of the great economic problems which play such an important part in the world today, THE ICW expresses the wish that the members of the teaching profession be given every facility to impart to their pupils, juvenile and adult, the broad outlines of economic principles and an idea of the interdependence of nations.

EDINBURGH 1938

Economic, Physical and Moral Situation of Young People

The ICW urges its affiliated Councils to inquire into the economic, physical and moral situation in town and country of young people of both sexes between the ages of 14 and 16 belonging to families who cannot afford to give them a further education, and begs them to endeavour that not only continuation courses be provided for these young people, but that they be also given such physical care and education as will enable them to become the parents of healthy and well-brought-up children.

Executive  
BRUSSELS 1946

War Harm to Youth and UNESCO

See resolution passed at Philadelphia 1947. The Brussels resolution had minor differences in wording.

PHILADELPHIA  
1947

Education Available to all and Instruction in Citizenship

The ICW notes with great satisfaction that in spite of war devastation, destruction and retardation, an educational revival is apparent throughout the world;

BELIEVING that the life of the useful citizen widens out from the successful home life,  
THE ICW URGES

- 1) that a full and adequate education should become available to every human being even in the remotest rural areas, thus assuring the maintenance of culture and the full development of personality,
- 2) that instruction in citizenship should cover responsibilities for home life as well as for the life of the community.

PHILADELPHIA 1947

Specialised Training for Women

The ICW, considering it important that more competent women be available for posts of international and national administrative and legislative bodies, and knowing that only women of the same standing and with the same qualifications as men are desirable for such posts, recommends educators of girls and young women in every country to stimulate their interest in specialist and qualified training.

War Harm to Youth and UNESCO

THE ICW, conscious of the physical and moral harm that war has done to youth throughout the world and of the importance of remedying this without delay, considers that personal contacts are a most valuable source of understanding between peoples, and urges the increasing establishment of means of interchange of representative personalities of varied type and of all ages, for mutual comprehension and appreciation.

IT BELIEVES that educational problems ought, more than ever, to have the active attention of the authorities without discrimination of race, sex, means or social status, and notes with satisfaction the new tendencies in educational psychology and in scientific and technical education, and strongly supports any action of UNESCO in furthering the diffusion and practical application thereof.

THE ICW requests UNESCO to appoint qualified women on the Executive Board and on Consultative Committees.

IT URGES the National Councils to encourage and support the National Commissions under Article VII of the Final Act of UNESCO to take action according to the above principles and where such Commissions do not as yet exist to foster their establishment.

ATHENS 1951

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To keep the Councils in touch, insofar as may prove practical, with the various movements of thought and with the issues of practical educational policy raised by UNESCO; to report on the progress made in the countries associated in the ICW towards a full measure of educational opportunity for all children and young persons to develop their talents and personality for the enrichment of world culture and for the building up of an intellectual and moral solidarity of mankind; to provide opportunities for discussion on the relevant civic and other problems with a view to common action by the Council as occasion might demand.

ATHENS 1951

Support for UNESCO Convention on Free Circulation of Publications

WHILE recognising the value of the UNESCO Convention of 1950 on the free circulation of educational, scientific and cultural publications, signed by 19 nations,

THE ICW deplores the many kinds of obstruction and many forms of taxation which still hamper the free flow of educational, scientific and cultural publications from one country to another, and URGES its National Councils of Women of all countries to press their governments to sign and ratify the UNESCO Convention.

Differentiation in Popular Education to Meet Individual Talents

THE ICW urges all governments in the present extension of popular education to provide the varied opportunities as necessary to develop the different talents and abilities vital for the enrichment of human culture.

Shortage of Teachers

THE ICW views with grave concern the great shortage of teachers throughout the whole world, and

URGES on all responsible authorities the taking of every possible means to raise the status of the profession, to increase the salaries and to improve the conditions of service, in particular by removal of the marriage bar.

Educational Facilities for Women in Trust Territories; Women on Visiting Missions

THE ICW, noting with regret the lack of education facilities for women in the mandated territories; URGES the Trusteeship Council of the UN to ensure that at least one women should be appointed as a member of the missions taking part in the second series of visits of the mandated territories.

Assistance for the Education of Women

The ICW notes with satisfaction the summoning by UNESCO of a Conference to consider the backward condition of women's education. In view of the many difficulties met within the countries where the number of illiterate women is considerable, THE ICW URGES UNESCO to continue to give to those countries every possible assistance.

HELSINKI 1954

Fight Against Illiteracy

The ICW, in Conference assembled in Helsinki in June 1954 urges that measures be taken in all countries in order to do away with illiteracy equally amongst both sexes.

Ratification of UNESCO Conventions

The ICW, as ever anxious to assist UNESCO in its effort to improve international cooperation by a deepened knowledge of different cultures, and by contacts between individuals, URGES its National Councils of Women to approach their respective Governments to ask for:

- 1) speedy ratification of the Convention in force since 1952 on the free Circulation of Education Scientific and Cultural Material, and its effective application in countries where this ratification has already taken place;
- 2) the ratification of the Universal Copyright Convention adopted at Berne in 1952, which has not yet received the necessary number of ratifications to bring it into force.

MONTREAL 1957

Educational Facilities for Women

The ICW

- a) reaffirms its concern for the expansion of educational facilities for women and girls, and urges the Education Department of UNESCO to appoint a specialist in women's education.
- b) It also reaffirms its concern at the number of bursaries granted to women by UNESCO, which are disproportionate compared with those given to men, as shown in the report presented to the 11th Session of the Status of Women Commission. Although, in principle, the ICW holds that merit and not sex should decide the award of grants, it requests UNESCO in view of the regrettable indifference of many Governments to women's education, to allocate a larger proportion of such opportunities to women.

Active and Responsible Citizens

CONSIDERING that school education has to lay the foundation for the development of the child into an active and responsible citizen in a democratic community,

THE ICW REQUESTS its National Councils of Women to urge the responsible authorities:

- 1) that the teaching of civics be incorporated in the curriculum of all schools;
- 2) that modern methods be adopted which take into account the educative power of the child's actual experience of responsibility in a school community;

MONTREAL 1957

- 3) that the need for educating the child to independent and critical thinking be emphasised;
- 4) that the teachers be trained to achieve these aims.

Training and Status of Teachers

THE ICW, in Conference assembled, reaffirms the resolution of the Shortage of Teachers passed at the Athens Conference in 1951, which reads:

"The ICW views with grave concern the great shortage of teachers throughout the world and urges on all responsible authorities the taking of every possible means to raise the status of the profession, to increase the salaries and to improve conditions of service, in particular by removal of the marriage bar."

FURTHER it urges National Councils of Women to study the Recommendations on the Training and Status of Primary Teachers which were approved by the International Conference on Education held at Geneva in 1953 with a view to bringing these Recommendations to the notice of their respective Ministers of Education.

Improvement of School Textbooks

ICW welcomes all efforts made by UNESCO and other bodies to improve school textbooks, and history and geography books in particular, to convey truthful information and avoid discrimination against other countries and peoples. ICW urges its National Councils to pay attention to this problem, to support all efforts in this field, to watch over textbooks used in schools and to approach, where necessary, authors, publishers and authorities.

ISTANBUL 1960

UNESCO

The ICW, in Conference assembled in Istanbul in August 1960, NOTING with appreciation the Director General's proposals to strengthen UNESCO's work for the improvement of the status of women, INVITES member States to help increase interest among women for the aims of UNESCO and the place of women within its programme by the following measures:

- a) advertisement of fellowships, travel grants, seminars, conferences, etc. open to women as well as to men;
- b) closer cooperation with women's organisations by giving them information on vacancies in secretariat posts and posts for experts under the expanded programme of Technical Assistance.

ISTANBUL 1960

Discriminatory Measures - Compulsory School Age

- a) The ICW, although believing that the education given to girls should take account of the role they have to fill in the family and society, reaffirms the principle that the final object of all education is to allow young people of both sexes to develop all their potentialities harmoniously. The ICW is, therefore, of the opinion that school programmes should contain no discrimination based on sex, and that the qualifications of the teachers be the same for boys and girls.
- b) Considering the increasing demands made on the maturity and on the intellectual ability of young people by working conditions in a world of technical development, the ICW calls upon all National Councils to urge, where necessary, the extension of compulsory school age beyond the age of 14.

Racial Prejudice

HAVING NOTED with concern the outbreak of racial and religious prejudice in various countries recently, considering such manifestations as a threat to peace and a danger to civilised human life, THE ICW URGES all National Councils to press their Governments to make greater efforts to eradicate these prejudices among their peoples by:

- 1) encouraging active education to promote understanding and toleration of racial and religious differences;
- 2) legislation to prevent and control manifestations directed against any racial or religious group, or any incitement calculated to promote such manifestations.

IT THEREFORE URGES its affiliated Councils to confer with educational and other public authorities and private organisations in their respective countries to the end that educational systems and programmes practised in their countries, from the earliest to the highest stages, be so designed and, if necessary, revised, as to eradicate the racialist views and other prejudices reflected in these manifestations, and further urges its members to make a concerted effort to bring up a generation free from prejudice as regards race, colour and creed.

WASHINGTON 1963

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Change of one word: "countries associated in the ICW" to "countries represented in the ICW..."

Teachers and Professionally Qualified Persons - Service in a Developing Country

The ICW, assembled in Conference at Washington, urges the Governments and Non-Governmental Organisations of the economically developed countries of the world to encourage qualified teachers and other professionally qualified persons in those countries to include in their careers a period of teaching and/or service in a developing country, and to make such financial and other provisions as may be necessary to implement this recommendation.

TEHRAN 1966

Literacy

HAVING, in the course of a Seminar on literacy teaching for women and girls within the framework of community development, (held with the assistance of UNESCO during the 18th Triennial Meeting of the ICW at Tehran in May 1966), proceeded to an exchange of experience between the many National Councils actively engaged in voluntary and Government campaigns to combat illiteracy, HAVING MEASURED the immensity of the task of eradicating illiteracy among women, MINDFUL of the outstanding example offered by the work of the Government of Iran in combining national and voluntary effort in literacy campaigns,

THE ICW

- 1) urges National Councils in all countries where women are deprived, through illiteracy, of vital contact with the mainstream of development benefiting the community, the family and the individual:
  - a) to pursue and increase their voluntary efforts to bring literacy to increasing numbers of women and girls in their country;
  - b) to offer their services to literacy campaigns organised by their Governments;
  - c) to avail themselves of the international help now becoming available through the UN, UNESCO and other Agencies in the form of technical seminars, teacher training courses, study tours, etc.;

TEHRAN 1966

- 2) invites National Councils in countries which have largely overcome their own literacy problems to render every possible assistance, both technical and financial, to those National Councils still facing tremendous difficulties in organising and extending their literacy work, particularly by supporting literacy teaching projects organised by National Councils in developing countries and sponsored by ICW under the UNESCO Gift Coupon Programmes;
- 3) urges National Councils with effective literacy programmes for women in their own countries to invite members of National Councils in developing countries to come to their country to follow suitable training programmes under the UNESCO Study Tour Programme for adult education leaders;
- 4) urges UNESCO to explore the concrete problems facing developing countries in promoting functional literacy for both men and women, by expert research, practical studies and enquiries, seminars etc. so that each problem can subsequently be investigated in depth and realistic solutions sought;
- 5) urgently invites Governments now organising or about to organise national literacy campaigns, and the inter-Governmental institutions giving technical and financial assistance to these campaigns, particularly within the framework of the Experimental World Literacy Campaign now in its opening phase, to ensure that women are consulted in the planning of national and international literacy campaigns, that women benefit fully from these campaigns, and that, wherever possible, the widest use is made of the human resources and experience of women's voluntary organisations, particularly of National Councils of Women.

BANGKOK 1970

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To work for equal access of girls and boys, men and women to education; education of girls and boys for full partnership and shared responsibility in the family, in economic and public life, and in voluntary organisations; equal opportunity for qualified women and men in teaching posts at all levels, in research, in administrative posts, and in planning and policy-making bodies in education. To report on current movements of thought and new goals of educational policy. To collaborate with UNESCO and other inter-Governmental agencies concerned with education.

Co-education

APPRECIATING the interest and initiative taken by the UN Commission on the Status of Women and by UNESCO in the matter of co-education; NOTING with satisfaction that co-education is increasing; NOTING with concern, however, that the principle of equal access to education has been widely put into effect by opening traditional boys' school systems to girls without the conscious re-thinking necessary to face this new educational situation; BELIEVING that well-planned and balanced co-education is one of the most important means to prepare young people of both sexes for future cooperation, full partnership and sharing responsibility in the family and in public life;

THE ICW RECOMMENDS that access to mixed schools and classes should be made available, though not compulsory, to increasing numbers of children and young people at primary and secondary levels of education;

URGES strongly, however, that steps be taken:

- 1) to encourage comprehensive analyses (as has been done in Scandinavian and other countries) of textbooks, teaching materials and methods to ascertain whether they cater equally for boys and girls, as a prelude to the revision of textbooks, teaching materials and methods so that the common core of the curriculum at each age level may meet the interests and needs of boys and girls equally;

BANGKOK 1970

- 2) to initiate teaching experiments within the framework of co-educational and other systems to see how pedagogical differentiation and individualisation, extra-curricular and other activities can enrich the development of the individual boy and girl, and adapt their studies and scholastic programmes to their particular stage of physical, mental and intellectual maturity - factors of special importance in the early teen-age period;
- 3) that co-education be in the full sense of the term, with all subjects open to both boys and girls; that the administrative and teaching staffs include, wherever possible, a balance of well qualified men and women;
- 4) to work for the establishment of obligatory instruction in teacher education and in-service programmes for teaching personnel as well as for students in matters affecting the roles of the sexes;
- 5) to make information about such programmes and the results of such studies and experiments accessible across frontiers.

Educational Values

**SINCE** self-disciplined thinking and action are necessary for the advancement of knowledge, individual progress and the development of personality, leadership and responsible citizenship, and since youth's aspirations require worldwide attention;

**THE ICW COMMENDS** UNESCO for its current survey of youth and youth's concerns and the UN General Assembly for the organisation of the forthcoming World Conference on Youth, and recommends a balanced ratio of youth of both sexes at that Conference;

**CALLS UPON** the National Councils to work closely with UNESCO and youth in their countries to create better understanding and relationships between generations;

**CALLS UPON** all those concerned with education to provide opportunity for creativity and positive action in the consideration of enduring values and to make the fullest possible use of modern teaching so that both youth and adults may realise that freedom is based on self-discipline and that the solution of the problems of modern society can be realised most effectively through the involvement and cooperation of people of all ages.

BANGKOK 1970

International Education Year

WISHING to participate actively in making the year 1970 a milestone in the progress of education throughout the world, in accordance with the desire expressed in resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of the UN and the General Conference of UNESCO<

THE ICW EXPRESSES the hope that Member States of the UN and its Specialised Agencies will seize the opportunity of International Education Year 1970 to take new stock not only of the ultimate aims of education and training and of the progress so far achieved towards these aims in their respective countries, but also of the practical measures still required to ensure that men, women and children throughout the world are no longer deprived, through lack of education and training, of the opportunity to develop to the utmost of their ability, thereby achieving not only a higher degree of personal fulfilment but also the capacity to contribute fully to the development of family, community, nation and mankind;

TO THIS END, THE ICW INVITES those inter-Governmental agencies concerned with education, and especially UNESCO, during International Education Year,

- 1) to exert every effort to secure the ratification and complete implementation of the Convention against Discrimination in Education, with the aim of gradually narrowing the existing gap between theoretical and practical equality of educational opportunity observable in many Member States and at many levels of education and training,
- 2) to initiate through re-examination of the long-term values, objectives and methods of education at all levels of what must eventually become a permanent life-long educational process for all. The ICW would like to see particular attention devoted during International Education Year to five fields of learning experience, the importance of which is often neglected in favour of more conventional academic subjects, namely:
  - a) continuing ethical, socio-civic education for responsible citizenship and for social activity;
  - b) continuing education for tolerance and international understanding;

BANGKOK 1970

- c) continuing education for creative leisure activities;
- d) continuing environmental education, including education for family living with attention to responsible parenthood;
- e) continuing education for full partnership and shares responsibility between men and women in the family, in economic and public life, and in voluntary organisation.

THE ICW FURTHER PLEDGES active cooperation with UNESCO and other inter-Governmental agencies in helping to realise the objectives of International Education Year, and calls upon National Councils throughout the world to contribute effectively to International Education Year by:

- 1) seeking increased cooperation with their Governments, with National Commissions for UNESCO, and with the national branches of other international non-Governmental organisations in pursuit of the objectives of International Education Year;
- 2) re-inforcing, wherever possible, their own educational efforts in what they consider priority fields in their respective countries, at the same time.
- 3) pursuing the important collective international effort undertaken by the ICW at its Plenary Meeting (Tehran 1966), namely, to help provide continuing literacy training and the continuing supply of post-literacy reading materials to the increasing numbers of girls and women still totally cut off from the mainstream of education and development who, despite recent efforts by UNESCO, still tend to be neglected or relegated to a minor place in national campaigns directed at functional literacy;
- 4) encouraging research on the long-term socio-economic and psychological problems that hinder women's access to education, science and culture.

BANGKOK 1970

Career Training for Girls

NOTING that an increased proportion of women at all economic levels is employed permanently or intermittently outside the home, AWARE that new employment opportunities are constantly emerging which require education in secondary or other higher schools followed by 1 to 7 years of training for a skilled trade, a commercial, a technical or a professional career; REGRETTING that too many girls fail to make any long-term career plans for employment and voluntarily discontinue schooling in the expectation that they will devote all their time to the care of home and children;

THE ICW RECOMMENDS its affiliated Councils:

- a) to take suitable action with their educational authorities to provide education on equal terms for boys and girls;
- b) to urge parents to impress upon children throughout their primary and higher education that the role of women includes employment in all spheres outside the home as well as home-making, while the role of men includes that of husband and father, both spouses sharing in the maintenance of a home and the rearing of children, as well as that of earning a living.

NAIROBI 1979

EDUCATION OF PEOPLE IN COMMUNITY HEALTH

BEARING IN MIND that the effective participation of the community is indispensable to the development of health activities and the prevention and control of disease;

REALISING that health education of individuals, families and community is essential to permit them to participate effectively in health promotion;

AWARE that a number of countries are promoting programmes that foster active participation in health development, particularly through primary health care, as well as programmes for preparing health personnel with the necessary knowledge, skill and attitudes;

NOTING that these countries have initiated activities for the creation and development of health education including, with some success, health courses through which people have access to valid information on health problems, enabling them to take a greater interest in health activities and to participate in carrying these out;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

URGES National Councils

1. to request their governments to develop further their education and establish people's health courses whenever appropriate, starting at as early an age as possible, with a view to fostering community participation in health development by a knowledgeable public and creating a positive attitude towards health;
2. to intensify their National Council's own involvement in promoting the establishment and development of health education activities;
3. to promote inter-Council cooperation in sharing experience in the planning and implementation of these activities.

HEALTH HAZARDS OF SMOKING

THE ICW

RECALLING its resolution adopted at Washington in 1963, and

RECOGNISING the increasing and indisputable scientific evidence that tobacco smoking is a major cause of chronic bronchitis, emphysema and lung cancer, as well as a major risk factor for myocardial infarction, certain pregnancy related and neonatal disorders and a number of other serious health problems for the smoker, and that it also has harmful effects on those who are involuntarily exposed to tobacco smoke;

NAIROBI 1979

**SERIOUSLY CONCERNED** at the alarming increase in production and consumption of cigarettes during the past two decades in some countries, in which it was previously not widespread, and at the extensive promotional drive for the sale of cigarettes being carried out on radio and television, in newspapers and other news media, and through association with sporting and cultural events, often inducing young people to smoke tobacco;

**NOTING** that few countries have so far taken comprehensive action effectively to combat smoking through educational, restrictive and legislative measures for the control of publicity and advertisements in the news media, combined with coherent taxation and price policies for tobacco cultivation and cigarette production;

**URGES** National Councils to impress their governments with the need:

1. to strengthen health education programmes concerning the danger of smoking as part of general education, taking into account the different needs of the various target groups;
2. To adopt comprehensive measures to discourage tobacco smoking, *inter alia* by providing for increased taxation on the sale of cigarettes, and restricting insofar as possible all forms of publicity for the promotion of smoking;
3. To protect the right of non-smokers to enjoy an atmosphere unpolluted by tobacco smoke;
4. To seek economically sound alternative undertakings to replace tobacco growing and processing, where appropriate;

**INVITES** National Councils to consider having a non-smoking theme in their education for health activities and to give maximum publicity to an anti-smoking campaign.

KOREA 1982

#### INTER-RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT

#### THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

**RECOGNIZING** that health is dependent on social and economic development, and also contributes to it;

KOREA 1982

URGES National Councils to request their Governments to incorporate and strengthen primary health care within their national development plans, with special emphasis on rural and urban development programmes and the co-ordination of the health-related activities of the different sectors, and to pay special attention to women's health.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

RECALLING its Resolution on the Education of People in Community Health, Nairobi 1979;

CONSIDERING that national and community self-reliance and social awareness are among the key factors in human development, and acknowledging that people have the right and duty to participate in the process for the improvement and maintenance of their health;

URGES its National Councils

1. to request their Governments to encourage and ensure full community participation through the effective propagation of relevant information, increased literacy and the development of the necessary institutional arrangements through which individuals, families and communities can assume responsibility for their health and well-being; and to involve women's organisations in the managerial processes, including their involvement in decision-making and the monitoring of national strategies for health for all;
2. to intensify their own involvement in promoting the establishment and development of health education activities;
3. to promote Inter-Council cooperation in sharing experiences in the planning of such activities.

CONTENT OF PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

STRESSING that primary health care should focus on the main health problems of the community, but

KOREA 1982

RECOGNISING that these problems and the ways of solving them will vary between countries and communities;

RECOMMENDS that primary health care activities on the level of National Councils should include at least:

education concerning prevailing health problems and their prevention

sanitation

safe water

maternal and child health care, including family planning, personal hygiene, and

food hygiene and healthy living.

#### TRADITIONAL PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HEALTH OF WOMEN

##### THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

RECALLING its recommendation on Female Circumcision at Nairobi in 1979;

APPRECIATING the work done in this field by WHO, UNICEF and the NGO Subcommittee on the Status of Women, expresses its full support in their efforts;

REALISING that this custom is fraught with complex cultural sensitivities and should be solved locally by the people concerned;

NOTING that

1. female circumcision - being a public health problem - is best approached through primary health care;
2. that national women's organisations may be instruments in changing prevailing attitudes towards this custom in their respective communities;

URGES National Councils to

1. undertake and initiate Primary Health Care Education Programmes which will include traditional practices affecting the health of women and children both useful and harmful;
2. pressure their respective Governments to introduce such educational programmes for men and women and introduce legislation which will encourage useful practices such as breast-feeding and discourage traditional practices which are detrimental to health.

KOREA 1982

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF DISABLED PERSONS 1981

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

CONCERNED by the possibility that various activities may end with the closure of IYDP, and

RECALLING that the problems of disabled persons need steady, continuous and consistent attention in order to maintain or increase the momentum achieved in 1981,

URGES its National Councils to continue to press their Governments and Non-Governmental Organisations to establish or enlarge permanent programmes for

1. rehabilitation, so that this may be as early and as complete as possible;
2. Integration, relevant to the type and severity of the handicap;
3. greater preventive action in all fields of disability, by strongly encouraging all possible agencies (including the media) to educate the public to a greater awareness of
  - a. the need for obedience to existing rules for the prevention of accidents;
  - b. the availability of free physical examinations;
  - c. the availability of free vaccinations; and
  - d. health-conscious habits, especially during pregnancy, and

STRESSES the need for greater attention to be given in future to the whole field of prevention, including inborn handicaps.

(See also Nairobi Resolution No. 25).

WASHINGTON 1988

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RISKS

RECALLING its former resolution in Vancouver 1976 on Nuclear Pollution, and its Statement of Concern in London 1986 about ICW policy in nuclear matters;

NOTING that people living far from the source of contamination may be affected without being aware of the existence of dangerous pollution which could be a threat to the health of future human generations;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

CALLS UPON its National Councils of Women:

1. to provide better information and education of the community on all forms of pollution;
2. to press their governments:
  - a. to include 'the fundamentals of environmental health risks and safety' in formal and informal educational programmes from elementary schools upwards;
  - b. to encourage research work on recognition, evaluation and control of environmental health risks;
  - c. to follow the work of the international organisations who study these problems, such as UNEP and UNCHS, WHO, ILO, UNESCO, FAO, and ask their own experts to participate in the work of these organisations and support them, so that internationally accepted standards may be established.

WOMEN, HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT

WELCOMING the participation of women in health activities and in the promotion of health for all, particularly as decision-makers and as providers of primary health care;

CONCERNED at the adverse effects on women's physical and mental health, and the risk for their children, of unsatisfactory conditions of domestic work or paid employment;

AWARE that in some countries the general public does not know enough about the nature of the risks to the health of women of certain practices in everyday life;

WASHINGTON 1988

NOTING with anxiety the prevalence in some countries of adolescent marriages and pregnancies, and the increasing incidence and impact of family violence on women and children;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

CALLS UPON its affiliated Councils to increase their efforts:

1. for the protection of women's physical and mental health, particularly as regards the nutrition and hygiene of women, the health of pregnant women and young mothers, and conditions of work;
2. to ensure that employers do not make gratuitous use of regulations in these areas to discriminate against the employment of women;
3. to provide women with greater opportunities to realise these objectives;
4. to use all available informative means to create an awareness of these matters amongst their members.

WOMEN AND REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES

NOTING that reproduction has become the object of major technological advances, among which are techniques for genetic screening, in-vitro fertilization, prenatal diagnosis and treatment of infertility;

AWARE that there is very little legislation dealing with these techniques despite their profound social and ethical implications;

CONCERNED that certain women are seeing this technology not as a source of freedom and power but of social and economic exploitation and coercion; and

CONCERNED that the full and free development of human society may be endangered;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

RECOMMENDS to the National Councils:

1. to ensure that legislation is developed in their respective countries to protect women from social and economic exploitation and coercion in the area of advanced reproductive technology;
2. to ensure that new technology takes cognisance of stable family life and the rights of the woman and the child;
3. to organise seminars and information programmes on the subject of women and reproductive technology.

WASHINGTON 1988

HIV INFECTION AND AIDS

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

AWARE that the threatened spread of HIV infection and AIDS could affect all people of the world;

CONCERNED that people are ignorant about this disease and the means by which it is spread, and this can greatly increase the danger of contracting it;

NOTING that neither therapeutic agents nor vaccines are currently available for the treatment and prevention of HIV infection and AIDS;

CONSIDERING that public information and education on preventive measures as well as the assurance and use of safe blood and blood products are at this time the only measures available that can limit the further spread of HIV infection and AIDS;

URGES National Councils

- a. to study the problem in view of the risk to the entire human race and in particular for women as mothers;
- b. to ensure that full information regarding HIV infection, AIDS and preventive measures is widely publicised and that women everywhere are made aware of these risks;
- c. to bring pressure to bear on the governments of their respective countries to engage a national campaign aimed at halting the spread of this disease; to maintain vigilance and carry out as necessary public health strategies for the prevention and control of AIDS.

RECALLING the resolution adopted in Bangkok (1970) on the misuse of the drugs of addiction;

AWARE of the very important social hazards that both drug addiction (with its related risk of HIV infection and AIDS) and alcoholism present to the population of the world;

ACKNOWLEDGING the necessity of collective effort in order to fight these scourges efficiently and the efforts of the United Nations in regard to drug control;

WASHINGTON 1988

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

CALLS UPON its National Councils to:

1. organise campaigns for information and prevention particularly among the young;
2. exert pressure on local and regional authorities, and on governments, with a view to intensifying their programmes for information and prevention, and for setting up provision for care and rehabilitation;
3. insist that responsible authorities co-operate internationally for the strict control of illegal drug trafficking and to provide alternative sources of income for those rural populations who produce the raw materials.

Washington, D.C., 1988

CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF YOUNG GIRLS

Observing that in certain countries, especially those of the Third World, women are still victims of discrimination, particularly in the field of education.

Considering the fact that many girls have to stop attending school for various reasons, including marriage, pregnancy and household duties;

Recalling THE RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY ICW at Bangkok in International Education Year (1970) and the Nairobi Forward Looking Strategies (paragraph 158);

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Calls upon its National Councils to persuade their respective governments

- 1) to provide equal opportunities for girls in education;
- 2) that girls who become pregnant while in school should be allowed to return to school to complete their studies;
- 3) family life education should be included into school curriculum at all levels where this is not already undertaken.

WASHINGTON 1988

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH PROTECTION IN EMPLOYMENT

RECOGNISING that there is a need to encourage the occupational safety and reproductive health of both men and women workers in public and private sectors of society;

BELIEVING that there is evidence that some employers are using occupational safety legislation to exclude women of child-bearing capacity from certain jobs;

CONCERNED that practices to protect employees from reproductive hazards must not discriminate on the basis of sex;

REALISING that progress toward equal employment of women is thus being jeopardised as well as reproductive health of all workers;

CONVINCED that there is a need for the workplace to be designed to protect the fertility and reproductive health of both men and women workers and for strong legislation, research and cooperation amongst interested parties to ensure a safe work environment;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

URGES the National Councils:

1. to work in their respective countries to ensure that both men and women are protected by strictly enforced regulations in their place of employment from hazards to their reproductive health; and that the employment of women is not unduly prejudiced;
2. to participate in programmes of information on the subject of reproductive health of both men and women.

## **ENVIRONMENT AND HABITAT**

**1936 Housing**

**1973 Ad Hoc Committee on  
Environment**

**1976 Environment and Habitat**

ENVIRONMENT AND HABITAT - HOUSING

1936 Housing  
1976 Environment and Habitat

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LONDON 1899

Housing of Educated Working Women (arising from Congress)  
That this Conference, convened by the International Council, do recommend all National Councils to inquire into the present conditions surrounding the housing of educated working women in their large cities, and to consider what can be done to place them on a better footing.

ROME 1914

Appeal for Nobel Prize for Peace to be Awarded to the Stead Memorial Fund

That the ICW appeal to the Nobel Committee of the Norwegian Storting to award the Nobel Prize for Peace this year to the Stead Memorial Fund, to be used in the erection of hostels for working women in various parts of the world.

KRISTIANIA 1920

Recommendation to National Councils to Promote the Provision of Healthy and Convenient Housing as an Essential Necessity for Public Health

That the ICW, realising that all efforts towards improved public health and a higher moral standard are impeded by bad housing conditions, urges affiliated National Councils of Women to use every means in their power to hasten the provision of healthy and convenient dwellings for all.

DUBROVNIK 1936

Standing Committee on Housing

The ICW constitutes a Standing Committee on Housing in order to study improved methods of town and rural development planning, and to encourage higher standards in matters relative to the hygiene of housing and the comfort and well-being of the people in every condition of life.

EDINBURGH 1938

Housing Schemes

The ICW urges its affiliated Councils to take every means to secure in housing schemes the provision of community centres, nursery schools and play spaces for small children, also playgrounds and recreation centres for older children and young people.

Election of Women to Housing Authorities

The ICW feels strongly that the opinion of women should always be considered in connection with plans for building and remodeling houses and urges its affiliated Councils to try and ensure the election of more women to housing authorities.

PHILADELPHIA

1947

Housing Accommodation and Housing Committees

The ICW URGES its affiliated Councils:

- 1) to take active steps to ensure that every effort is made to provide healthful and practical housing accommodation and equipment for all sections of the community;
- 2) to press for the inclusion of women qualified to represent the interests of the housewife and mother in relation to housing on all Housing Committees, whether national, local or industrial and to encourage the provision of appropriate training for this work;
- 3) to urge that all young people be taught the fundamental principles and importance of good home-making and family life.

ATHENS 1951

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To encourage, in the different countries, progressively improving housing standards for the general population and, with this end in view, to collect and distribute all possible information in relation thereto; to encourage reduction in the cost of building, better design of houses, modern town planning in relation to housing and industry and any new method of building houses leading to more rapid production of reliable types at lower cost; to encourage young women to take up the study of architecture and the question of teaching interested women how to become useful members of housing authorities and building committees.

International Co-operation of the Building Industry

IN VIEW OF the recent report of the Housing Sub-Committee of the UN Economic Commission for Europe, THE ICW URGES the appropriate committees of the UN to take immediate steps:

- 1) to implement the recommendations made in the preliminary

ATHENS 1951

- 2) to promote an international organisation of the building industry of the UN members to work in collaboration with the UN Social and Economic Commissions in order to increase the interchange of information on practice, materials and research in the international building field, so enabling member countries more easily to solve their housing problems.

HELSINKI 1954

Housing Problems and Policy

THE ICW

CONSIDERING that the housing question is one of the most important social problems of our modern times, and that a hygenic and well-equipped house is indispensable to modern family life, and that a construction policy should be accompanied by a policy of economic rents, URGES Governments to undertake a housing policy which will cover satisfactory maintenance and modernisation of existing dwellings, and ASKS that houses built by state subsidies be reserved, whenever possible, for those who cannot afford to pay an economic (or commercial) rent.

Town and Country Planning

The ICW asks its National Councils to watch all schemes of town and country planning, especially the localisation of dwelling houses and factories in consideration of human needs. The housing question cannot be separated from location of industry. Special care must be taken in separating residential and industrial zones, so that chemical fumes may not endanger health, but avoiding placing homes of the workers too far from their work. The provision of family homes is as important as the need for production.

MONTREAL 1957

Rural Housing

The ICW  
CONSIDERING that good housing is as essential for the well-being of the family and for lightening the heavy work of women in rural as in urban areas, requests FAO:

- 1) to continue its special study of ways to improve rural housing and household services (particularly by water and electricity schemes);

- 2) to urge public authorities not to subordinate the requirements of good housing to those of agricultural development. They should stress that the cost of such facilities is low compared with agricultural equipment, and therefore that relatively small loans would allow the realisation of these aims.

ISTANBUL 1960

Participation of Women in Housing and Town Planning

The ICW, having realised the lack of participation by women in the field of housing and town planning, recommends to National Councils:

- 1) to encourage women's societies to make known their views on these subjects to public and semi-public authorities, and to professional organisations;
- 2) to encourage the appointment of suitable women to all such bodies, and to support those already appointed.

TEHRAN 1966

Consultative Committees for Housing and Town Planning

In view of the fact that the number of women holding important Governmental, Ministerial and local government positions is unlikely to increase substantially in the near future, the ICW

RECOMMENDS its affiliated Councils, using the means which they consider most effective, to urge that Consultative Committees, formed by qualified women or women's organisations, be invited to sit on each technical, administrative or Governmental body dealing with housing and town planning.

BANGKOK 1970

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To make women's organisations aware of the urgent need for their intervention in problems of housing and town planning to prevent the progressive deterioration of housing conditions; to encourage better housing standards and improved town and country planning; to press for the participation of women in all bodies concerned with housing and town planning, both locally and nationally, to encourage the construction of sufficient housing at prices accessible to lower income families.

ENVIRONMENT AND HABITAT - ENVIRONMENT

1973 Ad Hoc Committee on Environment  
1976 Environment and Habitat

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TORONTO 1909

Protection of Birds

The ICW strongly recommends all National Councils of Women to consider what action can be taken to discourage the destruction of harmless and beautiful birds, to secure the stricter observation of close times, and to develop a healthier public sentiment in regard to those wanton forms of sports which involve cruelty to birds or other animals, and needless wastage of life.

ROME 1914

International Protection of Birds

That the National Councils do all in their power to secure the protection of all harmless birds in their several countries and to secure legislation to prevent the destruction of beautiful birds for the purposes of dress and adornment.

WASHINGTON 1925

Waste Oil and the Pollution of the Seas

WHEREAS the world's quota of oil-burning and oil-carrying vessels has increased from 364 vessels in 1911 to 2,536 in 1921, and is still increasing;

WHEREAS in spite of a harbour fine of \$1,000 per vessel every twenty-four hours for emptying oil waste therein, oil is carried miles by the tide, pollutes bathing beaches and other pleasure and recreation spots, and menaces public health;

WHEREAS it is now known that waste oil on water destroys the source of food of fish, and that therefore the fish life of the world is threatened, as well as bird life, oyster beds etc., and human life and property on account of the fire hazard at the wharfs and docks;

BE IT RESOLVED that the ICW requests the National Councils of Women to place the question of pollution of the seas by oil-burning and oil-carrying vessels to bird and fish life and property on their programme of study for the next five years.

Executive  
STOCKHOLM 1933

Protection of Animals

The ICW asks the National Councils to give attention to the protection of animals.

Dangers of Waste Oil and Pollution of Seas  
for Birds and Fish

With reference to the resolution adopted at the Washington Council Meeting in 1925, the ICW hereby urges the universal adoption of measures which will prevent the destruction of sea birds and of fish and spawning grounds by oil discharged from ships, and urges more especially the use of oil separators on oil-driven and oil-carrying vessels.

International Diplomatic Conference for the  
Purpose of Concluding a Convention Regarding  
the International Traffic in Live Animals

That the Executive Committee of the ICW have noted with satisfaction the decision of the Assembly of the League of Nations to convene, during the present year, an International Diplomatic Conference for the purpose of concluding a Convention regarding the international traffic in live animals and, on the initiative of the Austrian representatives, to insert therein the most appropriate means of ensuring to animals during transport good sanitary conditions and effective protection against cruelty.

They accordingly urge National Councils to press their Governments to endeavour to obtain the inclusion of all those measures which experience has shown to be necessary to this end, as set forth in Sir George Cockerill's draft Convention (printed in the Report of the Proceedings of the XVIth Plenary Congress of the International Federation of League of Nation's Societies).

PARIS 1934

Dangers of Waste Oil and Pollution of Seas for Birds and Fish

Executive STOCKHOLM 1933 resolution repeated, with the following change of wording: "...the ICW hereby urges the universal adoption of measures..." to become "...the ICW hereby urges the general adoption, under an international Convention, of measures..."

EDINBURGE 1938

Protection of Animals

The ICW includes the question of the protection of animals and their legal status in its general programme of work in the Committees that it may concern.

BANGKOK 1970

Human Environment

**ALARMED** at the accelerating deterioration of the human environment and the consequent undesirable effects on man's physical, mental and social well-being, **AWARE** of the general inadequacy of measures taken to combat the deteriorating processes of the biosphere such as air, water pollution and noise, the depletion of natural resources, and the destruction of natural beauty and wild life, **AWARE** also of other aspects related to the impairment of the human environment, such as deterioration of living conditions, as evidenced by such phenomena as congestion and slums, or of the social environment, particularly the disruption of family and communite life, **RECOGNISING** that these problems are serious and are often intensified by uncontrolled industrialisation and urbanisation and by excessive rates of population growth, **RESPONSIVE** to the call of the United Nations General Assembly in Resolution 2398 (XXIII) for a world-wide Conference to be held in 1972 to examine the profound changes taking place in the relationship between man and his environment, the ICW

STRONGLY URGES

- 1) that world opinion be alerted to certain dangerous effects on man's environment of the indiscriminate and uncontrolled use of modern technology;
- 2) that practical action by individuals and voluntary agencies as well as by Governments and international organisations be taken towards the solution of problems of the human environment;
- 3) that each affiliated Council call upon its Government:
  - a) to assess the influence of technology and environmental changes on the individual, on the family and on social life;
  - b) to estimate in financial and human terms the cost to society of deteriorating environment;

BANGKOK 1970

- c) to seek legislative and other urgent measures to prevent further deterioration of the environment and to improve it;
- d) to include this subject in educational programmes and to promote good public information about it;
- e) to establish firm policies leading to sound and balanced economic and social development.

VIENNA 1973

Ad Hoc Committee of ICW to Deal With Human Environment

In view of the recommendations made by ICW representatives at the UN Conference on Human Environment held in Stockholm July 1972,

The ICW DECIDES

- a) to set up an Ad Hoc Committee to encourage the study of problems on human environment;
- b) to urge member Councils to set up national committees for Environmental Affairs, each of these to appoint a representative to the ICW Ad Hoc Committee;
- c) that the triennial period of work following the ICW Plenary Meeting in Vienna should be concerned with various aspects of the human environment, such a pollution, over-population, ecological education, the exhaustion of natural resources, the protection of animals and plants, especially endangered and vanishing species, the conservation of areas of natural beauty and value, urban planning etc.'
- d) that the next Plenary Meeting in 1976 should show our concern, receiving reports from member Councils, from the UN representatives, from Standing Committees, and should reflect this concern in its title;
- e) that at both international and national level, seminars, conferences and discussions should be held on environmental problems;
- f) that ICW seek accreditation to the new Environmental Unit to be established by the United Nations. ICW should encourage member Councils to put pressure upon their Governments to implement United Nations recommendations.

ENVIRONMENT AND HABITAT

1976

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VANCOUVER 1976

Environment and Habitat

The ICW

RECALLING its long tradition of cherishing the human environment and enhancing the quality of every aspects of human life, and bearing in mind the resolution passed by the ICW in Vienna in 1973 on pesticides, URGES its National Councils of Women to study the problems of environment in their countries. In particular, Councils should stress the fundamental importance of providing clean water, a question which will form the subject of a special United Nations Conference in March 1977, and FURTHER RECOMMENDS that National Councils support the introduction of services for conserving and recycling materials, the use of which is rapidly exhausting the world's finite resources; and also support measures for the protection and conservation of the endangered species of animals and plants.

Law of the Sea

The ICW

WELCOMES the information which has emanated from sessions of the UN Conference on the Law of the Sea, which has revealed the vital importance to mankind of the minerals and other primary materials to be found in the ocean's depths, and REQUESTS its National Councils to urge upon their Governments the necessity of including in agendas for future meetings of the Conference consideration of procedures whereby the non-renewable resources of the sea-bed may be conserved for future generations.

Nuclear Pollution

The ICW

WHEREAS problems of leakage of radio active materials have arisen which constitute a safety hazard in nuclear plants, therefore REQUESTS its National Councils to urge their Governments to accept and enforce the standards for pollution control devices within nuclear plants as established by the International Atomic Energy Agency and/or their appropriate agencies recognised by them.

Hazardous Cargo: A Threat to Passenger Safety

The ICW

WHEREAS airlines and other passenger carriers are permitted by law to transport hazardous material such as acids and other corrosives, flammable liquids, explosives, live germ cultures and radio active materials, WHEREAS intensive studies undertaken principally in the United States during the past four years have uncovered serious incidents of loss of life, permanent injury, maiming and high radiation dosages to crews and passengers, and WHEREAS the travelling public seemingly does not have the right to know if the carrier is transporting any type of hazardous material and what safeguards or precautions are required, therefore REQUESTS its National Councils to urge their respective Governments to enact and enforce legislation governing proper packaging, handling and adequate examination of hazardous cargo.

Nairobi, 1979

NUCLEAR POLLUTION

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recalling the terms of its Resolution adopted at the Triennial Conference Meeting in Vancouver (1976)

Urges National Councils in the light of this Resolution and of the standards for safety adopted by the United Nations International Atomic Energy Agency,

To continue vigilantly to study and to keep the public aware of possible hazards to health posed by nuclear plants and facilities provided for the storage of nuclear waste;

To demand observance of the strictest standards of safety at all nuclear installations.

4597m/1

Seoul, 1982

ACID RAIN

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recalling the decision made at Vienna in 1973 to study problems of the human environment;

Recognising increasing and indisputable evidence of the adverse effect of acid rain on the human environment;

Convinced that comprehensive action is required to combat the problem of acid rain;

Aware that transboundary transmissions of sulphur compounds can be reduced at the source by the enforcement of abatement and control policies;

Encouraged by studies and recommendations of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), as outlined in "OECD and the Environment", released in 1979, concerning transfrontier pollution;

Welcoming the attention given in the 1979 UN Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution to the emission of sulphur compounds, and

Seriously concerned that few countries have ratified the 1979 UN Convention, and that member countries of OECD have not strenuously pursued the implementation of OECD recommendations concerning the long-range transport of air pollution;

Urges National Councils to request their governments

- 1) to pursue control and abatement policies which would require reduction of sulphur compound emissions at the source;
- 2) to implement OECD recommendations concerning long-range transport of air pollution, if a member nation of the Organization;
- 3) to ratify the 1979 UN Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution.

London, 1986

1987 - THE UN YEAR OF SHELTER FOR THE HOMELESS

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Which adopted its first resolution on housing at its Conference in 1899, and which has pursued a vigorous policy in the matter of housing and human settlements since the establishment of its Standing Committee on Housing in 1936, stressing always the vital importance of the participation of women at all levels of planning and implementation;

Notes the designation by the UN of 1987 as the Year of Shelter for the Homeless, and

Urges the designation by the UN of 1987 as the Year of Shelter for the Homeless, and

Urges its affiliated Councils to begin or continue their preparatory work by considering national and international problems of housing, and lack of housing, in the light of the new aspects of great importance to women revealed in the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies, paying particular attention to:

- 1) the living conditions of the poor, and particularly of poor women;
- 2) the particular needs of households headed by women;
- 3) the effects of Human Settlements policies on the advancement of women
- 4) the collecting of gender based statistics and the development of indicators for the evaluation of such effects in accordance with the relevant paragraphs of the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies.

London, 1986

PLANT BREEDING

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Aware

- 1) that the world's food supply and thus human survival is dependent on the diverse genetic base which is crucial to plant breeding, and
- 2) that the diversity of the seeds of the earth is fast disappearing;

Concerned that there is an erosion of genetic materials as evidenced by the resolution adopted at the November 1983 Conference of the Food and Agricultural Organization of the UN to provide for an undertaking on the free exchange of plant genetic resources;

Urges National Councils

- 1) to study and make themselves aware of development, in research techniques and technology in the whole area of plant genetic science;
- 2) to request their governments
  - i) to support and sustain international plant breeding activities;
  - ii) to encourage the exchange of information and material between governments and national government departments;
  - iii) to develop national education and research opportunities where they do not exist, and
  - iv) To encourage young women to study in this field.

London, 1986

ASSISTANCE TO DROUGHT-STRICKEN AREAS

Bearing in mind continuing drought conditions in many countries in the world and in particular Africa, with very serious consequences on the health of the population and particularly on women;

Aware of the fundamental role of agriculture and food production in the economy of developing countries and the role of women in self-sufficiency in food production;

Concerned by the gravity of the economic crisis, which particularly affects the developing countries;

Bearing in mind the urgent need to promote and strengthen efforts to obtain the equal participation of women in the development of their own countries and of the world;

Aware also of the important role undertaken by international, regional and national structures and, in particular, by the Specialised Agencies of the United Nations and the UN Commission on the Environment;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Urges its affiliated Councils to ask their governments and the Agencies in their countries which give aid to developing countries, to endeavour to increase their efforts to support and implement programmes so that self-sufficiency in food production may be obtained, and attention given to reforestation and to the struggle against drought, by all possible means.

London, 1986

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN MATTERS RELATING TO ENVIRONMENT AND HABITAT

Aware of the danger of the rapid depletion of the earth's natural resources worldwide and the deterioration of the environment;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Urges its National Councils to impress upon their governments the urgency of the need to seek the views of members of the public, both men and women, at all levels of society, when all matters concerning the environment and habitat are under review, and, further;

Requests its National Councils to disseminate information related to measures linked with Environment and Habitat.

Washington, D.C., 1988

DETERIORATION OF THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

Reaffirming its resolution of 1970 in Bangkok on the deterioration of the human environment;

Aware that accelerating degradation of the biosphere poses a threat to the future well-being of all peoples;

Recognising that the world debt crisis adds to this threat by creating a barrier to sustainable development, which can only be overcome by sound environmental planning and resource management;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Urges its National Councils to do all in their power to halt and, if possible, reverse the effects of this degradation.

Washington, D.C., 1988

THE UN COMMISSION OF ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Welcoming the publication of the Report of the United Nations Commission on Environment and Development - the Brundtland Report entitled "Our Common Future";

Urges its National Councils to:

- 1) study this report; to bring it to the attention of all members and call upon them to carry out those recommendations which are applicable on a personal level;
- 2) press their governments:
  - a) to take note of the central tenet in the report that "humanity has the ability to make development sustainable - to ensure that it meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs";
  - b) to give the Report their full support, especially in the forum of the United Nations, where such a programme of sustainable development may be worked out and agreed upon;
  - c) to do all in their power to bring such a programme into effect, recognising that for a development project to be effective, the community itself needs to be involved;
  - d) to include women in all decision-making processes in order to ensure that the well-being of everyone in the community is safeguarded.

Washington, D.C., 1986

DUMPING OF NUCLEAR AND OTHER TOXIC WASTES

Concerned by the dangers presented by the dumping of nuclear and other toxic wastes; and

Considering the particular vulnerability of developing countries;

Deploring the dumping of toxic and nuclear waste in those countries and in the oceans of the world;

Believing that industrialised countries have the technical ability to recycle the waste which they have produced, and should themselves be responsible for the safe and local disposal of any remaining radioactive and toxic wastes;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Urges its National Councils

- 1) to take every opportunity to condemn the actions of countries which dump nuclear and other toxic wastes, particularly in certain developing countries or in the ocean;
- 2) to urge their governments to legislate against such practices, to take appropriate measures to prevent such dumping and to implement technologies to neutralise such wastes.

Washington, D.C., 1988

HABITAT

Having regard to the resolution adopted by ICW at London in 1986 (the UN year of Shelter for the Homeless) and of its reinforcement by the adoption of decisions by the UN Commission on Human Settlements in 1986/1987/1988, together with paragraphs 209/217 and 284/285 of the Nairobi Forward Looking Strategies, and

Aware of the appeal of the United Nations for "Adequate Shelter for all by the year 2000" and the proposed Global Shelter Strategy;

Recognising that in spite of efforts being made in regard to rural development, urban and rural development are interrelated, and migration to urban areas has not abated. This causes serious repercussions for those population groups who live in shanty towns, squatter settlements or other forms of temporary shelter near and in urban areas;

Gravely concerned by the problems of eviction and forced resettlement, particularly for women who support themselves and their families;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Urges its National Councils to:

- 1) press their governments to support the Global Shelter Strategy in the UN General Assembly;
- 2) urge the implementation of that Strategy by:
  - a) pressing both national and local government authorities to develop national and local shelter strategies paying special attention to the shelter problems of vulnerable groups in both urban and rural areas;
  - b) developing and using gender specific statistical indicators for monitoring national shelter strategies;
  - c) ensuring that the basic needs of women in vulnerable groups are not overlooked and that women themselves participate in the consequent decision-making;
  - d) promoting solutions in cases of eviction and resettlement, in the form of "site and service" or other projects to ensure adequate shelter is provided.

## **FINANCE**

**1899 Finance**

**1970 Financing Committee**

FINANCE

1899 Finance  
1970 Financing Committee

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ROME 1914

Additional Annual Contributions from the National Councils

That the ICW, realising the absolute necessity of increased funds for the work of the Council, is strongly of opinion that an annual contribution, in addition to the uniform fee, should be given by each of the National Councils, and while urging this upon the affiliated Councils, they recommend that it be left to each National Council to arrange how such sum should be raised.

KRISTIANIA 1920

Recommendations for Placing the Finances of the  
ICW on a More Satisfactory Basis and for Propaganda  
on Behalf of the ICW Idea

A percentage of National Councils' income to be contributed to the ICW Funds.

WHEREAS it is necessary that the finances of the ICW should be placed on a more permanent basis, and it is desirable, in view of the changes which have taken place in present social conditions to make the Constitution of the International Council more democratic in order that the women most suited for the work of the Council may be elected without consideration of their means, it is hereby proposed that the affiliated National Councils undertake to contribute a percentage of their annual income derived from annual subscriptions to the funds of the International Council, the amount thus contributed to be calculated according to the income stated in the previous year's financial report and the contributions to be paid during the first three months of the current year. It is proposed that the contributions obtained from the National Councils through this percentage form a fund for the expenses of International Officers having to take frequent journeys on official business on behalf of the International Council.

Propaganda Week for ICW

Rider: It is further recommended that during each quinquennial period each National Council appoint a week when propaganda for the ICW shall be carried on by all National Councils by means of lectures, entertainments, pamphlets and so forth. During that week a collection shall be made for the funds of the ICW among all the women, who through one organisation or another connected with their National Councils form links in the great chain of sisters, which in the name of the ICW spans the civilised world.

Executive  
THE HAGUE 1922

Special Committee on Ways and Means

That a special Sub-Committee of seven be set up to devise ways and means of raising annually sufficient money for carrying on the work of the ICW, this small Sub-Committee to be appointed by the Officers and to report to the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

Countries with Low Exchange

1. That countries with a low exchange be allowed three copies of the Quinquennial Transactions at the pre-war exchange.
2. That countries be considered to have a low exchange where the value of their money is half or less than half the pre-war value taking the pound sterling as the standard.
3. That the National Councils in countries with a low exchange, as previously defined, be asked to pay their subscriptions to the ICW now at the pre-war exchange.

International Allowance for Head Office

That in view of the increased expenditure necessary at the present time the sum of office expenditure be increased to include the expenses incurred by the Corresponding Secretary, the amount allocated to be pound sterling 225, being pound sterling 75 for the President's use and pound sterling 150 for the expenses of the Corresponding Secretary - the matter to come before the Executive for ratification.

Conveners' Expense

That Conveners be invited to send in to Mrs. Sanford their account for postage only up to a maximum of pound sterling 3.

Appeal to National Councils

That the financial needs of the ICW be placed before the National Councils, mentioning the figure of from pound sterling 900 to pound sterling 1000 as the estimated minimum annual expenditure necessary for efficiency.

Finance Committee Recommendation

With a view to increasing the income of the ICW, the Standing Committee on Finance begs to recommend that the National Councils should invite good speakers, who are at the same time well-known personalities, to visit their countries as their guests in order to speak for them on the work and aims of the International Council and the immense importance of an international understanding between women.

Assistance to Press Committee

That, as a temporary expedient during the next two years, the Convener of the Press Committee be authorised to have the help of the ICW Secretariat in translating, typing circulars etc. in order that it may be possible to arrive at an accurate estimate of the amount needed by the Committee for the quinquennial period.

Bulletin

That for the first year only 6 issues of the Bulletin be attempted, that the annual subscription be 2/6d plus postage, and that for the beginning the National Councils be asked to guarantee a certain number of copies for their members.

WASHINGTON 1925

Annual Fee and Pro-rate Assessment

That the annual fee remain as at present, and that the National Councils be assessed on a pro-rata basis, so as to bring the annual income of the International Council from the National Councils up to the sum of pound sterling 2,000.

Special Arrangements for Councils in Countries Having a Low Rate of Exchange

That the action of the Executive Committee be endorsed, whereby Councils in countries where the exchange value of the currently is below 50% of its pre-war value be allowed to pay the sums due to the ICW at the pre-war rate of exchange, and that this arrangement continue during the next Quinquennial period, provided that it ceases automatically within the period as soon as the exchange rises above 50% of the pre-war value in any country concerned.

Executive  
GENEVA 1927

Incorporation of the ICW

That thorough investigation be made as to the best means of forming the ICW into a legal body with a view to enabling the Council to hold money or property.

Fancy Fair Fund

That pound sterling 300 of the pound sterling 1,800 still remaining over from the proceeds of the Hague Fair be put aside as a reserve fund for the beginning of the next quinquennial period, and that a maximum of pound sterling 500 per annum be allotted to the expenses of the next two years.

Annual Grants from Councils

That an additional pound sterling 300 per annum be asked of the Councils in order that the receipts may reach the pound sterling 2,000 needed for annual expenditure.

Note: The Executive Committee strongly recommends that this sum be raised by quinquennial contributions or otherwise and not from the income of the Councils. They also urge most earnestly that Councils give annually any definite amounts they have promised.

Postponement of the Assessment of National Councils

That the assessment be postponed till the next quinquennium but that methods and details be discussed at the next Executive, so as to have all in order for the coming quinquennial meeting.

Finance Sub-Committee

That, as the assessment is now postponed, the Finance Sub-Committee continue its work and that the Committee be increased to six members. That the two new members to be added to the Sub-Committee be:

- 1) some member of the USA Council appointed by that Council to take the place of Mrs. Burns, resigned, and
- 2) Miss Karen Glaesel of Denmark;

the President and Corresponding Secretary being ex-officio members of this Committee.

That Lady Trustram Eve be Chairman of the Finance Sub-Committee.

VIENNA 1930

Price of ICW Bulletin

That the price of the Bulletin be left as it is now and not raised under the present financial position of the ICW.

Pre-War Rate of Exchange

That National Councils who are at present paying their dues according to the depreciated rate of exchange of their countries now pay at current rate of exchange.

Executive  
STOCKHOLM 1933

Assessments and Methods of Subscription

That we recognise with gratitude the great efforts that have been made by the majority of the National Councils in order to meet wholly or to the best of their power the obligation they undertook in Vienna and that while we regret that we are something like pound sterling 300 short of having a balance in favour we have every confidence that these pound sterling 300 may be found before our meeting in Paris, where we should ask that the whole position of the assessments and methods of subscription be reconsidered.

Triennial Contributors

That Triennial Contributors be invited to pay pound sterling 1 before the Paris meetings.

Transactions

That the Transactions of the Council Meeting in Paris be reduced in size.

Headquarters Office in Paris

The Executive Committee recommends that the Headquarters Office continue in Paris and the contract be renewed for three years.

Fete in Connection with Paris Council Meeting in 1934

- a) That in order to raise money for the ICW the National Councils shall unite their efforts in organising a fete to be held in Paris on the occasion of the Council Meetings of a character to attract the general public, and that a part of the proceeds be given to the French Council.
- b) That an International Committee, under the presidency of Lady Aberdeen, be formed composed of one member appointed by each of the National Councils; and that these National Councils pledge themselves to give effective assistance to the fete.

The organisation of this plan is put in the hands of the National Council of Women of France.

DUBROVNIK 1936

Lady Aberdeen Fund of the ICW

That the ICW shall establish a Jubilee Fund in connection with the Jubilee Meeting of the ICW in 1938 and that, as a mark of our affection and in recognition of the great work which Lady Aberdeen has accomplished for the ICW and for international goodwill throughout the world, the fund be named the "Lady Aberdeen Fund of the ICW".

Finance Committee - Contributions From National Councils

That in Article III, paragraph 8, of the new Constitution the following sentence be added:

"That each Council shares the financial burden of the ICW by an allotment of shares or units of equal size - the number of units being in proportion to the annual income of the individual Council. The relative income of every other Council having been taken into consideration."

EDINBURGH 1938

Finance Committee: The Lady Aberdeen Fund: the Bulletin

- 1) The ICW decides that a special Committee be set up to deal with the ICW Lady Aberdeen Fund composed of the President, the Honorary Treasurer, Dame Maria Ogilvie Gordon, the Dowager Lady Nunburnholme and Miss van Eeghen, with Mrs. McIlwraith in an advisory capacity.
- 2) The ICW decides that the capital of the ICW Lady Aberdeen Fund shall in principle remain intact, but that, in the event of a situation arising which might necessitate touching this capital, the Board of Officers will not act without first consulting the affiliated Councils and having allowed a given time for their answers.
- 3) The ICW decides that in the event of the ICW being dissolved the capital of the ICW Lady Aberdeen Fund be handed over to a non-political international organisation working for the benefit of humanity.
- 4) The ICW decides that from September 1939 the cost of the Bulletin shall be 4/- to all the affiliated Councils and 4/6d to individual subscribers.
- 5) The ICW decides that the affiliated Councils shall each make their own arrangements for taking the number of copies of the Bulletin required for Triennial Contributors and that it rests with the Council to decide whether the expenses shall be paid by the Council or by the Triennial Contributors themselves.

ATHENS 1951

Terms of Reference

To study the finances of the ICW in relation to its programme of activities and to the finances of its member Councils; to report to each triennial meeting and advise on measures to be taken to establish and keep the finances of the ICW on a satisfactory basis.

MONTREAL 1957

Terms of Reference

1. As 1951: To study.....basis.
2. To consider opportunities and methods enabling the ICW to raise special funds on special occasions or for special undertakings and to advise the Board on action to be taken in such directions.
3. To study the development of women's position in the world of finance and to advise the ICW and the National Councils of Women on action to be taken to improve this position and influence.

ISTANBUL 1960

Terms of Reference

1. and 2. as 1957 above - 3. eliminated.

BANGKOK 1970

Financing Committee

At the Triennial Meeting in Bangkok, it was decided to change the name of this committee to "Financing Committee", with new Terms of Reference.

The new committee is responsible for fund raising.

Presidents of National Councils are ex-officio members. The Chairman is an ex-officio member and submits a report at each Board meeting.

## **HEALTH**

**1909 Public Health**

**1947 Hygiene**

**1954 Health**

HEALTH

1909 Public Health  
1947 Hygiene  
1954 Health

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TORONTO 1909

Standing Committee on Public Health

That a Standing Committee on Public Health be formed by the International Council, and that the National Councils who have not already Health sections be recommended to adopt a similar course.

Executive  
THE HAGUE 1913

Presentation of Book

That a copy of the book on "Prevention of Tuberculosis and how it may be affected by the Care and Isolation of Advanced Cases" be sent in the name of the ICW to Their Majesties the Queen and the Queen Mother of Holland.

ROME 1914

Temperance and the Combat Against Alcoholism

The ICW, fully realising the immense harm done to the home as well as to the human race at large by intemperance strongly expresses its sympathy with the cause of temperance and urges the National Councils to use their influence as far as possible to combat alcoholism and requests the Public Health Committee to give special attention to the study of alcoholism.

KRISTIANIA 1920

International Bureau of Public Health

That in the opinion of the ICW it is eminently desirable that an International Bureau of Public Health, consisting of men and women, be established in connection with the League of Nations, provided that in dealing with venereal diseases the equal moral standard between men and women be observed.

KRISTIANIA 1920

Sale of Liquor

That in view of the great benefits that have accrued to the United States of American and to Canada from the experience of local option in those countries, the ICW considers that in every country where the sale of liquor is carried on a similar power should be granted to its citizens.

Closer Relationship Between the Various Departments and Committees Affecting Public Health

That National Councils of Women endeavour to obtain closer relationship between the various Departments and Committees affecting Public Health in their respective countries, in order that knowledge and help may be given mutually on all points relating to better living conditions for humanity.

(Note This is the first half of a Resolution in two parts - the second part will be found in WOMEN AND EMPLOYMENT.)

Study of Best Means of Combating the Spread of Venereal Diseases

That the ICW Standing Committee on Public Health and the Equal Moral Standard combine for the study of the best means of combating the spread of venereal diseases, and warn women all over the world to oppose the re-introduction of regulations which, under the guise of health measures against venereal disease, give power for the compulsory examination and detention of women.

Executive  
THE HAGUE 1922

Report on Venereal Diseases

That the Report presented by Dr. Thuillier-Landry based on the answers to the questionnaire sent out on the subject of venereal diseases be printed and published under the supervision of the Conveners and Vice-Conveners of the Public Health and Equal Moral Standard Standing Committees, endeavouring to secure the cooperation of other organisations interested in the subject and on a basis which will enable the publication to meet its own expenses.

Early Treatment of Cancer

That the proposal from the National Council of Women of Italy urging the promotion of schemes which will secure that an earlier diagnosis and treatment of cancer be adopted and that a questionnaire on the subject be circulated.

Junior Red Cross

That information and literature regarding the organisation and development of the Junior Red Cross Movement and especially of the inter-school correspondence system between Junior Red Cross groups in different countries be forwarded to all National Councils with a recommendation for the adoption and encouragement from the Public Health point of view.

WASHINGTON 1925

Opium and Dangerous Drugs

The ICW recognises that the only effective way of combating the evil of drug-taking is for the States in which opium and coca leaves are grown to reduce the production to the medical and scientific needs of the world.

While it is persuaded that this must be accepted as the ultimate aim, it recommends, in the necessary interval before this can be accomplished, the active support by all countries of the restrictive provisions contained in the Opium Conventions of 1912 and 1925, and calls upon the National Councils to use their influence with their Governments to this effect.

The ICW supports the suggestion made by the Second Opium Conference of the League of Nations that a Commission be appointed to study the difficulties connected with the limitation of opium production, and asks the National Councils to give consideration to the findings.

Executive  
GENEVA 1927

Continuation of Public Health Committee

That the Standing Committee on Public Health be continued for the following objects:-

- a) to promote active cooperation between each of National Councils of Women with the national branches of the great international health organisations in their own countries, for the information, education and training of their members for fruitful work;
- b) in order to study certain questions regarding which women have special responsibilities and in the solution of which voluntary workers ought to be able to render valuable help to professional workers, and

Executive  
GENEVA 1927

- c) to carry out popular propaganda which will make international medical and scientific research really effective in the homes and lives of the ordinary rank and file of the population.

And that the Sub-Committee formed at Washington be continued with its own Chairman to deal with questions relating to recreation and the provision of suitable playing spaces.

VIENNA 1930

World Crusade for the Study and Prevention  
and Cure of Rheumatism

The ICW adopts the recommendations of the Public Health Committee regarding the World Anti-Rheumatism Crusade based on the advice of the medical members of the Public Health and Child Welfare Committees:

- 1) Medical centres associated with hospitals for the treatment of patients suffering from rheumatism;
- 2) Centres for the professional re-education of adults and children;
- 3) Homes for incurables.

The different centres will be of value for scientific research in rheumatism, the training of specially experienced nurses and the education of mothers of rheumatic children. Attention should be drawn to the early symptoms and to the necessity for prolonged treatment.

It is desirable to advise patients suffering from rheumatism and heart disease with regard to suitable employment or necessary social assistance. The delegates of the countries in which a League against Rheumatism does not exist are invited to work for the creation of such a body, which shall work in agreement with the International League against Rheumatism.

International Institute for Public Nutrition

The ICW requests the League of Nations to take into consideration the formation under its auspices of an International Institute for the study of problems connected with public nutrition.

Executive  
STOCKHOLM 1933

League of Nations Report on Narcotic Drugs

That the attention of National Councils of Women be drawn to the importance of the Report to the League of Nations Council of the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium, with the view of urging their respective Governments to carry out the terms of the Convention which has now been ratified by 39 States Members and non-Members of the League, and is in force since July 1933.

PARIS 1934

Mental Deficiency with Regard to Segregation

The ICW requests its Public Health Committee to discuss the question of mental deficiency with regard to segregation, with a view to the recommendation of legislation to deal with the problems in accordance with the most recent finding of experts.

International Convention on Traffic in Narcotic Drugs

The attention of National Councils of Women is drawn to the importance of urging their respective Governments to carry out the terms of the Convention on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs, which has already been ratified by 39 States Members of the League of Nations, and came into operation in July 1933.

Adenoids and the Removal of Tonsils

The ICW requests the Public Health Organisation of the League of Nations to promote research into the prevalence of adenoids and enlarged tonsils, their causes and effects, and into preventive and operative methods of treatment; it also recommends National Councils to give attention to this subject through their Public Health and Child Welfare Committees.

DUBROVNIK 1936

International League Against Rheumatism

The ICW requests the National Councils to get into touch with the National Committees set up in most countries in connection with the International League against Rheumatism and endeavour to promote their efforts by propaganda and other means.

DUBROVNIK 1936

Nutrition

The ICW welcomes the initiative taken by the League of Nations for a radical investigation of the nutrition problem in the spirit of solidarity and international cooperation. Considering that the provision for a rational nutrition for all peoples and races should be of great interest to women as specially concerned in the health and development of the young generation, the ICW recommends to the National Councils to urge the collaboration of women in the proposed Expert Committees of the various countries as well as in the administrative and practical work in connection with this scheme.

EDINBURGH 1938

Medical Supervision

The ICW considers that where possible medical supervision before and during physical training should be provided in order to prevent undue strain in the case of any particular individual.

EDINBURGH 1938

Increased Opportunities for Physical Instruction

The ICW is in full sympathy with the movement apparent today in many countries in favour of increased opportunities for physical instruction and healthful recreation - believing that such elements are essential to any sound conception of education.

They desire, however, to place on record their conviction that undue emphasis should not be laid on any single element, but that physical, recreational and aesthetic training should be pursued as integral parts of a full development which will direct social evolution towards a higher and more spiritual type of civilisation.

PHILADELPHIA 1947

Change of Title of Permanent Central Opium Board

In view of the increasing manufacture and use of other narcotic drugs in many countries, the ICW recommends to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations that the title of the Permanent Central Opium Board be changed to the Permanent Central Narcotics Board.

Narcotics

The ICW, believing that the maintaining and strengthening of the machinery for international narcotics control through the Permanent Central Opium Board and the Supervisory Board is of the utmost urgency, would urge all countries, previously connected therewith, to resume full international collaboration at the earliest possible date and would express the fervent hope that this movement for definite control and direct international regulation may be universally supported by all nations of the world.

Further, that in regard to the smoking of prepared opium, countries where this practice is still legal be urged to prohibit it along with the manufacture and traffic for that purpose.

In particular, as regards those countries with which post-war treaties are being framed, they would recommend to the Governments negotiating such that provision be made for the most stringent control of narcotics.

PHILADELPHIA 1947

World Health Organisation

1. The ICW welcomes with deep enthusiasm the affirmative action taken by representatives of 61 nations of the world at the International Health Conference held in New York City in the summer of 1946, approving the establishment of the World Health Organisation as an agency of the United Nations. The ICW, however, notes with keen regret that more than 13 months later only 19 nations have taken the official action necessary to bring this most important agency into full operation. Reflecting the Council's long history of interest in, and active liaison with, the work of the Health Section of the League of Nations, the ICW strongly urges its National Councils in all nations which have not as yet ratified the World Health Organisation constitution as successor to this vital international field of work to petition their Governments for the most rapid action possible.
2. Noting the creation of the World Health Organisation Interim Commission as successor of the Health Section of the League of Nations, the ICW calls attention to its historic and inherent interest in programmes for children's health, maternal care, and the protection of the health of the industrial worker. The Council expresses the hope that the World Health Organisation will develop extensive service to these vital fields when it becomes a permanent Specialised Agency of the United Nations.

ATHENS 1951

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To promote the progress of Public Health so as to ensure the harmonious development of the human being, and, with this aim in view, to press for the entrance of qualified women into health organisations; to instruct the public by a propaganda adapted to suit all social environments and to circulate to the different countries all new developments and experiments which can accelerate progress.

Teaching of Dangers of Misuse of Alcohol, Narcotics and Stimulants

J IN VIEW of the increase in the consumption of alcohol in almost all countries, THE ICW URGES the National Councils of Women to influence their Governments to undertake anti-alcoholic teaching in all schools from primary to university and military grades. THE ICW strongly recommends to National Councils of Women to press those associations concerned with the subject to organise among the women's groups an educational campaign on the dangers of the misuse of alcohol, narcotics and stimulants.

HELSINKI 1954

Danger of Drug Addiction

The ICW urges the National Councils in countries where the danger of drug addiction exists to help the authorities in every way in their power to combat this peril.

MONTREAL 1957

Compulsory Auditory Examination for Workers

J The ICW, in Conference assembled in Montreal in 1957, requests the National Councils to press for compulsory auditory examination for all workers entering noisy industries, and regular frequent re-examination, and also urges the necessity to reduce noise.

### Research into Virus and Bacterial Diseases

In view of the fact that the common cold is one of the chief causes of absenteeism in commerce and industry, the ICW appreciates the work already undertaken by WHO in this connection, and urges further intensified research into virus and bacterial diseases, such as those known variously as "a cold" or "influenza".

ISTANBUL 1960

### Mental Ill-health

In countries where the effects of industrialisation are becoming more apparent there is a greater incidence of mental stress than has hitherto been the case. All National Councils of Women are, therefore, urged to press upon their Government that the utmost support should be given to the recommendations of the World Federation of Mental Health on preventive and curative measures for dealing with the increasing problems of mental ill-health.

WASHINGTON 1963

### TERMS OF REFERENCE

To promote the progress of public health so as to ensure the harmonious development of the human being, and, with this aim in view, to press for the entrance of qualified women into health organisations; to educate the public by circulating to the Councils information to suit different social environments and different countries concerning new developments and experiments which can accelerate progress.

### Health Hazards of Cigarette Smoking

THE ICW CONCERNED by the evidence which shows that in recent years there has been a progressive increase in cancer of the lung, chronic bronchitis, emphysema and other respiratory diseases, and THAT the preponderance of all scientific evidence indicates that smoking of tobacco, especially cigarettes, is strongly indicated as the cause of this increase, as well as having an adverse effect on heart and vascular disease and peptic ulcer and is associated with the general decrease in longevity, and that giving up smoking at any age decreases this risk, and IN VIEW OF the fact that major chest disease organisations through the world, most public and health agencies and voluntary health organisations have passed resolutions regarding smoking as a serious health hazard, URGES the Health Committees of its affiliated Councils to intensify their educational efforts to inform the public in general and young people in particular regarding the health hazards of cigarette smoking.

TEHRAN 1966

Venereal Diseases

**HAVING OBSERVED** the recent increase in the incidence of venereal diseases, and especially of syphilis, in many countries of the world, and the gravity with which this increase is rightly regarded,

The ICW **EMPHASISES** the importance of educating public opinion concerning the dangers of venereal diseases and methods of prevention; **RE-AFFIRMS** its belief in free and confidential treatment of venereal diseases; **DISAPPROVES** measures of coercion and any compulsory medical examination which discriminates between the sexes, and which, in practice, place the sole responsibility for the consequences of a mutual act upon the woman; **RE-AFFIRMS** its faith in the abolitionist principles.

BANGKOK 1970

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To study some of the urgent health problems which have become of global significance; to compare the methods by which these problems are handled in the developed as well as in the developing countries of the world and to educate the public through our affiliated Councils to an awareness of the extent to which these problems affect and are affected by social conditions

World Health Services

**WHEREAS** in the world at large there is a shortage of manpower for health services;

**WHEREAS** there is urgent need to increase training and distribution of health personnel at all levels to put into practice the application of existing knowledge in nutrition, sanitation, infections and parasitic diseases;

**WHEREAS** this applies not only to physicians, but particularly to para-medical health workers not only in developing countries but also in economically developed countries;

**WHEREAS** rapid population growth further widens the gap between health needs and available resources in health manpower;

The ICW

**URGES** its affiliated Councils to focus attention on family health by planning for the training and utilisation of health personnel to achieve optimum health levels.

BANGKOK 1970

The Misuse of the Drugs of Addiction

The ICW URGES its affiliated Councils to bring pressure to bear on their Governments:

- a) to sign and ratify the Convention on Narcotic Drugs, if they have not already done so;
- b) to encourage research into the prevention and treatment of drug-taking;
- c) to increase facilities for the treatment and the rehabilitation of the addicts on the most enlightened lines;
- d) to legislate for the stricter control of the legitimate distribution of drugs of addiction or possible addiction;
- e) to increase the penalties for the illicit suppliers of drugs of addiction.

VANCOUVER 1976

Rehabilitation and Integration of the Disabled into Society

The ICW

RECOGNIZING the rights of the disabled to earn their living, to cope with the difficulties of everyday life, and to lead a contented life, URGES its National Councils to bring these problems to the attention of national and local authorities, for implementation of the varied possibilities for rehabilitation and removal of all obstacles by:

- a) improvement of the basic laws in order to overcome the disadvantages, especially in regard to financial aid,
- b) providing rehabilitation centres,
- c) removal of obstacles in the homes, taking these obstacles into consideration when public buildings are planned, building of housing especially for handicapped, also for the aged,
- d) simplified possibilities for finding employment and improvements at the place of work,
- e) urgently explaining and publicising the problems of the disabled in order to achieve a more positive attitude towards this group.

Nairobi, 1979

EDUCATION OF PEOPLE IN COMMUNITY HEALTH

Bearing in mind that the effective participation of the community is indispensable to the development of health activities and the prevention and control of disease;

Realising that health education of individuals, families and community is essential to permit them to participate effectively in health promotion;

Aware that a number of countries are promoting programmes that foster active participation in health development, particularly through primary health care, as well as programmes for preparing health personnel with the necessary knowledge, skill and attitudes;

Noting that these countries have initiated activities for the creation and development of health education including, with some success, health courses through which people have access to valid information on health problems, enabling them to take a greater interest in health activities and to participate in carrying these out;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Urges National Councils

1. to request their governments to develop further their health education and establish people's health courses whenever appropriate, starting at as early an age as possible, with a view to fostering community participation in health development by a knowledgeable public and creating a positive attitude towards health;
2. to intensify their National Councils' own involvement in promoting the establishment and development of health education activities;
3. to promote inter-Council cooperation in sharing experience in the planning and implementation of these activities.

Nairobi, 1979

HEALTH HAZARDS OF SMOKING

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recalling its resolution adopted at Washington in 1963, and Recognising the increasing and indisputable scientific evidence that tobacco smoking is a major cause of chronic bronchitis, emphysema and lung cancer, as well as a major risk factor for myocardial infarction, certain pregnancy related and neonatal disorders and a number of other serious health problems for the smoker, and that it also has harmful effects on those who are involuntarily exposed to tobacco smoke;

Seriously concerned at the alarming increase in production and consumption of cigarettes during the past two decades in some countries, in which it was previously not widespread, and at the extensive promotional drive for the sale of cigarettes being carried out on radio and television, in newspapers and other news media, and through association with sporting and cultural events, often inducing young people to smoke tobacco;

Noting that few countries have so far taken comprehensive action effectively to combat smoking through educational, restrictive and legislative measures for the control of publicity and advertisements in the news media, combined with coherent taxation and price policies for tobacco cultivation and cigarette production;

Urges National Councils to impress their governments with the need:

1. To strengthen health education programmes concerning the danger of smoking as part of general education, taking into account the different needs of the various target groups;
2. To adopt comprehensive measures to discourage tobacco smoking, inter alia by providing for increased taxation on the sale of cigarettes, and restricting insofar as possible all forms of publicity for the promotion of smoking;
3. To protect the right of non-smokers to enjoy an atmosphere unpolluted by tobacco smoke;
4. To seek economically sound alternative undertakings to replace tobacco growing and processing, where appropriate;

Invites National Councils to consider having a non-smoking theme in their education for health activities and to give maximum publicity to an anti-smoking campaign.

Seoul, 1982

INTER-RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recognising that health is dependent on social and economic development, and also contributes to it;

Urges National Councils to request their governments to incorporate and strengthen primary health care within their national development plans, with special emphasis on rural and urban development programmes and the coordination of the health-related activities of the different sectors, and to pay special attention to women's health.

Seoul, 1982

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recalling its Resolution on the Education of People in Community Health, Nairobi 1979;

Considering that national and community self-reliance and social awareness are among the key factors in human development, and acknowledging that people have the right and duty to participate in the process for the improvement and maintenance of their health;

Urges its National Councils

1) to request their governments to encourage and ensure full community participation through the effective propagation of relevant information, increased literacy and the development of the necessary institutional arrangements through which individuals, families and communities can assume responsibility for their health and well-being; and to involve women's organisations in the managerial processes, including their involvement in decision-making and the monitoring of national strategies for health for all;

2) to intensify their own involvement in promoting the establishment and development of health education activities;

3) to promote Inter-Council cooperation in sharing experiences in the planning of such activities.

Seoul, 1982

CONTENT OF PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Stressing that primary health care should focus on the main health problems of the community, but

Recognising that these problems and the ways of solving them will vary between countries and communities;

Recommends that primary health care activities on the level of National Councils should include at least:

education concerning prevailing health problems and their prevention.

sanitation

safe water

maternal and child health care, including family planning

personal hygiene, and

food hygiene and healthy living

Seoul, 1982

TRADITIONAL PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HEALTH OF WOMEN

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recalling its recommendation on Female Circumcision at Nairobi in 1979;

Appreciating the work done in this field by WHO, UNICEF and the NGO Subcommittee on the Status of Women, expresses its full support in their efforts;

Realising that this custom is fraught with complex cultural sensitivities and should be solved locally by the people concerned;

Noting that

- 1) female circumcision - being a public health problem - is best approached through primary health care;
- 2) that national women's organisations may be instruments in changing prevailing attitudes towards this custom in their respective communities;

Urges National Councils to

- 1) undertake and initiate Primary Health Care Education Programmes which will include traditional practices affecting the health of women and children both useful and harmful;
- 2) pressure their respective governments to introduce such educational programmes for men and women and introduce legislation which will encourage useful practices such as breast-feeding and discourage traditional practices which are detrimental to health.

Seoul, 1982

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF DISABLED PERSONS 1981

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Concerned by the possibility that various activities may end with the closure of IYDP, and

Recalling that the problems of disabled persons need steady, continuous and consistent attention in order to maintain or increase the momentum achieved in 1981,

Urges its National Councils to continue to press their governments and non-governmental organisations to establish or enlarge permanent programmes for

- 1) rehabilitation, so that this may be as early and as complete as possible;
- 2) integration, relevant to the type and severity of the handicap;
- 3) greater preventive action in all fields of disability, by strongly encouraging all possible agencies (including the media) to educate the public to a greater awareness of
  - a) the need for obedience to existing rules for the prevention of accidents;
  - b) the availability of free physical examinations;
  - c) the availability of free vaccinations; and
  - d) health-conscious habits, especially during pregnancy, and

Stresses the need for greater attention to be given in future to the whole field of prevention, including inborn handicaps.

(See also Nairobi Resolution No. 25)

Washington, D.C., 1988

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RISKS

Recalling its former resolution in Vancouver 1976 on Nuclear Pollution and its Statement of Concern in London 1986 about ICW policy in nuclear matters;

Noting that people living far from the source of contamination may be affected without being aware of the existence of dangerous pollution which could be a threat to the health of future human generations;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Calls upon its National Councils of Women:

- 1) to provide better information and education of the community on all forms of pollution;
- 2) to press their governments;
  - a) to include "the fundamentals of environmental health risks and safety" in formal and informal educational programmes from elementary schools upwards;
  - b) to encourage research work on recognition, evaluation and control of environmental health risks;
  - c) to follow the work of the international organisations who study these problems, such as UNEP and UNCHS, WHO, ILO, UNESCO, FAO, and ask their own experts to participate in the work of these organisations and support them, so that internationally accepted standards may be established.

Washington, D.C., 1988

WOMEN, HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Welcoming the participation of women in health activities and in the promotion of health for all, particularly as decision-makers and as providers of primary health care;

Concerned at the adverse effects on women's physical and mental health, and the risks for their children, of unsatisfactory conditions of domestic work or paid employment;

Aware that in some countries the general public does not know enough about the nature of the risks to the health of women of certain practices in everyday life;

Noting with anxiety the prevalence in some countries of adolescent marriages and pregnancies, and the increasing incidence and impact of family violence on women and children;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Calls upon its affiliated Councils to increase their efforts:

- 1) for the protection of women's physical and mental health, particularly as regards the nutrition and hygiene of women, the health of pregnant women and young mothers, and conditions at work;
- 2) to ensure that employers do not make gratuitous use of regulations in these areas to discriminate against the employment of women;
- 3) to provide women with greater opportunities to realise these objectives;
- 4) to use all available informative means to create an awareness of these matters amongst their members.

Washington, D.C., 1988

WOMEN AND REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES

Noting that reproduction has become the object of major technological advances, among which are techniques for genetic screening, in-vitro fertilization, prenatal diagnosis and treatment of infertility;

Aware that there is very little legislation dealing with these techniques despite their profound social and ethical implications;

Concerned that certain women are seeing this technology not as a source of freedom and power but of social and economic exploitation and coercion; and

Concerned that the full and free development of human society may be endangered;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recommends to the National Councils:

- 1) to ensure that legislation is developed in their respective countries to protect women from social and economic exploitation and coercion in the area of advanced reproductive technology.
- 2) to ensure that new technology takes cognisance of stable family life and the rights of the woman and the child;
- 3) to organise seminars and information programmes on the subject to women and reproductive technology.

Washington, D.C., 1988

HIV INFECTION AND AIDS

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Aware that the threatened spread of HIV infection and AIDS could affect all people of the world;

Concerned that people are ignorant about this disease and the means by which it is spread, and this can greatly increase the danger of contracting it;

Noting that neither therapeutic agents nor vaccines are currently available for the treatment and prevention of HIV infection and AIDS;

Considering that public information and education on preventive measures as well as the assurance and use of safe blood and blood products are at this time the only measures available that can limit the further spread of HIV infection and AIDS.

Urges National Councils

- a) to study the problem in view of the risk to the entire human race and in particular for women as mothers;
- b) to ensure that full information regarding HIV infection, AIDS and preventive measures is widely publicised and that women everywhere are made aware of these risks;
- c) to bring pressure to engage a national campaign of their respective countries aimed at halting the spread of this disease; to maintain vigilance and carry out as necessary public health strategies for the prevention and control of AIDS.

Washington, D.C., 1988

DRUGS

Recalling the resolution adopted in Bangkok (1970) on the misuse of the drugs of addiction;

Aware of the very important social hazards that both drug addiction (with its related risk of HIV infection and AIDS) and alcoholism present to the population of the world;

Acknowledging the necessity of collective effort in order to fight these scourges efficiently and the efforts of the United Nations in regard to drug control;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Calls upon its National Councils to:

- 1) organise campaigns for information and prevention particularly among the young;
- 2) exert pressure on local and regional authorities, and on governments, with a view to intensifying their programmes for information and prevention, and for setting up provision for care and rehabilitation;
- 3) insist that responsible authorities cooperate internationally for the strict control of illegal drug trafficking and to provide alternative sources of income for those rural populations who produce the raw materials.

Washington, D.C., 1988

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH PROTECTION IN EMPLOYMENT

Recognising that there is a need to encourage the occupational safety and reproductive health of both men and women workers in public and private sectors of society;

Believing that there is evidence that some employers are using occupational safety legislation to exclude women of child-bearing capacity from certain jobs;

Concerned that practices of plans to protect employees from reproductive hazards must not discriminate on the basis of sex;

Realizing that progress toward equal employment of women is thus being jeopardised as well as reproductive health of all workers;

Convinced that there is a need for the workplace to be designed to protect the fertility and reproductive health of both men and women workers and for strong legislation, research and cooperation amongst interested parties to ensure a safe work environment;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Urges the National Councils:

- 1) to work in their respective countries to ensure that both men and women are protected by strictly enforced regulations in their place of employment from hazards in their reproductive health; and that the employment of women is not unduly prejudiced;
- 2) to participate in programmes of information on the subject of reproductive health of both men and women

## **HOME ECONOMICS**

**1936 Ad Hoc Committee on Home Economics**

**1938 Domestic Economy**

**1947 Home Economics**

HOME ECONOMICS

1936 Ad Hoc Committee on Home Economics  
1938 Domestic Economy  
1947 Home Economics

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TORONTO 1909

Reduction of Postal and Reply Rates

That the ICW do apply to the Bureau of the Universal Postal Union, asking them to reduce the postage, and introduce some simple form for "answer prepaid"; and that every National Council be asked to use their influence with their respective Governments to the same effect.

KRISTIANIA 1920

International Postal Rates

That the ICW urges the International Postal Union, which is to meet in Madrid this autumn, to refrain if possible from raising the postage on letters and postcards, and authorises the President to approach the Union to this effect.

EDINBURGH 1938

Formation of New Standing Committee

The ICW decides to form a Standing Committee on Domestic Economy.

Executive  
BRUSSELS 1946

Social Reforms Affecting Mothers and Housewives

The ICW urges its affiliated Councils to work in their respective countries for social reforms aiming at facilitating the work of mothers and housewives; e.g.

- a) by raising the profession of the domestic worker in public opinion and the standard and conditions of domestic service and by giving legal status to their conditions of work;
- b) by organising professional training in order that domestic helpers obtain that education and proficiency of work which would give satisfaction to both employer and employee;

**Executive  
BRUSSELS 1946**

- c) by giving healthy housing conditions to all as well as a rational household equipment and all modern technical devices to ensure every facility to the housewife;
- d) by establishing creches and nursery schools where young children can be looked after while the mother does her work.

**PHILADELPHIA 1947**

**Free Time for Culture**

The ICW, in considering the increasing material difficulties and household duties with which women in all countries have to contend, desires that a great effort be made to lighten their domestic burdens in order that they may have free time to share the intellectual, spiritual and artistic life of their country.

**Domestic Service**

The ICW urges its affiliated Councils to work in their respective countries for social reforms, aiming at facilitating the work of mothers and housewives, e.g.

- 1) by raising the profession of well-trained and qualified domestic workers in public opinion and the standard and conditions of domestic service by giving legal status to their conditions of work;
- 2) by organising and co-ordinating professional training in order that domestic help can obtain that education and proficiency of work which would give satisfaction to both employer and employee.

**Home Assistants**

The ICW is of opinion that the acute and serious shortage of useful Home Assistants calls for immediate action from the Governments concerned to alleviate this position by establishing a National Home Service Institute or Board, empowered to investigate the whole matter and to plan and organise the best form of education, training, registration and employment conditions for Home Assistants. It also asks that Home Assistants should be available through the appropriate authority at reasonable charges in relation to income and, in particular, free of charge to needy mothers.

Executive  
BRUSSELS 1946

F.A.O. and World Food Council

The ICW, in Conference assembled, considers that with the application of science to agriculture and food production throughout the world and with an equitable distribution of the available supplies coupled with a scheme of building up famine reserves in years of abundance and release in years of security, hunger can be largely eliminated from the face of the earth. It accordingly welcomes the proposal to set up a World Food Council as part of the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the UN, and urges the National Councils of Women to:

- 1) foster the establishment of FAO Committees in those countries that have not as yet set up such;
- 2) impress upon public opinion in their respective countries the stringent need of finding ways and means by which the present condition of world food shortage can be remedied and future catastrophes averted.

The Council emphatically asserts its opinion that world agreement on food problems vital to the existence of mankind may prove to be a most realistic approach to political agreement on World Peace.

Hygenic Production of Milk

In view of the importance of milk for health, and disturbed by the great prevalence of tuberculosis and other milk-borne diseases, the ICW urges its Councils in all countries to work towards:

- 1) a controlled hygenic production and distribution of milk from healthy animals;
- 2) Health education towards that end;
- 3) better distribution of the world's supply of milk in its various forms.

ATHENS 1951

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To study domestic economy in all its aspects and to develop and encourage its teachings; to ensure proper help for housewives by raising the status of domestic workers in public opinion, and the standard and conditions of domestic service; to work for more representation of housewives and experts in domestic economy on all public and private bodies dealing with the home, hygiene, food etc; to stress the need of fuller recognition of the social and economic importance of the housewife; to promote closer understanding between town and country dwellers in connection with production and distribution of food, including standards of purity and cleanliness of food and to study these problems in close cooperation with FAO and national FAO Committees and other organisations; to encourage the formation of Consumers' Associations in all countries in order that the standards of design, quality and finish of all domestic goods may be raised.

Training as Home-makers

In view of the necessity for preparing our young people for their important role as home-makers,

THE ICW urges that Governments provide compulsory courses in home-making for all girls before leaving school, and that appropriate courses be available for boys. It also welcomes all attempts for additional instruction of this kind for adults, eg, courses for housewives, working girls and special home-making courses for engaged couples.

Anxiety Caused by Trend to Cities; Need for Improved Conditions of Living in Rural Areas

The ICW AWARE of the worldwide tendency of rural populations to move into cities, and CONSIDERING the effect of this on family life and agricultural production, REQUESTS National Councils to study the means to remedy this situation and to take the necessary steps with their Governments and their national FAO Committees in order that efficient measures may be taken to combat this disastrous tendency, these measures to include improvements of conditions of life for rural populations, such as more comfort, leisure and other provisions for social welfare.

HELSINKI 1954

Food and Agricultural Organisation

The ICW URGES its National Councils to collaborate efficiently with the vital effort that FAO is making for the improvement of nutrition, domestic economy, rural life and the safeguarding of natural resources, in order to better the lot not only of under-developed countries but also of countries struggling with economic and social problems.

MONTREAL 1957

Nutrition and Home-making

The ICW recommends that training in nutrition and all aspects of home-making for both boys and girls be urged by its member Councils on the education authorities of their respective countries.

ISTANBUL 1960

Safety in Homes

That National Councils of Women take active steps to promote safety at home by suggesting:

- a) improvement in design to make homes and the appliances and products used in them safer;
- b) industry be aware of the need of research from a safety point of view to ascertain dangers of new products and the need to instruct the public of their dangers if misused;
- c) the education of parents and all members of the community in the need for safety and how to use and maintain appliances properly.

Food Production

The ICW, in Conference assembled, CONSCIOUS of the problem of the increasing population with all the attendant needs of greater food production; URGES its affiliated Councils to follow the work of the great international organisations who study these problems, such as FAO, WHO and UNESCO, to give them their entire support and to ask their own experts to participate in the work of these organisations.

ISTANBUL 1960

Freedom from Hunger

The ICW CONVINCED that the cooperation of women is essential for the better utilisation and distribution of national resources, URGES all its National Councils and their affiliated associations to work for the success of the FAO world campaign "Freedom from Hunger", hoping that a great effort of intelligence and goodwill may eradicate this evil which is unworthy of our times.

Warning Labelling

WHEREAS it has been proven that deaths have been caused in Canada by lack of information of the poisonous qualities of carbon tetrachloride, and

WHEREAS although this product purchase in apothecary shops is labelled "poison", it may be purchased in bulk quantity in unlabelled glass containers in other establishments,

THE ICW URGES its affiliated Councils to inquire about the condition of sale of carbon tetrachloride in their respective countries, as to informative and warning labelling and unbreakable containers and also all other poisonous and dangerous products used in the home.

WASHINGTON 1963

Freedom from Hunger Campaign

The ICW, REALISING that a primary task of this generation is to create the basic conditions in which peace and progress will flourish, and REALISING that such conditions do not exist in countries in which masses of people are hungry and/or malnourished, RE-AFFIRMS its support of the Freedom from Hunger Campaign and resolves to mobilise its resources for awakening public opinion and for stimulating appropriate action to combat hunger and malnutrition throughout the world.

BANGKOK 1970

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To study all aspects of home economics; to encourage education in home economics for both sexes and for all ages at all levels; to initiate programmes of work and the dissemination of information on home economics in the widest possible fields.

Nairobi, 1979

THE ROLE OF NATIONAL COUNCILS IN THE DEVELOPMENT  
OF FOOD AND NUTRITION POLICIES AND PLANS

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Convinced that malnutrition is one of the major impediments in attaining the goal of health for all by the year 2000, and that new approaches based on clearly defined priorities and maximum utilisation of local resources are needed for a more effective action to combat malnutrition;

Noting with concern the continuing decline in breast-feeding as the safest and most appropriate way to feed infants, and that after weaning, feeding should be done with locally available and acceptable foods;

Recommends that National Councils give high priority to stimulating multi-sectoral coordination of nutrition policies and programmes and to preventing malnutrition in pregnant and lactating women, infants and young children by:

1. Supporting and promoting breast-feeding by educational activities among the general public;
2. Requesting their governments to introduce legislative and social action to facilitate breast-feeding by working mothers;
3. Increasing their participation in inculcating the public with appropriate weaning practices and the feeding of young children after weaning with the maximum utilisation of locally available and acceptable foods;

Expresses its readiness to coordinate and cooperate with WHO and other UN Agencies and with other non-governmental organisations for the development and implementation of educational nutritional programmes and nutrition policies.

Nairobi, 1979

CONSUMER PUBLICITY AND THE CHILD

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Observing the harmful effects which advertisements of food and other products may have on children,

Urges National Councils to consult with each other in order to achieve:

- a) cooperation between professional workers and family organisations with regard to the children toward whom such publicity is directed;
- b) cooperation between educators and parents, all of whom bear some responsibility with regard to future consumer habits of young people.

Seoul, 1982

WOMEN AS PRODUCERS OF FOOD IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recognising the important traditional role of women as producers of food in rural areas in developing countries;

Deeply concerned that with the development of modern technology there is a tendency to underestimate the importance of women in development assistance programmes;

Urges affiliated National Councils in developing countries to press their governments to strengthen women's position as food producers by:

- 1) appointing women to positions of influence in all national policy-making bodies for food production in the agricultural sector;
- 2) ensuring that women obtain adequate remuneration and benefits, access to finance and education, training and retraining within the agricultural sector for food production;
- 3) including in statistics and in national budgets agricultural production by women;

Urges further that affiliated National Councils in donor countries bring pressure to bear on their governments to give financial support to development projects within the agricultural sector that especially favour women, and to support the Voluntary Fund for the Decade of Women, and

Requests the relevant UN Agencies to promote projects of benefit to women in their programme planning.

Washington, D.C., 1988

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Noting that industry produces an inexhaustible variety of commodities which makes it difficult for consumers to make informed choices, and that in the promotion of sales of products their values may be exaggerated, distorted or misleading to the consumer;

Noting further that countries without adequate consumer protection legislation or enforcement are sometimes targeted for sales of products banned elsewhere as harmful to health or safety;

Recalling the ICW resolution on "Consumer Publicity and the Child" adopted in Nairobi in 1979, and the adoption by consensus of the General Assembly of the UN Guidelines on Consumer Protection in 1983 and the establishment of the UN Consolidated List of Banned and Hazardous Products in 1982;

Recognising that women are a key element in the determination of the consumption patterns of their families;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recommends that all National Councils

- 1) urge their governments to adopt adequate consumer protection laws and measures where these are lacking and, in all cases, to enforce their implementation, by establishing the necessary infrastructure so that all sectors, particularly the disadvantaged, the rural and the most vulnerable elements in the population may be benefited;
- 2) request their governments to include consumer education in both formal and non-formal education programmes;
- 3) undertake to ensure that the media include consumer information and education in their programming, bearing in mind the cultural traditions of the people concerned;
- 4) develop action programmes to create public awareness of consumers' rights and to enable people, particularly women, to become discriminating and informed consumers;
- 5) ensure that women are adequately represented on the consumer bodies.

Washington, D.C., 1988

IRRADIATION OF FOODS

Aware that there is an increasing use of irradiated foods;

Realising that some logos already in use as distinctive identification marks on all pre-packed or bulk containers of irradiated foods fail to suggest or imply any association with the irradiation process;

Believing that the means to distinguish, and the freedom to choose between irradiated and non-irradiated foods should be available to consumers of all nations;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

1) Recommends to its National Councils to urge their respective governments:

a) to be aware of and to follow closely any information on food irradiation;

b) to make mandatory the clear labelling of all foods treated with radiation, either produced in the country or imported into the country, by use of the word "irradiation", with the mention of the amount of irradiation;

and

2) Asks international authorities to produce a distinct and recognisable logo which symbolises irradiation of foods

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
AND PEACE**

**1899 Peace and International Arbitration**

**1947 Peace and International Relations**

**1957 International Relations and Peace**

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND PEACE

1899 Peace and International Arbitration  
1947 Peace and International Relations  
1957 International Relations and Peace

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LONDON 1899

International Arbitration

That the ICW do take steps in every country to further and advance by every means in its power the movement towards international arbitration.

BERLIN 1904

Agreed by Council - Arising From the Report of the Peace and Arbitration Committee

That a list of literature on peace, approved by the Committee, be printed and sent out to National Councils.

That each National Council be recommended to instruct its own sub-committee on Peace to investigate the histories that are being taught in the schools of its own country, and to endeavour to secure histories which shall expunge or reduce those passages which inculcate hatred and contempt for other peoples, and which make for the stimulation of arrogance instead of true patriotism.

That this Council endorse the adoption of the Peace Flag as originally presented, and as adopted by the Councils of the United States and Canada, but simply use the three colours, as there has been a very considerable propaganda for peace made under these colours already.

That this Council, as such, send a greeting to the Congress to be assembled in Boston, and ask for its adoption of the colours of the International Council as a universale symbol of peace and arbitration.

TORONTO 1909

Bias in School Text-books and Reading Books - Arising from the Report of the Peace and Arbitration Committee

The ICW urges all National Councils to promote the use of such text-books and reading books in schools as will present historical facts with the least possible bias, and to endeavour to arouse a living interest in the modern methods of peaceably settling international difficulties.

TORONTO 1909

Peaceful Settlement of Differences

That we, the delegates of the ICW, do re-affirm at this Quinquennial Session of 1909, our allegiance to the principles of peaceful and just settlement of all differences between individuals and nations, and hereby make an earnest appeal to all women of every land to aid in realising this ideal in such forms of effort and such sequence of action as their local conditions make practicable.

For the maintenance and extension of these principles the ICW RECOMMENDS the following methods of work:

- a) that each National Council seek representation in national and international Congresses for Peace held within its own country, it always being understood that work undertaken by members of any National Council in any country shall be in strict conformathe with the instruction and wishes of the National Council of that country;
- b) inasmuch as it will be determined in 1913 what subjects will be discussed at the Third Hague Conference in 1915, upon which stupendous interests affecting the whole world depend, and inasmuch as the creation of substitutes for war and armaments is most inadequately understood, the ICW desires to urge specific study of these questions, and empowers the Standing Committee on Peace and Arbitration to ask each National Council to supply an outline of study with brief bibliography in its own language, and to have it widely published;
- c) the ICW recommends the National Councils to promote the observance of annual peace days by schools, universities and churches, and holding of the special Assemblies and Festivals, in the interest of specific methods of settlement of differences.

ROME 1914

International Mediation

The ICW supports warmly the effective application of the resolutions passed at The Hague Conferences for the peaceful settlement of international conflicts and declares its sympathetic desire for the conclusion of treaties through which the Governments pledge themselves in the case of disputes of every kind to enter into negotiations for mediation.

KRISTIANIA 1920

League of Nations: Endorsement of Principle

e ICW strongly endorse the principle of the rights of all nations and of a League of Nations, to prevent further strife and secure the well-being of the world.

Satisfaction Regarding Formation of a League of Nations as Integral Part of Peace Treaty, and Importance of Including All Self-Governing States as Soon as Possible

That this ICW, comprising delegates from 28 National Councils of Women, desires to place on record its high satisfaction that a League of Nations for the prevention of war and the submission of international disputes to arbitration has been created as an integral part of the Peace Treaty of Versailles, and considers that it is of the first importance for the settlement of political and economic questions and for the establishment of international justice that the membership of the League should, as rapidly as possible, be extended to include all fully self-governing States.

Importance of Appointment of Women as Members of the Assembly and of the Commissions of the League of Nations as well as to the Position of Advisers and Consultants

Seeing that all positions within the League of Nations, or in connection with it, are proclaimed open to women equally with men, and the whole-hearted cooperation of men and women is required in international work, this ICW urges all States Members of the League:

1. to send forward a woman as one of the three delegates to the First Assembly of the League in November 1920;
2. to select suitable women as well as men to assist the delegates in the advisory and consultative capacities designated under the League;
3. to recommend to the First Assembly that in the case of the International Health Organisation to be established under the League, and any other Commissions or Organisations formed to deal with the concerns of men and women and the well-being of the family, the States Members shall appoint at least two delegates, one of whom shall be a woman.

KRISTIANIA 1920

ICW Deputation to League of Nations Commission  
of Peace Conference in Paris

That the ICW endorse the resolutions presented to the League of Nations Commission of the Peace Conference on 10th April 1919 by a joint deputation from the ICW and the Conference of the Women Suffragists of the Allied Countries and of the United States of America, and support further efforts to realise in the most effective way the provisions of these resolutions.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. That women should be equally eligible with men to the body of delegates, the Executive Council of the Permanent Secretariat and the League of Nations, and should be appointed to all the permanent Commissions in the same terms as men.
2. (a) That the sale of women and children be suppressed.  
(b) That the principle of women's liberty to dispose of herself in marriage be respected and applied.  
(c) That the traffic in women, girls and children of both sexes and its corollary, licensed houses of ill-fame, be suppressed.
3. (a) That the principle of women's suffrage be recognised by the Peace Conference and the League of Nations in order that it may be applied throughout the world as soon as the civilisation and the democratic development of each State may permit.  
(b) That in any referendum which may be taken to decide the nationality of a country, women shall, equally with men, be consulted as to the fate of their country.
4. That provision be made in the Covenant of the League of Nations for an International Bureau of Education.
5. That provision be made in the Covenant of the League of Nations for an International Bureau of Hygiene.

KRISTIANIA 1920

6. The members of the ICW now in Paris, having been called on to give their opinion on the problem of how to promote peace through the League of Nations, express their regret that hitherto women have been excluded from all opportunity of obtaining accurate information regarding events leading up to war, and from all power of intervention, although exposed to the greatest share of suffering as the results of war: they desire, as mothers, wives and citizens, to express their horror of war, and petition the Plenipotentiaries at the Peace Conference to take such steps as will enable the League of Nations to be in a position to prevent in future fratricidal wars and destruction of so many valuable lives.

Appreciation to Lady Aberdeen and Her Colleagues

That the members of the ICW express to Lady Aberdeen their appreciation of her efforts and of those of her colleague ICW officers, and of the allied group of women associated with them in Paris in the spring of 1919, in the interest of the welfare of women and children in all parts of the world; and, further, they record their satisfaction that these efforts met with such a satisfying measure of support from the members of the official Peace Conference.

Consideration of National Peculiarities in International Legislation and Regulations

That the ICW urges the League of Nations to give full consideration to national peculiarities, whether these be derived from educational, social or geographical conditions, so as to prevent valuable national individuality in ethics, manners and customs from being interfered with.

Executive  
THE HAGUE 1922

Peace Propaganda

That the National Councils of Women be urged to continue an active propaganda in their respective countries that shall keep before their people a broad outlook over the complicated problems in the existing world relations, shall explain the various aspects as affecting their own and other countries, and shall emphasise the all-important power of public opinion within each country and the responsibility of the people themselves for the open conduct of the international affairs and the maintenance of a peace policy by their Governments.

Executive  
THE HAGUE 1922

Peace and Arbitration Committee

That the Councils be asked to urge the appointment of women of international mind along with men as delegates, alternate delegates and technical advisers to the Assembly of the League of Nations, and also to the Commissions and Conferences.

That the Convener be asked to draw up a series of questions based on the economic, financial, moral and social aspects of disarmament and to circulate these amongst the members of her Committee.

To ask in each country that there should be a fixed day for the celebration of International Peace, the 18th day of May being favoured as the most suitable celebration day, commemorating the opening of the first Peace Conference at the Hague.

WASHINGTON 1925

Women and the League of Nations

1. Joint Committee for the Appointment of Women to the League of Nations

That this International Council shall invite other international women's organisations to cooperate in forming an International Standing Committee of Women, whose object shall be to work unitedly for the appointment of suitable women on Commissions or other bodies in the League of Nations where women's opinions should be represented.

2. Women and the Slavery Commission of the League of Nations

The ICW records its regret at the omission of women from the Commission appointed under the League of Nations to inquire into the whole question of slavery, and in view of the many interests of womanhood that are involved, urges upon the Council of the League the immediate addition of a woman member.

3. Women on league of Nations Commission

In the event of any special department or Commission being appointed under the League of Nations on Emigration and Immigration, the ICW shall urge the appointment of a woman member to represent women's international organisations.

WASHINGTON 1925

4. International Labour Conference

The ICW recommends National Councils to urge the appointment of women delegates to the International Labour Conference, and the appointment of women on the governing body of the Conference.

5. Liaison Officers and the League of Nations

That with the view of bringing the ICW into close touch with the different activities of the League of Nations, the Quinquennial Council Meeting shall consider the desirability of appointing Liaison Officers to the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation at Paris and Rome, and to any other new institution where collaboration would be suitable.

6. Liaison Committee Between the ICW and the League of Nations

That the special Sub-Committee of the Standing Committee on Trades & Professions, appointed to act as a Liaison Committee between that Committee and the League of Nations and the International Labour Office at Geneva, shall have its scope of work enlarge, and serve as a Liaison Committee of the ICW directly responsible to the Executive Committee.

7. Nationality of Married Women

The ICW expresses its satisfaction that the Commission appointed by the League of Nations to consider the codification of International Law has decided to study the question of the nationality of married women. The ICW desires that one or more women lawyers be appointed to the Committee so that women's interests will be represented. That the Council recommend names of suitable women to be added to the Commission.

Study of the Protocol for the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes

The ICW draws the attention of its members to the spirit of the Protocol for the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes drafted by the Fifth Assembly of the League of Nations, and recommends careful study before the meeting of the Sixth Assembly, when the discussion on the Protocol will be renewed.

Minorities

The ICW expresses the hope that in the countries where minorities exist, the women of those countries will endeavour to use all their influence to bring about a good understanding between their respective Governments and the minorities living in their midst.

WASHINGTON 1925

European Reconstruction

The ICW welcomes the reconstruction schemes that are being put into effect by the League of Nations, and urges that similar schemes be put in force in countries needing and desiring such help. It hopes that these measures will lead to peace and prosperity for all, and especially that under them the interests of children will be safeguarded.

Court of International Justice

The ICW requests members of the National Councils to urge their respective Governments to accept, if they have not already done so, the optional clause in the Statute for the Court of International Justice, declaring that they are prepared to accept the jurisdiction of the Court for all disputes that may come within the scope of juridical decision.

Disarmament

The ICW, while recognising that general disarmament is the ideal to be aimed at, considers that it might be preceded by a gradual simultaneous disarmament under effective control to be agreed upon by the respective Governments and the League of Nations. They recognise that nations will not agree to disarm until they feel some sense of security. This Council believes that the way to establish peaceful relations among nations would be through a policy that regards neighbouring peoples as natural friends and not as possible enemies.

National Councils and the League of Nations

The ICW hears with satisfaction of the efforts that many of the National Councils are making to ensure the success of the League of Nations. The ICW urges its constituent members to make every effort to promote the highest ideals of the League, and to use all their influence to procure the speedy inclusion of all nations.

Executive  
GENEVA 1927

Cooperation with the International Committee of Intellectual Co-operation

The ICW, recognising the great importance of all intellectual and spiritual contacts in binding together the nations of the world and promoting mutual understanding, pledges itself, working through the National Councils, to spread the knowledge of, and stimulate interest in, the work of the International Committee of Intellectual Co-operation of the League of Nations, and stands ready to cooperate in any way with that Committee.

Executive  
GENEVA 1927

Study of Regulations for Military Service

That in view of the growing demand for some measure of simultaneous general disarmament, the members of the Peace and Arbitration Committee should study and report on the existing regulations for military service in their countries.

The Appointment of Women to the Assembly of the League of Nations and the International Labour Conference

Although it is expressly stated in Article VII of the Covenant that all positions under the League of Nations are equally open to men and women, yet up to the present only seven countries have included women in their delegations to the Assembly of the League and then only as substitute delegates, the Executive Committee therefore draws the attention of all National Councils to the letter addressed to the Governments in September 1926, and urges them to press upon their Governments the necessity of including a woman in their delegation to the forthcoming Assembly of the League, and also to work for the appointment of women as delegates or advisors to the Conference of the International Labour Office.

All-in Arbitration

The ICW re-affirms the resolution passed at the Washington Quinquennial Council Meeting, emphasising the importance of the signature and ratification by all Governments of the Optional Clause; it urges its members to work for a policy of "All-in" Arbitration and draws their attention to the following resolution recently passed by the International Federation of League of Nations Associations, recommending its use for purposes of propaganda.

"The eleventh Plenary Session:

(a) CONSIDERING the large number of arbitration and conciliation conventions concluded in recent years;  
CONSIDERING the great progress that would be effected by the standardisation of these covenants in the form of a general treaty;  
REQUESTS the League of Nations to study the possibility of framing a general conciliation treaty open to all States;  
CALLS on all societies to urge their Governments to agree to submit all justiciable disputes not otherwise settled to the Permanent Court of International Justice or to an arbitral tribunal.

Executive  
GENEVA 1927

(b) CONSIDERING that Articles XII and XV of the Covenant still leave loophole for war;  
RE-AFFIRMING the decision of the Xth Assembly that the next Assembly of the League of Nations ought immediately to close this loophole by declaring a war of aggression to be an international crime;  
CONSIDERING that such a provision logically implies a procedure for the final settlement of international disputes;  
INVITES States Members of the League of Nations to frame and bring into immediate operation a general international treaty involving the prohibition of all aggressive war, the determination of the aggressor and the peaceful and final settlement of all disputes."

Resolutions of the International Economic Conference

That the Executive Committee of the ICW, being convinced that the causes of war and national antagonism are as often economic as political, cordially welcomes the endeavours made by the League of Nations by the convocation of the International Economic Conference of 1927 and through the work of its own permanent Committee, to ensure the lowering of tariff barriers and the removal of other impediments to international commerce, and desire to place on record its recognition of the value of Resolution "C" of the Economic Conference, which states that:-

"The Conference recognises that the reception and successful application of the principles stated in the Resolutions of the Conference depend, not only upon the goodwill of Governments and Administrations, but upon an informed and supporting public opinion throughout the world, and for this purpose would welcome, in the economic as in the other fields, the development of closer international cooperation by scientific and educational institutions, as well as the help of the Press and other agencies of importance, for the information and enlightenment of the public."

The Executive Committee of the ICW in welcoming the Resolutions of the Economic Conference urges the Council of the League of Nations to give effect to these Resolutions by placing them on the Agenda for the next Assembly.

Executive  
GENEVA 1927

Reduction of Armaments

The ICW, while deplored the lack of any practical scheme resulting from the Preparatory Disarmament Commission, undertakes to do all in its power to arouse interest and spread information on the proposals that have already been made in the direction of reduction of armaments. They believe that for economic, political and humanitarian reasons, a definite disarmament policy must be speedily evolved, and they urge their members to do their part toward creating an enlightened public opinion on this supremely important matter, with the earnest hope that some encouraging progress may be made at a future conference.

Training of Children in International Goodwill

(See Vienna 1930)

This long resolution, passed at Geneva by the Executive Committee, was re-presented and passed again at the following Quinquennial Meeting held in Vienna in 1930. By that time other international organisations had passed the Declaration, thus further names were added in Vienna to the list given in the first paragraph - otherwise the resolution was the same.

Executive  
LONDON 1929

Proposed Incorporation of the World Union of Women  
for International Concord with the ICW Standing  
Committee on Peace and Arbitration

That the request of the World Union of Women for International Concord, whereby it is proposed that the fourteen points of the World Union should be adopted by the ICW Committee on Peace and Arbitration and that the members of the World Union should be accepted as individual members of that Committee, be circulated in detail to the members of the Executive Committee and the Peace Committee of the ICW, and be discussed by those Committees at their meetings in Vienna next year.

Executive  
LONDON 1929

Reduction of Armaments

The ICW welcomes warmly the agreement reached at the London Naval Conference between the three principal Naval Powers for the limitation of their fleets, but regrets that the progress of peace has not been more general, and expresses the hope that new agreements will soon be reached so that a general limitation of naval armaments will be attained as rapidly as possible.

IT URGES that the work of the Preparatory Disarmament Commission, facilitated by the agreement reached in London, be carried forward with all practicable speed, with a view to the summoning of a general disarmament conference for the adoption of a treaty providing for the general limitation of all armaments, land, sea and air.

IT BELIEVES that for political, economic and humanitarian reasons a definite disarmament policy must be speedily evolved as laid down by the League Covenant and also considers it essential that the Convention of the Economic Committee and of the Committee for concerted economic action should be speedily ratified by the States Members of the League.

THE ICW URGES its component National Councils and the women of the whole world to carry out a systematic propaganda in favour of the policy of peace in accord with the Covenant of the League of Nations.

International Council Peace Day

The ICW is in favour of setting apart a day on which National Councils may arrange in their respective countries public meetings for the purpose of emphasising the world-wide desire for peace.

Arbitration and the Briand-Kellogg Pact

The ICW expresses its deep satisfaction at the ratification of the Optional Clause by twenty-seven States and its impending ratification by several others. While welcoming these extensive undertakings for the submission of all legal disputes between States to decision by recognised tribunal, it urges the importance of the necessity for a complete mechanism of peaceful settlement to give effect to the Briand-Kellogg Pact and therefore supports the amendments of the Covenant that are to be submitted to the Eleventh Assembly of the League of Nations by the Committee of Jurists appointed for that purpose. The Council also draws attention particularly to the general Act of Arbitration and Conciliation framed by the League of Nations Assembly in 1928, as providing a suitable instrument for this purpose.

International Conventions

The ICW requests National Councils to study the Conventions of the League of Nations and of the International Labour Office suitable to their respective countries and to aid in their ratification and application, and it urges the National Councils to bring pressure to bear on their respective Governments to carry out loyally in word and action Conventions they have signed.

VIENNA 1930

Women Experts on Preparatory Commissions

The ICW asks its National Councils to make a strong appeal to the Governments of their respective countries in favour of women experts being called to participate in the work of preparatory commissions of the League of Nations and invites more especially, especially the women delegates, to the League of Nations Assembly to bring this question forward.

The Appointment of Women to the Assembly of the League of Nations and the International Labour Conferences

As it is expressly stated in Article VII of the Covenant that all positions under the League of Nations are equally open to men and women, the ICW urges all National Councils to press upon their Governments the necessity of including a woman in their delegation to the forthcoming Assembly of the League, and also to work for the appointment of women as delegates or advisers to the Conferences of the International Labour Office.

Liaison Committee Between the ICW and the League of Nations and the International Labour Office

As the Liaison Committee of the ICW was not formed to undertake independent action but to facilitate the carrying out of the resolutions already passed, the Conveners should always be kept informed of questions concerning the work of their Committees.

Promotion of International Trade

That the ICW, recognising the inter-dependence of the economic lives of the nations of the world, believes that progressive international economic disarmament, i.e. the gradual removal or reduction of tariff barriers by nations, and all prohibitions and discriminations, would steadily increase international trade and intercourse, and is essential for the future peace and prosperity of the world.

Co-operation with the International Committee of Intellectual Co-operation

(Resolution adopted by the Geneva Executive Committee Meeting 1927 repeated.)

Training of Children in International Goodwill

The ICW hereby expresses its approval of the following Declaration, drawn up by the Liaison Committee of the major international organisations working among young people under the auspices of the Institute of Intellectual Co-operation in Paris, the principal passages of which were presented to the Assembly of the League of Nations and passed by the Plenary Meetings of the World's Young

VIENNA 1930

Women's Christian Association, International Bureau of Education, International Federation of League of Nations Societies, International University Federation for the League of Nations, the Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, International Association of Primary Teachers, International Association of Secondary Teachers, International Federation of University Women, International Save the Children Fund, the Catholic Union for International Studies and the World Union of Jewish Youth:-

"To enable the child to strike root in its natural setting of family and homeland remains today, as in the past, the first principle of all sound education.

That is indeed a permanent necessity; but it is perhaps more than ever urgent on the morrow of the great calamity which has shaken the whole of mankind, broken down so many established settings, and left so many sources of disturbance in men's spirits as well as in the material world.

Alike for its own balance and for the general well-being, the child, who is the citizen of tomorrow, should be brought to the idea of duty and should learn that it will have to fulfill actively all its obligations to its family, to its companions, to its village, town or city, and to its country. At the same time the instruction given to children should not stop there. They should be taught that this essential solidarity neither can, nor should, be confined within national boundaries; for there exists between peoples as between the various members of any one society a community of rights and duties as well as an actual and ever-increasing inter-dependence.

Children should learn especially that civilisation is the common work of all people, including those who in the course of centuries have been the most bitter enemies; and that notwithstanding inevitable differences it is out of the fact of this common heritage and the desire to preserve and to develop it, that the League of Nations was born.

Therefore in the home, and from the earliest days in which they receive their education together, alike in the school and in the other groups in which the work of the school is continued, children should be taught courtesy to strangers and inspired with a curiosity to know their habits and to understand their language and their thought.

To illustrate, in this spirit, the teaching of geography and history, of literature, of science and the arts, the teacher should be able to find invaluable help in books, pictures, lantern-slides, cinematograph films and so forth.

VIENNA 1930

Ways and means should be studied with a view to securing the utmost effect from these several instruments of instruction and to adapting them to the changing needs of primary and secondary education.

Similarly, travel and periods of study in foreign lands, athletic gatherings, international correspondence among school children, (including exchange of letters, drawings, handicrafts, etc.) should be encouraged so as to put the young people of each country in the most direct contact possible with those of other countries.

International exchange of such kinds, if supplemented and continued into the higher branches of education and carried out also in every other kind of training, by means of contact between pupils, apprentices, students and teachers, will have the effect of leading young people into habits of intellectual co-operation and thus supporting the League of Nations.

In thus paving the way for mutual knowledge and mutual understanding between peoples, education (in the home, in the school, and in continuation courses) and training (literary, scientific, technical and professional) will effectively help the organisation of peace."

Executive  
STOCKHOLM 1933

Economic Recovery

The ICW, HAVING CONSIDERED the extreme gravity of the financial and economic situation throughout the world; BEING CONVINCED that economic recovery can only be promoted on the basis of prompt and courageous international cooperation; SHARING the view expressed by the preparatory Committee of Experts for the World Economic Conference that the failure of this Conference to draft a treaty of economic peace will threaten a world-wide adoption of ideas of national self-sufficiency which would involve destruction of the present social system; URGES the representatives of the Governments assembled in conference in London to use their utmost efforts towards the removal of restrictions on international trade and intercourse, recognizing that the necessary programme of economic disarmament involves the drastic modification of national economic policies.

PARIS 1934

Gran Chaco Conflict

The ICW cordially welcomes the recommendation sent in May by the Council of the League of Nations to the States Members of the League, urging them not to supply arms to Bolivia and Paraguay, since arms imported from abroad help to make war in the Gran Chaco more deadly. The ICW hopes that the Governments will adopt this as a precedent and that their action will result in still further reducing the international traffic in arms throughout the world.

Manufacture and Trade in Arms

The ICW welcomes the proposals for the drastic control of the manufacture and trade in arms recently adopted by the Committee for the regulation of the Trade in, and Manufacture of, Arms and Implements of War of the Disarmament Conference. It urges the National Councils to work for the acceptance of these proposals by their respective Governments, so that they may be included in a general Disarmament Convention, the conclusion of which is indispensable if the race in armaments is to be stopped.

Education of the Rising Generation in a Spirit of Conciliation

In this critical time when the mentality of the young generation is influenced by difficult conditions of life and by the serious conflicts between and within the nations, it is of the greatest importance that the intellectual and physical training (education) of young people in the home and educational institutions be conducted in a spirit of willing self-sacrifice to an ideal of justice, of self-respect, and of understanding between races, nations and classes.

The ICW therefore emphasises the duty of redoubling the efforts in this direction as recommended by the ICW since 1909; efforts encouraged by the Committee on Moral Disarmament appointed by the Disarmament Conference, which have always been powerfully supported by the International Committee for Intellectual Co-operation since its foundation, as well as by the Institutes of Paris and Rome.

Text of the Recommendation Addressed by the ICW to the President of the Committee of Intellectual Co-operation

The meeting of the ICW which has taken place in Paris, from July 2nd to 10th, has in the course of its deliberations stressed the paramount importance which the women of all countries attach to the problem of moral disarmament.

The meeting has studied with profound interest the important work already achieved by the Committee of Moral Disarmament of the Disarmament Conference and has given expression to its sincere

PARIS 1934

wish that the efforts of the Disarmament Conference may bring about an International Convention for the Reduction of Armaments that would facilitate moral disarmament in all countries.

The Congress sees in the problem of moral disarmament, which is the very foundation of peace, a matter of so overwhelming importance that it urges the Commission of Intellectual Co-operation, the efforts of which have proved so valuable, to see that the question of moral disarmament is being put on the agenda of the next League of Nations Assembly which opens on September 10th 1934.

General Disarmament

The ICW, without wishing in this resolution to touch upon all the technical aspects of the problems of disarmament, desires to emphasise the special importance of certain points on which the various National Councils can usefully take action at once.

- 1) The ICW, convinced that it is impossible and illogical to dream of humanising war, feels nevertheless that it must emphasise the particularly revolting nature of aerial, chemical and bacteriological warfare, and at the same time the utter uselessness of the suggested measures of protection so far proposed.
- 2) The ICW regards as indispensable as a first step in aerial disarmament:
  - a) the prohibition of aerial bombardment;
  - b) the suppression of bombing planes;
  - c) the setting up of an international control of civil aviation, to prevent its use for military purposes.
- 3) The ICW notes with much satisfaction the resolution unanimously adopted on June 11th, 1934, by the General Commission of the Disarmament Conference approving the principle of publicity for an expenditure on national defence, thus making it subject to the influence of public opinion.
- 4) The ICW considers that the statesmen of the world will be responsible for any race in armaments which would inevitably lead the world to war.

DUBROVNIK 1936

Establishment of an Effective Peace Settlement  
by Re-enforcement of the League of Nations

The ICW re-affirms its whole hearted opposition to war, and its unswerving faith in the necessity for international collaboration for the promotion of peace and the common welfare of all nations. The ICW believes that the present situation must be utilised to establish an effective peace settlement, by a re-enforcement of the League of Nations, based on the principle of the representation of all nations each having equality of rights and responsibilities under the Covenant of the League, interpreted in the light of recent events.

The ICW further believes that the essential elements in such a settlement are:

- a) the redress of grievances, national, economic and political, by pacific means, and the development of the economic and other co-operative services of the League of Nations;
- b) the drastic reduction and limitation of armaments by international agreement;
- c) united responsibility for collective action to prevent a breach of the common peace or a disregard of disarmament obligations;
- d) restoration of the sanctity of Treaties.

The ICW urges the Governments forthwith to organise the necessary international discussions to achieve these ends.

Poison Gas

The ICW welcomes with satisfaction the protests voiced by the Medical profession in various countries on the use of poison gas in warfare as degrading and inhuman, causing untold suffering both mental and physical, and calls upon the Governments of all countries to prohibit its use according to the Convention of the League of Nations.

Strengthening of International Organisation

The ICW, appreciating all difficulties in the way of peace, urges the National Councils to ask their respective Governments to support all measures to strengthen international organisation and to prevent private interests from interfering with the common interest, notably in all that concerns the manufacture, sale and exportation of arms.

DUBROVNIK 1936

Upholding of the Covenant of the League of Nations

The ICW, realising that only by international agreement and friendship can war be averted and civilisation saved, begs its affiliated National Councils to urge their respective Governments to uphold by every means in their power the Covenant of the League of Nations.

Distribution of Raw Materials

The ICW, recognising that the development of peaceful relations between nations requires an early attempt to deal with the economic problems bearing upon access to raw materials and markets so as to provide a more equitable distribution of the world's resources,

- 1) urges the League of Nations to set up the necessary preliminary investigations as a basis for renewed international discussions of these questions;
- 2) recommends the National Councils to take all possible steps to encourage the official and unofficial consideration of these policies in their individual countries, and to secure the support of their Governments for effective international action.

World Peace

Convinced that the League of Nations must be supported by enlightened public opinion, the ICW requests its National Councils to do their utmost to maintain their confidence in the League of Nations in order to increase its influence and its power.

EDINBURGH 1938

Collaboration Between the Nations in Favor of Peace

The ICW

- 1) CONSIDERING the increasing gravity of world affairs, wishes to re-affirm its wholehearted opposition to war and its unwavering faith in the necessity for international collaboration with a view to the peaceful solution of the problems of the present hour;
- 2) CONSIDERING that armed conflicts, in whatever section of the world they may break out, constitute a threat to the well-being of every nations;

EDINBURG 1938

- 3) CONSIDERING that modern warfare involves directly the whole population of a country and that each armed conflict is more savage and more barbarous than its predecessor, causing immeasurable suffering, even to non-combatants;
- 4) CONSIDERING that in all domains - economic, financial, political and moral - interdependence exists between the nations however they may differ as to regime or government, and that these differences should not prevent a common action in the interests of peace;
- 5) CONSIDERING that the sanctity of international obligations is the most effective safeguard of collective security and that international laws should be observed, improved and strengthened;
- 6) CONSIDERING that modification of existing treaties, when necessary, should be accomplished through pacific means;
- 7) CONSIDERING that wars are often due to economic causes, which, to an uninformed public, appear impossible of solution except by war, we should endeavour to promote economic education among both adults and young people, and should also make energetic efforts to obtain economic justice between nations;
- 8) CONSIDERING that armaments' race constitutes for the world a terrific financial burden and that there will be no real and lasting peace without limitation and reduction of armaments;

the ICW

- 9) APPEALS to the vigilance of Governments, urging them to do whatever may be necessary to restore confidence in the League of Nations and international engagements;
- 10) HAS CONFIDENCE in its affiliated Councils which, in their respective countries, represent women of difference shades of public opinion and begs them to support their Governments in the accomplishment of their duty towards the cause of peace and international solidarity;

EDINBURGH 1938

11) **APPEALS** to women of all countries not to lose their vision and courage but to exert their individual and collective influence on behalf of the forces which make for peace, justice and harmony among nations, and so prevent civilisation from falling into political, economic and moral chaos.

Persecution of Persons on Account of Their Race,  
Religion or Political Views

The ICW, representing 40 million women of all the world, wishes to express its sorrow and indignation with regard to the treatment of all those who are persecuted on account of their race, religion or political views in various countries. This persecution is contrary to all principles of humanity and to human dignity, and has a brutalising influence on the rising generation.

Intellectual Co-operation Organisation of  
the League of Nations

In view of the importance of the development of international efforts for safeguarding moral values in the field of intellectual co-operation,

the ICW

**NOTING** with satisfaction the resolution adopted by the Assembly of the League of Nations on September 30th, 1937 which recommends to all governments a draft International Act which aims at providing new means of action for the Intellectual Co-operation Organisation of the League of Nations, invites its affiliated Councils to approach their respective Governments without delay so that they may give a favourable answer to the International Act which has been submitted to them in conformity with the Assembly's resolution of September 30th, 1937.

Abolition of Air Bombing

The ICW welcomes the efforts of certain Governments to re-open the discussion of the question of the bombing of civil populations from the air and asks National Councils to urge their respective Governments to take immediate steps to bring about the conclusion of an agreement to abolish all air bombing.

Executive  
BRUSSELS 1946

Declaration

The Executive Committee of the ICW, meeting in Brussels, June 4th/7th 1946, protests once more energetically against war as a means of settling international conflicts.

IT CONDEMS the crimes committed against humanity and the dignity of the individual in the unsettled international conditions before, during and after the war, and looks forward ardently to the restoration of a just and durable peace.

IT WILL SUPPORT with all its influence international organisations created or to be created for the establishment and maintenance of peace.

IT DEMANDS a larger and more active participation of qualified women in Governments and international organisations.

IT RECALLS once more its principle of "equal capacity, equal responsibility and equal pay for work of equal value".

IT AFFIRMS its faith in the idea which it has upheld for nearly 60 years; to unite women of the whole world without distinction of race, nationality, faith or class in order to promote the welfare of the individual, the family and humanity.

IT FINALLY ASSERTS its firm determination to give the unconditional support of its constructive force and power to the solution of all feminine and human problems.

Appointment of Women to International Authoritative Bodies

The ICW, recognising that the collaboration of women is essential for the material, cultural and moral reconstruction of the world, urges its affiliated Councils to insist that women be appointed to international authoritative bodies as members, not only as advisers and experts. The ICW, considering it important that more competent women be available for posts of international and national administrative and legislative bodies, and knowing that only women of the same standing and with the same qualifications as men are desirable for such posts, recommends educators of girls and young women in every country to stimulate their interest in specialised and qualified training.

PHILADELPHIA 1947

Condemnation of War Crimes

CONSIDERING that among war crimes affecting the civilian population in occupied countries, two especially affecting women were committed on a mass scale, crushing physically and morally thousands of human lives;

- 1) criminal assaults against girls and women (including violation and forcible detention in brothels), and

PHILADELPHIA 1947

- 2) an organised system, unprecedented in history, of using youths and young girls for compulsory breeding of children,

the ICW

URGES the United Nations, the International Red cross and all national and international bodies concerned to draft a convention and work for an international agreement expressing the utmost moral condemnation of such crimes and ensuring the adequate punishment of criminals found guilty of these offences.

Protection of Civilian Population

The ICW, deeply concerned over the suffering of the civilian populations in belligerent countries during the recent war, urges the Powers who signed the Conventions of 1907 and 1929 (on which the humanitarian activities of the International Red Cross are based) to revise these Conventions so as to include the experience of total warfare which affects women as much as men, and civilians as much as soldiers, and to conclude new Conventions with all Powers, whether or not they be signatories of the hitherto existing Conventions.

The new Conventions should guarantee a humane treatment to all, and especially provide for:

- 1) the protection by a precise international status of civilians arrested on grounds of prevention or repression; of civilians deported for whatever motive; and of civilians arrested, tried, sentenced or interned for political offences;
- 2) conditions of internment for citizens of enemy nations or other alien civilians, that would enable them to lead as normal a life as possible;
- 3) protection of hospitals, maternities and homes for sick civilians recognised by the Red Cross; and protection for wounded civilians as much as for wounded soldiers;
- 4) the organisation of a central office which would facilitate the reconstitution of dispersed families and take care of their correspondence.

United Nations and League of Nations Conventions

The ICW asks the Councils to urge the signing and ratification of the Conventions drafted by the United Nations and its Specialised Agencies that meet the aims of the ICW.

Considering the importance of the Conventions of the League of Nations that are still in vigour, the ICW urges its National Councils to do all in their power to further the application of these Conventions.

PHILADELPHIA 1947

Appointment of Women to International Bodies

The ICW affirms that the collaboration of women is essential for the material, cultural and moral reconstruction of the world, and urges its affiliated Councils to insist that women be appointed to United Nations and other great bodies as full delegates, and not only as advisers and experts. It further urges the International Refugee Organisation to appoint women refugees of relevant nationalities to administrative posts in order to avail themselves of their help and advice in solving the problem of displaced persons, in consideration of the vast number of women and children affected.

Declaration

- 1) The ICW affirms once more its determined protest against war and aggression in any form.
- 2) It condemns the crimes committed against humanity and against the dignity of the individual in the unsettled international conditions before, during and after the war and considers the recognition and guarantee of human rights as an essential condition for the maintenance of peace and for the establishment of the rule of law.
- 3) Since the organisation of aggressive war has been recognised by international courts as a crime, the ICW urges all women of the world to demand that all international disputes be settled by international courts.
- 4) It will support with all its power the United Nations in its work for the establishment and maintenance of a just and durable peace.
- 5) It demands a greater and more active participation of qualified women in elections both as voters and as candidates.
- 6) It protests against the relative lack of women members in the various committees and commissions of the United Nations.
- 7) It recalls once more its principle of "to equal capacity the same responsibility" and "equal pay for equal work".
- 8) It affirms its faith in the idea which it has upheld for nearly 60 years; to unite women of the whole world without distinction of race, nationality, faith or class in order to promote the welfare of the individual, the family and humanity.

PHILADELPHIA 1947

- 9) It finally asserts its firm determination to give the unconditional support of its constructive force and power to the solution of all human problems.

Convention for Prevention and Punishment of Genocide

The ICW, in conference assembled in Philadelphia, September 5th/12th, unequivocally supports the principle of the proposed international agreement to be presented to the United Nations General Assembly at Lake Success later this month for a Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide by an International Criminal Tribunal.

With adoption of this Convention it urges its National Councils to work in their respective countries for prompt signature and ratification.

Executive  
LUGANO 1949

Women in the European Movement

The ICW, noting with great interest and satisfaction the setting up of the European Assembly and Council of Ministers as a regional organisation within the Charter of the United Nations, urges the European National Councils of Women concerned to foster interest in this movement, and to press upon their Governments the importance of appointing women as members thereof, and also to essential posts within this organisation.

Declaration

The Executive of the ICW meeting at Lugano, June 1949, expresses its appreciation to the United Nations and its Specialised Agencies for their support and their timely recognition of the work and influence of Non-Governmental Organisations, which express the common interest of mankind and which are in accordance with the preamble of the Charter of the United Nations that begins with the words: "We the peoples of the United Nations..."

It stresses the importance of further application of resolutions, adopted at the ICW's Assembly in 1947, such as obtaining:

- a) the implementation of the Declaration of Human Rights;
- b) an adequate convention, or conventions, on the Freedom of Information;
- c) the ratification of the Convention of Genocide.

**Executive**  
**LUGANO 1949**

In order to advance this plan of action, the Executive Committee of the ICW calls upon the National Councils to develop their relations with their respective Governments and, when advisable, to do team work with the national branches of other Non-Governmental Organisations.

**ATHENS 1951**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

To seek to establish understanding and friendship between peoples; to collaborate closely with international organisations; to keep the ICW and its affiliated Councils informed of constructive activities aiming at the elimination of war and the establishment of peace; to strive, by reasoned and persistent efforts, to bring about the triumph of justice and morality and to ensure the functioning of free personality among mankind.

**Control of Atomic Energy**

The ICW

**REQUESTS** its National Councils of Women to circulate to their members, for their active support, the following resolution concerning weapons of war which was passed by the Fifth Session of the General Assembly, 17th November 1950, Resolution 380 (V), "Peace through Deeds"

"The General Assembly determines that for the realisation of lasting peace and security it is indispensable....that every nation agree

- a) to accept effective international control of atomic energy under the UN...and
- b) to strive for the control and elimination under the UN of all other weapons of mass destruction..."

**EXPRESSES** the wish that the UN draft a convention condemning the use of all weapons and mass destruction;

**APPEALS** to all Members of the UN to demonstrate their prompt and firm will to prevent the tremendous disasters caused by such weapons.

**Peace and Liberty**

The ICW, since its foundation in 1888, has constantly worked for conciliation and for peaceful settlement of disputes. It re-affirms

ATHENS 1951

its intention to continue on this path, on which each generation must work out its needs, both between nations and within each national society.

THE ICW RECOGNISES that to live in peace and to live in liberty (national and individuals) are fundamental needs for nations and human beings. It therefore condemns all intents and actions of aggression as endangering peace and liberty

IT RECORDS ITS CONVICTION that to protect peace and liberty armament for defence today still remains necessary. It recognises in the light of terrible experience that the once widespread belief in disarmament as a means to peace is a fallacy, unless the UN has both the moral authority and the material and physical power to maintain peace and protect human liberties.

THE ICW VOICES THE NEED, felt by thinking and suffering people everywhere, that wholehearted service be given to the principles of the UN Charter and of the Declaration of Human Rights. It welcomes the recognition by the General Assembly in the resolutions adopted at its 1950 session of the close connection to be made between striving for social and economic justice and striving for a lasting peace. It calls on its National Councils of Women to intensify action towards realisation of all these principles in their respective countries.

IT RECORDS ITS CONVICTION THAT THE UN represents humanity's best effort to date towards shaping such an authority and therefore calls on all National Councils of Women:

- 1) to support and develop the moral authority of the UN in all countries;
- 2) to help assure to UN the power to forestall and overcome aggression;
- 3) to maintain ceaseless vigilance over such power in order to ensure its use only in the cause of peace and liberty.

Implementation of the Covenant on Human Rights

The ICW, taking note of the provision for implementation in the present draft Convention on Human Rights, which gives the right of petition to States only,

EXPRESSES the belief that the right of petition thus limited will serve to defeat the very purpose of the Convention, and

URGES that the right of petition be extended to include international Non-Governmental Organisations accredited by the UN for such purpose.

HELSINKI 1954

**Support of United Nations**

The ICW re-affirms its conviction that the United Nations is the best instrument at present available for maintaining world peace. It expresses the belief that a strong United Nations is necessary if lasting peace is to be achieved and that this strength can come only if member Governments give to the United Nations, its aims and purposes, the fullest measure of their support.

Therefore the ICW calls upon its National Councils:

- 1) to urge upon their Governments the fullest support of the United Nations;
- 2) to disseminate information about the UN, its aims, purposes and programmes, in order that the peoples of their countries may be educated to support their Governments in efforts to strengthen the UN;
- 3) to support and explain programmes of the UN designed to promote world peace.

**Atomic Energy**

**AWARE** that enormous potentialities are now available to mankind for good or evil use in the energy released by nuclear fission,

**THE ICW** wishes to unite women to work against the destructive and aggressive use of these energies, for their pacific uses.

**IT THEREFORE CALLS ON** its affiliated Councils:

- a) to help spread understanding of these new opportunities and problems;
- b) to help ensure to all nations access to this new source of energy and its developments;
- c) to foresee and take steps to prevent economic and social upheavals such as those that, in the past, have been caused by access to new sources of energy; and
- d) to strive to solve these problems in a spirit of responsibility, mutual comprehension and concern for the individual human being.

HELSINKI 1954

Technical Assistance

The ICW, in Conference assembled in Helsinki in June 1954, mindful of the importance of Articles 55 and 56 of the UN Charter:

- a) supports wholeheartedly the principle of Technical Assistance to under-developed countries, carried out by the UN Expanded T.A. programmes, the US Technical Co-operation Administration (formerly Point IV), the Colombo Plan and similar projects, such as the tripartite agreement existing between Norway, India and the United Nations;
- b) re-affirms the statements made on behalf of the ICW to the ECOSOC Committee on Non-Governmental Organisations (6th July 1953) urging that the provisions of technical assistance should be accompanied by a better understanding of the traditions, customs and psychological requirements of the people of the beneficiary countries;
- c) requests its National Councils to urge their Governments to take every precaution in under-developed countries to ensure that the drawbacks caused by too rapid industrialisation or inflation are avoided;
- d) while stressing the insufficiency of bringing only material and cultural benefits to receiving countries, without fully taking into account the specific spiritual needs of each people, the ICW gladly recognises that the Technical Assistance programme has been of value to both receiving and giving countries in three important respects:
  - 1) by stimulating progress towards higher standards of living,
  - 2) by promoting international co-operation in cultural and educational matters,
  - 3) by working towards an atmosphere of mutual trust and understanding through close association of individuals of different nationality in a mutual effort;
- e) recognising the great potentialities, the ICW hopes that these will not be allowed to lapse and calls upon its National Councils to study closely the activities of their Governments in this field, to urge their respective Governments to make further efforts wherever possible and to co-operate with and even to supplement Government activities whenever practicable, all this with special attention to the vital spiritual aspects.

MONTREAL 1957

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To promote understanding between peoples; to maintain contact between peoples of different nationalities; to be informed and to inform ICW about the activities of international organisations and about international co-operation.

Agreement to Limit Nuclear Test Explosions

The ICW, believing that no civilised nation could commit the crime of starting an atomic war, bringing untold destruction on the world, reaffirms its faith in the fellowship of men as the only means of saving the health and existence of humanity.

Realising that knowledge in the possession of scientists throughout the world is indestructible and that this knowledge can be used either for the immense material advance of mankind or for its annihilation, it welcomes, as a first step towards universal disarmament, the need for advance registration of all nuclear tests.

The ICW suggests:

- 1) the drafting of an agreement within the United Nations for the advance registration of nuclear test explosions and provision for international observation of such tests;
- 2) the formation of a committee of technical experts to be established within the framework of the Disarmament Sub-Committee to consider possible methods of limiting nuclear test explosions and to investigate the requirements of effective supervision over an agreement to limit such explosions;
- 3) that the cessation of all nuclear test explosions should follow a general agreement on controls leading to general disarmament.

MONTREAL 1957

Protection Against Radiation

The ICW draws the attention of its member Councils to the importance of the report which the Radiation Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations will shortly make on the genetic and other effects of radiation and on the problem of protecting workers and populations against these effects.

The ICW requests the UN to make international regulations for protection against radiation.

The ICW especially supports all qualified investigations into the possible dangers of atomic fall-out.

It looks forward to the first plenary meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna. It recommends that its National Councils follow the work of this body of scientists.

ISTANBUL 1960

Terms of Reference - Standing Committee on International Relations and Peace

Whereas

- a) understanding of the cultural and social background of different peoples has not kept pace with progress in standards of living, nutrition, housing, health, travel facilities etc;
- b) prejudice, distrust and fear arising from this lack of understanding form a barrier to friendly relationships between peoples;
- c) the ICW therefore decides to amend the Terms of Reference of the Standing Committee on International Relations and Peace to include: "to promote understanding and good human relations between peoples and groups", in order to help more effectively women throughout the world to understand people of different races, nations and creed.

TERM OF REFERENCE

To promote understanding and good human relations between peoples and groups; to maintain contact between peoples of different nationalities; to be informed and to inform ICW about the activities of international organisations and about international co-operation.

Peace

The ICW, since its foundation in 1888, has constantly worked for conciliation and for the peaceful settlement of disputes. It reaffirms its intention to continue on this path, on which each generation must work out its needs, both as between nations and within each national society.

The ICW recognises that to live in peace and to live in liberty (national and individual) are fundamental needs for nations and human beings. It therefore condemns all intents and actions of aggression and endangering peace and liberty.

The ICW, convinced that women, as the guardians of the home, are the greatest force for peace and are more needed than ever before to help preserve it, demands a greater and more active participation of qualified women in the Governments of their respective countries, in the delegations of their countries to the UN and to other international conferences as well as in policy making posts in the Secretariat of the UN.

ISTANBUL 1960

The ICW reiterates the conviction expressed in its Conferences since 1951 that the UN represents the best instrument yet created for protecting world peace, and continues to call upon its National Councils:

- 1) to urge upon their Governments the fullest support of the UN;
- 2) to co-operate with the UN by disseminating information about its activities and creating understanding of its purposes in order that the peoples of their countries may give informed support to the action of the UN designed to resolve conflicts, and promote peace;
- 3) to take their responsible share in those aspects of the work of UN and of its Specialised Agencies (especially with respect to the Technical Assistance Programme), also of UNICEF, which will contribute to community development and improved standards of life in rapid economic and social evolution.

Exploration of Outer Space

Noting with great interest the efforts now being made to explore outer space,

NOTING ALSO with appreciation that under the aegis of the International Geophysical Year scientists of the world have worked together in furthering efforts to explore outer space,

REALISING the great prospects for the advancement of human knowledge which will result from the exploration of outer space,  
RECALLING that the question of the peaceful use of outer space was discussed by the General Assembly of the UN at its thirteenth session and that favourable consideration was given by the Assembly to the possibilities of international co-operation in the field of outer space,

THE ICW EXPRESSES THE CONVICTION that:

- 1) the community of nations has an over-riding interest in the peaceful and beneficial use of outer space;
- 2) this interest of the community of nations requires that the uses of space are made by nations acting in co-operation;
- 3) the interest of the community of nations requires that outer space and the celestial bodies therein should not be considered capable of being appropriated by any State, but should be regarded as a "res communis" open to all nations for peaceful and beneficial exploration.

ISTANBUL 1960

THE ICW, IN PURSUANCE OF THIS CONVICTION, WOULD URGE upon Governments its hope that:

- a) satellites or other bodies placed in orbit in outer space will not be used to carry weapons of any kind;
- b) Governments will co-operate through some international agency to set up a system of security measures so that satellites may be used without endangering the safety of or infringing the rights of any nation. Such a system would include the adoption of frequencies to describe inter-planetary tracks for satellites, plans for the disposal of spent satellites etc;
- c) benefits obtained from the exploration of outer space will be placed at the disposal of all mankind. For example, weather forecasting or action to modify weather conditions (which may lie in the future) should be designed to benefit every nation. Point to point communication and broadcasting by the use of satellite or planets should be at the disposal of all humanity.

FURTHER, THE ICW WELCOMES THE PROPOSAL to call a Conference sponsored by the United Nations on the peaceful uses of outer space, and requests that the Conference consider setting up some permanent body within the framework of the UN to deal with the exploration of outer space.

#### Nuclear Weapons

CONSCIOUS that all danger of war, and even of nuclear war, is far from over, that the mass destructive power of new weapons makes it necessary to re-affirm and to clarify the rules of International Law that apply to the protection of civilians against the effects of war,

CONSIDERING that the draft ruling drawn up to that effect by the International Red Cross Committee is highly desirable in this field,

CONSIDERING that the 19th International Red Cross Conference in 1955 at New Delhi, when examining this draft, agreed unanimously "that a ruling amending and completing the rules previously accepted in this field was highly desirable to ensure the safety of the people, if, by mischance, a war broke out",

ISTANBUL 1960

CONSIDERING that this draft ruling had been sent out to Governments for consideration but that nothing had as yet been done,

THE ICW is anxious to see that the question be actively pursued and urges its affiliated Councils to intervene with all their power so that their respective Governments uphold the efforts of the International Red Cross Committee by dealing with this question without unnecessary delay and by accepting the draft rules limiting the risk to civilians in time of war.

Application of Principles of Declaration of Human Rights

Considering that at present numerous regions of the globe are acceding to independence or autonomy, the ICW, united in General Assembly at Istanbul, August 1960, expresses the wish that the Constitution of these countries takes into consideration the Declaration of Human Rights in order that the political, social and economic promotion of women be explicitly recognised, and that Governments make sure that these principles are applied.

WASHINGTON 1963

Disarmament

The ICW

IN THE HOPE that disarmament can be achieved with the least possible delay,

CONSCIOUS of the need of newer and less developed countries for international assistance to combat hunger, disease and ignorance, to stimulate their economic growth and raise the standard of life of their peoples,

CONSIDERING that the widening gap between the economic and social conditions of the more advanced and less developed peoples constitutes the greatest single challenge of our times in the wake of the creation of new States,

MINDFUL that disarmament would make available vast resources for the progress of the less developed countries,

APPEALS to the Governments of the advanced industrialised States to devote more intensive efforts to the needs of the less developed countries,

AND DIVERT to this great constructive endeavour a substantial part of the resources presently spent on military purposes.

WASHINGTON 1963

Recommendation

The Liaison Officers and Representatives of the ICW at the United Nations and at its Specialised Agencies, AWARE of the fact that the ICW Standing Committees, both international and national, are studying in depth questions of the status of women, child and family care, the meeting of food requirements, education in all forms and at all levels, training and practice of civic responsibility and other aspects of the general programme of the Decade of Development with the aim of accelerating economic and social advancement, URGE the Presidents of the affiliated Councils, in planning their programmes of work for the forthcoming triennium, to keep in mind the purpose of the Decade of Development; to support and to participate actively in its multilateral and bilateral projects (especially those designed to fulfill those aims through the co-ordination of long-range programmes, such as the Gift Coupon Programme of UNESCO and the Freedom from Hunger Campaign) and to make use of the Decade of Development to knit together the work of their Standing Committees.

Right of Asylum

The ICW

NOTING that a draft Declaration of the Right of Asylum has been prepared by the Commission on Human Rights, and was forwarded to the 15th Session of the General Assembly of the UN by the Economic and Social Council,

REGRETS that the General Assembly has not yet completed action as requested,

SUPPORTING the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which in Articles 13 and 14 deals with the right of an individual to leave any country and to return to his country, and to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution,

HAVING STUDIED the preamble and the five articles of the draft Declaration,

The ICW hopes that, at its 18th Session, the General Assembly will adopt the draft Declaration on the Right of Asylum,

SUGGESTS that affiliated Councils, after having further considered the text, ask that representatives of their Governments to the 18th Session of the General Assembly, and especially to Committee Three, be instructed to speed conclusive action on the Draft Declaration, and

FURTHER RECOMMENDS that its affiliated Councils urge their respective Governments to take steps to implement the Declaration when adopted.

Human Rights

The ICW, meeting in Washington, D.C., June 1963, in celebration of its joint 75th Anniversary with the United States Council, takes pride in the Council inheritance. In 1888 a group of women of conscience met

WASHINGTON 1963

together and organised the United States Council with these words: "do hereby freely band ourselves together into a federation of all races, creeds and traditions to further the application of the Golden Rule to society, custom and law".

Today, the ICW expresses its deep concern about violations of human rights and civil liberties constantly occurring in many countries. Such violations cause hatred and bitterness that result in the loss of human dignity, in eruptions of violence and the loss of human life.

The ICW therefore

RESOLVES to re-affirm its life-long conviction that men and women of all races, creeds and nationalities have the same human rights, and

DEDICATES itself to intensifying its efforts to secure these rights in all corners of the globe.

TEHRAN 1966

Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

RECALLING resolutions previously adopted on the control of atomic energy, on limiting nuclear test explosions, on protection against radiation, on the control of outer space, and on disarmament, the ICW

RE-AFFIRMS its support of these measures, with particular emphasis on disarmament and the non-proliferation of atomic weapons,

CONSIDERS that a general treaty (among nuclear and non-nuclear powers alike) on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons is of the highest urgency,

SUGGESTS that a first stage could be an undertaking by the nuclear powers to suspend all nuclear testing (including underground tests) and that, pending general agreement, ad hoc decisions to suspend such tests could be taken by parallel action on the part of the powers concerned,

URGES that international scientific co-operation be established to seek effective means to control testing, and to verify the existence of stockpiles of nuclear weapons in order to create a reliable worldwide surveillance system.

TEHRAN 1966

Exploration of Outer Space

Recalling declarations at previous Triennial Meetings favouring inter-governmental co-operation on the exploration of outer space for the purposes of peaceful technical progress, the ICW

- 1) would welcome the bridging of the dangerous gap between modern technological progress on the one hand, international co-operation and the rule of law on the other;
- 2) deplores the delays in concluding agreements with regard to this important field of exploration;
- 3) suggests that, in view of the future development of space exploration, which may be of profound significance for the life of mankind on earth, National Councils should study:
  - a) the work of the UN on the further exploration of outer space,
  - b) the problem of communications on a worldwide basis as affected by the exploration of outer space,
  - c) problems of experimentation in space which may affect the physical environment of mankind on earth,
- 4) urges that all countries, as well as the Secretariat of the UN, should be encouraged to collaborate in the study of the exploration of outer space, and to make proposals for the benefit of mankind.

Compulsory Arbitration and Jurisdiction

CONSIDERING that good relations between nations and the fruitful development of international co-operation are brought about by peaceful settlement of disputes,

CONSIDERING that, among these means, arbitral and legal methods enable a final and impartial solution to be found to international litigation,

CONSCIOUS of the need to strengthen the procedures for peaceful settlement by developing compulsory arbitration and jurisdiction,

TEHRAN 1966

NOTING that the system of bilateral and multilateral treaties concerning arbitration and recourse to the International Court of Justice has not kept pace with the development of the international community,

THAT the same applies to adhesions to the optional clause of compulsory jurisdiction contained in Article 36, Chapter 2, of the Statute of the International Court of Justice which at present is only binding on some forty nations,

THAT, further, the value of adhesions to the optional clause is too often reduced by reservations,

The ICW

INVITES affiliated Councils to exert their influence in persuading Governments to adopt a favourable attitude to compulsory arbitration and jurisdiction;

- a) by developing their system of bilateral and multilateral treaties on arbitration and international jurisdiction,
- b) by adhering, if they have not already done so, to the optional clause of compulsory jurisdiction contained in Article 36, Chapter 2, of the Statute of the International Court of Justice, and by abstaining from attaching reservations to their declarations of adhesion as far as possible.

Human Rights Year

NOTING the decision of the 21st General Assembly of the United Nations to declare the year 1968 Human Rights Year,

the ICW

PLEDGES the support of its affiliated Councils to mark this year by increasing their efforts for the world-wide application of the principles of Human Rights;

RECALLS the discussion on the question of a High Commissioner for Human Rights, and looks forward to the creation of such an office for the implementation of Human Rights;

TEHRAN 1966

WELCOMES the continuing review of national action taken for the application of the principles of the Declaration of Human Rights;

RECOGNISES the value of the regional seminars organised by the Commission on Human Rights to the work of its affiliated Councils;

EXPRESSES THE HOPE that these seminars will not only be continued but increased in number in every region of the world.

BANGKOK 1970

Peaceful Use of the Seabed

HAVING NOTED with great interest the attention devoted by the UN to the problems of the seabed and ocean floor, and the subsoil thereof,

RECALLING with satisfaction its historical concern in all efforts towards peace,

BEARING IN MIND the successful efforts made by the UN with regard to outer space which finally resulted in appropriate and effective treaties,

BEING CONCERNED that the interests of mankind in the seabed be satisfactorily settled by amicable international treaty,

IN VIEW OF the report of the Ad Hoc Committee to Study the Peaceful Uses of the Seabed and Ocean Floor beyond the Limit of National Jurisdiction, adopted by the General Assembly at its 23rd Session, and of the preliminary meetings of the Permanent Committee on Seabeds,

The ICW

CALLS TO THE ATTENTION of its affiliated Councils the importance of the UN continuing consideration of the problem,

URGES its affiliated Councils to call on their Governments to exert efforts to gain international acceptance as soon as possible of the following principles:

- a) that there is an area beyond national jurisdiction which should be defined by agreement and should come under the precise legal regime without delay;
- b) that meanwhile no State should be allowed to claim sovereignty by occupation or otherwise pending this definition and all activities therein should be governed by applicable international law including the Charter of the UN;
- c) that the area beyond national jurisdiction should be reserved exclusively for peaceful purposes and its use should be encouraged for the common benefit of all mankind;

EXPRESSES the hope that the current efforts of the UN will result, at the earliest possible time, in the establishment of appropriate agreements governing the use and exploitation of the vital area of the seabed on a scale comparable to the agreements established for Outer Space and Antarctica.

BANGKOK 1970

The Peaceful Resolution of Conflict

AWARE of the large numbers of areas in dispute throughout the world and concerned that such potential eruptions may produce worldwide conflagration,

AWARE of the inadequacies and existing gaps in the present procedures for settling international conflicts,

RECALLING that the ICW has always welcomed the strengthening, expansion and improvement of peacekeeping machinery within the UN structure,

The ICW

URGES its affiliated Councils to use their influence with their Governments to support in the UN appropriate measures to strengthen international law and order, and to urge their Governments to press for more comprehensive programmes of peacekeeping activities.

Second United Nations Development Decade

RECALLING that the United Nations declared 1960-1970 the First United Nations Development Decade, and established a series of objectives for that period,

NOTING that in large measure the goals of the First Development Decade, particularly in housing, were not met, and that one attributed cause for lack of success has been the incomplete participation of Non-Governmental Organisations and, in particular, of women in setting goals and taking part in the effort to achieve them,

NOTING FURTHER that, during the First United Nations Development Decade, increased attention was given to the essential inter-relatedness of social and economic development,

The ICW

AFFIRMS its support of the objectives of the Second United Nations Development Decade,

RECOMMENDS that affiliated Councils, through whatever means available to them, inform their respective Governments of the necessity to focus on the socio-economic aspects of development in the Second Development Decade,

BANGKOK 1970

URGES affiliated Councils to co-operate fully with their respective Governments:

- a) to plan sound programmes for implementing the international strategy for the Second Development Decade,
- b) to take all possible measures to assist in carrying out such plans for social and economic development in the Second Development Decade.

✓ Respect for Human Rights in Armed Conflicts

DEEPLY CONCERNED by the frequency of armed conflicts in the world today,

CONVINCED of the necessity, even in these hazardous situations, of ensuring respect for basic humanitarian principles,

RECALLING the resolution adopted at its Plenary Council Meeting held at Istanbul in 1960,

AWARE of resolution XXVIII adopted by the XXth International Conference of the Red Cross (Vienna 1965) and of resolution 2444 (XXIII) adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 19th December 1968,

The ICW

AFFIRMS that the principles proclaimed in these two resolutions should be applied in all armed conflicts, namely:

- a) that the rights of the parties to a conflict to adopt means of injuring the enemy is not unlimited;
- b) that it is prohibited to launch attacks against the civilian populations as such;
- c) that distinction must be made at all times between persons taking part in the hostilities and members of the civilian population to the effect that the latter be spared as much as possible;

INVITES its affiliated Councils to bring their influence to bear so that these principles are respected everywhere and at all times,

SUPPORTS the UN and the International Red Cross in their efforts to formulate a humanitarian law applicable in armed conflicts.

BANGKOK 1970

25th Anniversary of the United Nations

WHEREAS the year 1970 marks the 25th anniversary of the UN;

WHEREAS ever since its founding by the peoples of 51 countries, the UN has been growing steadily and today has 126 member States;

WHEREAS by joining together on this unprecedented scale peoples the world over have demonstrated unity of faith in the principles of the United Nations Charter as the formula for human survival in peace and dignity, and faith in the UN as mankind's presently best instrument for translating those principles into law and practice;

WHEREAS at a time of ominous tension and strife in all too many parts of the world, the present anniversary affords the opportunity for a re-dedication to their common purpose by the peoples of the UN;

The ICW

URGES its affiliated Councils;

- a) to promote national observances of the UN 25th anniversary, using all available media of public expression to remind member Governments that the UN is the embodiment of their people's determination to end the scourge of war;
- b) to emphasise in particular: the record of the UN in marshalling the skills of medicine, science, technology and education to reduce hunger, disease, poverty and illiteracy; in furthering the well-being of the world's children; and in developing codes of human rights to guide the world's conscience;
- c) to urge their Governments to sign, ratify and implement the conventions of the UN.

VIENNA 1973

✓ Disarmament

Having taken note of the work of the International NGO Conference on Disarmament, Geneva, 25th/29th September 1972,

The ICW

- a) draws the attention of all its members to the programmes of action drawn up at this Conference,
- 2) urges National Councils to contribute to the realisation of these programmes, particularly in the field of education,
- 3) further urges National Councils to work for the organisation of a World Disarmament Week.

✓ Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

RECALLING resolutions previously adopted on the control of atomic energy, limiting nuclear test explosions, on protection against radiation, on the control of outer space, and on disarmament;

The ICW

RE-AFFIRMS its support of these measures, with particular emphasis on disarmament and the non-proliferation of atomic weapons;

CONSIDERS that a general treaty (among nuclear and non-nuclear powers alike) on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons is of the highest urgency;

URGES that there be international scientific co-operation to seek effective means to control testing, and to verify the existence of stockpiles of nuclear weapons in order to create a reliable worldwide system;

RE-AFFIRMS the ardent hope expressed by previous international conferences of ICW that atomic energy be employed for remedial aid and peaceful purposes only.

Law of the Sea

NOTING the decision of the General Assembly of the UN to convene the Third UN Conference on the Law of the Sea in Santiago in 1974,

HAVING CONSIDERED the work done in preparation for that Conference by the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Sea Bed,

AWARE of the widely differing views held by States on questions of the nature and extent of jurisdiction over the seas and the sea bed, and

VIENNA 1973

the exploitation of their resources, and the question of the management and exploitation of the area of the sea bed beyond the limits of national jurisdiction,

AWARE ALSO that the rapid advances of modern technology have made these problems urgent and immediate,

FEARING that these issues could in future give rise to international dispute and conflict in many parts of the world if they are not resolved in time by a generally accepted international settlement,

The ICW

URGES the Sea Bed Committee and the forthcoming Conference on the Law of the Sea to make every effort to ensure the completion of a convention or conventions which will command the support of all the sections of international opinion and reconcile the interests of individual States with those of the international community as a whole,

CALLS UPON National Councils to recognise the need for such a generally accepted settlement, and to express the hope that negotiations will take place in a spirit of conciliation.

#### International Terrorism

The ICW

GRAVELY CONCERNED by the increasing frequency of serious acts of international terrorism inflicting injury and death upon innocent persons and inflaming relations between peoples and nations,

URGES women of all Councils to join in recognising that international terrorism poses a grave threat to the safety and reliability of modern communications between States, including in particular international civil aviation and diplomatic relations, and in urging all Governments to refuse to countenance or protect perpetrators of hijacking, bombing, and other acts of violence and terrorism within and across borders.

VIENNA 1973

Hijacking

The ICW

DEPLORES the increasing incidence of hijacking with its consequent danger to innocent lives, and urges members of Councils to join in encouraging Governments quickly to ratify and comply with the Tokyo, The Hague and Montreal Conventions; thus enabling national authorities to punish offenders for crimes committed aboard aeroplanes, obliging countries to take all steps to restore control of aircraft to the captain, providing for capture and prosecution or extradition of all hijackers, and calling for severe punishment for attacks against passengers and crews of aircraft and for related acts such as sabotage and bombing.

United Nations Development Decade -  
International Women's Year 1975

RE-AFFIRMING the resolution in support of the objectives of the United Nations Second Decade of Development adopted by the Triennial Meeting in Bangkok, February, 1970; and

NOTING that at its session in 1975 the Social Development Commission of the United Nations will participate in the mid-decade review and appraisal of the implementation of the strategy of Development Decade II; and

TAKING ACCOUNT OF the importance which the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations has placed upon the integration of women in development, and of the fact that 1975 has been proclaimed International Woman's Year,

The ICW

- 1) commends National Councils of Women for the efforts which they have made to ensure that the objectives of economic and social development will be fulfilled in national and community life (action duly reported to ECOSOC and to its Social Development Commission);
- 2) requests all National Councils of Women in affiliation with ICW to continue to examine social needs and gaps in services in their communities and to take the initiative in:

VIENNA 1973

- a) attracting attention to these, and
- b) in co-operation with other national voluntary organisations and with the authorities, setting up programmes to meet these needs;

3) requests affiliated Councils to assist the ICW representative to the Social Development Commission in compiling her mid-Decade Report of Council activities to advance the objectives of Development Decade II by sending an account of their national action in this field by November 11, 1974;

4) Recommends National Councils to take advantage of "International Woman's Year 1975" as an occasion for making known the ideals and action of the Council movement and for intensifying their activity to complete the integration of women into civic and political life.

VANCOUVER 1976

✓ Political Prisoners

The ICW

MINDFUL of the ever-growing number of political prisoners throughout the world,

URGES its National Councils to press their Governments to ratify the United Nations Civil and Political Rights Covenant, adopted by the General Assembly in 1966, if they have not already done so, and thereafter to work for its full implementation.

✓ Discrimination Against Minorities

The ICW

BEARING IN MIND the content of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights agreed by the United Nations in 1948, and also the texts of the Covenants on Political Rights and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights agreed by the United Nations in 1966,

BEARING IN MIND that where persecution and oppression exist, cruelties, deportation, expulsion and flight have been engendered,

BEARING IN MIND the suffering caused to helpless people,

CALLS upon its National Councils to urge their Governments to honour their obligations and bring to an end, with due despatch, all discrimination against Minority Groups whether these be of ethnic, tribal, religious or other origin.

✓ Protection Against Rape

The ICW

BEARING IN MIND that throughout history and still in modern times, men have practised what they consider to be their right and raped women in times of war, warlike invasion and military occupation;

URGES its National Councils to ask their Governments to remind States Members of the United Nations, that such rape is a brutal crime against the unprotected and the defenceless, and to call upon Governments to take measures to stamp out this evil practice;

The ICW

FURTHER CALLS UPON National Councils to urge their respective Governments, as appropriate, to investigate the crime of wartime rape, with a view to corrective measures being applied where such are found to be necessary.

VANCOUVER 1976

New World Economic Order

The ICW

WELCOMING the impulse toward improved international understanding and co-operation generated by discussions of the "new world economic order" at the United Nations and in a number of scholarly voluntary bodies,

RECOMMENDS that for a further integration of women in development its National Councils study any considerations and proposals being formed by such bodies which would assist them in making a realistic examination of problems in their countries relating, for example, to:

- 1) Trade: expansion, diversification, liberalizing of terms of trade,
- 2) Purchasing power, particularly in countries producing the raw materials of industry,
- 3) Internal development strategies: land use, urbanization, communications and services in villages and rural areas,
- 4) Food: production, distribution, storing of reserves, nutrition education,
- 5) Population: services in rural small towns and urban areas to meet health, social, cultural needs,
- 6) Education, training and retraining for the opportunity of the new technology,
- 7) Employment, agriculture on different scales, industrialization,
- 8) Human values in the economic order.

FURTHER suggests that examination of any of these aspects in the context of their own society might lead National Councils to bring proposals to the next meeting of the Executive Committee of ICW (1978) for further study on an international basis by one or several International Standing Committees of ICW.

LAWS AND SUFFRAGE

1899 Laws Affecting Domestic Relations	1904 Suffrage and Civic
1904 Laws Concerning the Legal Position of Women	Education
1914 The Legal Position of Women	1909 Suffrage and Rights of Citizenship
1920 Laws and the Legal Position of Women	

1947 Laws and Suffrage

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**LONDON 1899**

Laws Concerned with Domestic Relations

That the National Councils of all countries be asked to consider the nature of the laws concerned with the domestic relations which exist in all civilised countries.

**BERLIN 1904**

Suffrage

Inasmuch as all Governments equally affect the men and women living under them; therefore, be it resolved that under all Governments, whether nominally republican or monarchical, whatever political rights or privileges are accorded to men ought on corresponding terms to be accorded to women; and this Council advocates that strenuous efforts be made to enable women to obtain the power of voting in all countries where a representative Government exists.

**TORONTO 1909**

Report of the Committee on Laws

That the Report of the Committee on Laws, including its projected scheme of work, be adopted, together with the recommendation made by the Executive that each National Council be asked to prepare a digest of the laws concerning women and children in their respective countries, and that a bibliography be added stating the sources of the information.

Report on National Laws Concerning Women

That each National Council be asked to prepare a Report of the existing unequal laws in their respective countries which deal with the relations of women in the home, the family, the municipality, and the State, and that the national reports should then be combined as an international report on the same lines as the newly published report on "Health of the Nations", special attention being paid to simple wording of the various reports, so that they may be easily intelligible to all classes of the people, and that on the further recommendation of the Executive the complete international report be

## **L A W S A N D S U F F R A G E**

**1899 Laws Affecting Domestic Relations**

**1904 Laws Concerning the Legal Position of Women**

**1904 Suffrage and Civic Education**

**1909 Suffrage and Rights of Citizenship**

**1914 The Legal Position of Women**

**1920 Laws and the Legal Position of Women**

**1947 Laws and Suffrage**

TORONTO 1909

presented to the various Governments, accompanied by a letter from the official Board of the ICW drawing the attention of the Governments to the need for betterment of many of these laws, and the desirability of women taking part in the deliberations equally with men on such laws, the ICW basing its support of Women's Suffrage on the facts shown in the reports submitted.

Women's Suffrage

That the ICW re-affirms its earnest desire that the right of voting be given to women in all countries where representative Governments exist.

Public Work of Women

That the ICW is of the opinion that the National Councils of Women should strenuously endeavour to place women members on those public boards or bodies whose membership is already open to women, and to secure the inclusion of women on all other authorities or special commissions dealing with public work.

Executive

STOCKHOLM 1911

Failure to Pay Maintenance

That punishment should be inflicted on the husband or wife who wilfully fails to pay the amounts for which orders have been made against them for desertion, for neglect to maintain the family, for legal separation or divorce.

Suffrage Committee

The Suffrage Committee was asked to investigate the following questions:

- 1) In those countries where the basis of municipal and parliamentary franchise is one of revenue, property and occupation how is this computed in the case of married women?
- 2) In those countries where such franchise is not granted to women what method of computation is being demanded?

ROME 1914

Alteration in Name of Committee

That the words "Laws concerning" be omitted in the name of the Committee on Laws concerning the Legal Position of Women and that the name read "Committee on the Legal Position of Women".

Civil Capacity of Married Women

The ICW urges the affiliated National Councils to endeavour to obtain laws which guarantee the civil capacity of the married woman in relation to her personal rights and to her property.

Instruction of Girls in Laws Affecting Women and Children

The ICW recommends the affiliated National Councils to consider what means might be taken in their respective countries to encourage in the continuation schools and in the upper classes of all schools attended by girls some systematic teaching of the leading principles of the laws which more directly concern women and children, and of the civic duties and rights of women.

Juvenile Courts

The ICW urges all National Councils to make efforts to secure juvenile courts or similar institutions in all countries and urges that women be permitted to conduct judicial proceedings in such courts or institutions.

Rights of Voting in Parliamentary and Local Elections

Realising the rapidly changing character of the problems that have to be considered by the Governments of the present time and seeing that these problems increasingly affect the moral, educational and industrial life of the people, it grows more and more important that women should recognise their responsibility in national life. The ICW therefore re-affirms its earnest belief that the right of voting in parliamentary and local elections should be given to women in all countries where representative Governments exist.

Legal Provision for Maintenance of Wives and Children

The ICW desires to emphasise the importance of legal provision being made in all cases for the maintenance of wives, mothers and children born in or out of wedlock, and urges the National Councils to endeavour to obtain such international agreements between the respective countries as shall protect the legal rights of women and children especially with regard to deserted wives and children.

ROME 1914

Greater Protection in Cases of Desertion  
for Wives, Mothers and Children

The ICW recommends that the various National Councils shall endeavour to secure greater protection in cases of desertion for wives, mothers and children born in or out of wedlock.

International Protection of Women

The ICW, protesting vehemently against the odious wrongs of which women are the victims in time of war, contrary to international law, desires to appeal to the next Hague Conference to consider how a more effective international protection of women may be secured which will prevent the continuance of the horrible violation of womanhood that attends all wars.

KRISTIANIA 1920

Nationality of Married Women

That, in view of the importance of international agreement on the laws of nationality, and the confusion which arises from differences between one country and another, especially in the case of women, the ICW urges the affiliated Councils to promote legislation in their respective countries which shall give women the right to retain their own nationality on marriage with the subject of another country, and shall allow to a woman the same choice of nationality as is given to a man.

Women on Public Committees

That on all public committees, especially those dealing with public welfare, an adequate number of women be appointed.

Nationality of Women Married to Aliens

That the ICW draw up proposals for international agreement regarding the nationality of women married to aliens, for presentation to the Governments and to the League of Nations.

Economic Position of the Wife

That the ICW ask the National Councils to consider the economic position of the wife, and recommends that she should be legally entitled to a certain just proportion of her husband's income.

KRISTIANIA 1920

Alteration in Name of Standing Committee  
on the Legal Position of Women

That the name of the Committee be read as "Committee on Laws and Legal Position of Women".

Women Judges in All Juvenile Courts

That National Councils endeavour to secure the appointment of women judges or assistant judges in all juvenile courts.

Executive  
THE HAGUE 1922

Women Attachees to Consulates

That National Councils be asked to urge their Governments to appoint women attachees to their Consulates.

Legal and Economic Position of the Married  
Woman as Wife and Mother

That an enquiry be made:-

- a) into the legal and economic position of the married woman as wife and mother;
- b) as to what changes in the existing laws of their countries are recommended by the several National Councils of Women.

Executive  
COPENHAGEN 1924

Digest of Laws Affecting Women and Children

That the Standing Committee on Laws recommend to the affiliated National Councils the need for publishing in their own language for use in their country a pamphlet containing a complete digest of the laws affecting women and children in their respective countries and to send a copy to the Laws Committee in any one of the three official languages.

Executive  
COPENHAGEN 1924

Nationality of Married Women

The Standing Committee on Laws, having carefully studied the question of nationality of married women and the legal and practical difficulties of adapting the laws of all the countries which relate to this subject, ask the ICW to co-operate with the International Woman Suffrage Alliance in arranging an International Conference of Jurists which would comprise delegates of the two Associations and also representatives of legal societies which study international law.

Desertion

That the affiliated National Councils be requested to make a study of the following questions for the Quinquennial Council Meeting in 1925:-

- a) Is the desertion of spouse, children, aged or ill parents looked upon as a misdemeanour in your country? If so, since what date? Give the exact text of the law.
- b) Is this law working normally, and has it had beneficial results?
- c) Does your Council desire modification or amendment?

Parliamentary Committees

The ICW urges the National Councils who have not already done so to establish Parliamentary Committees which shall be affiliated to the National Councils and shall form a link between women's organisations and the legislative authorities, especially the women members of the same.

WASHINGTON 1925

Nationality of Married Women

The ICW expresses its satisfaction that the Commission appointed by the League of Nations to consider the Codification of International Law has decided to study the question of the nationality of married women. The ICW desires that one or more women lawyers be appointed to the Committee, so that women's interests will be represented.

That the Council recommend names of suitable women to be added to the Commission.

Women's Groups in Political Parties

That in order to get the best results from their voting power, women, when they are enfranchised, should join political parties, and should form groups within their own parties for the discussion of the specific woman's point of view on all political questions, so as to be able to influence their respective political parties. Further, that these different party groups should get into touch with one another, so that when they agree on any subject they can act unitedly to further their common interests.

Parliamentary Committees

Executive COPENHAGEN 1924 resolution repeated.

Digest of Laws Affecting Women and Children

Executive COPENHAGEN 1924 resolutions repeated.

Executive  
GENEVA 1927

A Woman on the League of Nations Committee for  
the Codification of International Law

The ICW desires that a woman lawyer be placed on the Committee for the Codification of International Law in order to represent women's interests in the discussion of all questions relating to women and children.

Desertion of the Family

The ICW asks the League of Nations to study through its Committee for the Codification of International Law the question of "desertion of the family" which is also being studied in part by the Child Welfare Committee.

Executive  
GENEVA 1927

Co-operation Between National Councils  
and Suffrage Societies

That in countries where there is a society working for women suffrage or equal citizenship the member of the Suffrage Committee of the ICW in that country get into touch with that society in order that together they solve the problems connected with the Resolutions 41 and 42 adopted at Washington.

Successful Methods of Suffrage Propaganda

It is recommended that the National Council of Women of each country which has won the suffrage for women be requested to report in some detail the methods which have proved most successful in influencing public opinion and in gaining the vote, and that this information be made accessible to those countries now working for woman suffrage.

VIENNA 1930

Registration of Legal Facts Relating to Family Life

Inasmuch as in certain countries machinery exists for registering facts relating to the family life of each individual and that it would be of advantage to make an official international study of the subject, the ICW requests the International Institute for Private Law to make an enquiry among the Governments of all countries:

- a) to ask if the facts concerning the family obtained from personal declarations, from legal acts and from judicial decisions are not only registered, but also collated, and if so under what conditions;
- b) to ask for the results obtained in those countries which, under whatsoever form, have some system of registration more or less complete.

Nationality of Married Women

The ICW thanks the members of the Hague Conference for the recommendations made to the Governments in connection with the nationality of married women, but regrets that the delegates have not thought it possible to include in the draft international convention the principle of sex equality in the matter of nationality. The ICW decides to continue its work until this reform has been realised.

VIENNA 1930

Payment of Alimony

After having studied the laws of several countries the ICW has ascertained that alimonies due for the maintenance of children are more regularly paid when the law provides civil or penal sanction.

Considering that the debtors of alimonies escape their duties by going to another country and considering that the League of Nations' Child Welfare Committee has studied the question and drawn up a draft convention regarding the payment of alimony, the adoption of which seems urgent, the ICW expresses the wish that an international convention be established for all the countries that sign it, providing a system of executive measure and sanctions against debtors who avoid the payment of alimony, whatever the nationality of the debtor and creditor may be and in whatever country the sentence fixing the alimony be passed.

Executive  
STOCKHOLM 1933

Nationality of Women

The ICW urges the National Councils before 1936, when the Hague Convention on Certain Questions relating to the Conflict of Nationality Laws, if put into force, can be revised, to press forward legislation in their own countries to give to women, married or not, the same rights of determining their nationality as is given to men, and thus to prepare the way for an International Convention based on this principle of equality.

Women's Consultative Committee on Nationality

The Executive Committee of the ICW expresses its opinion that the Women's Consultative Committee on Nationality shall continue, and that its sole object is that of nationality as expressed in its title.

International Convention Regarding Maintenance Orders

The ICW urges the League of Nations to continue to work for the adoption of an International Convention to secure that maintenance orders and judgments made in one country shall be enforceable in others.

Executive  
STOCKHOLM 1933

Collaboration of Men and Women in Legislative  
and Administrative Bodies

The ICW notes with satisfaction the good results obtained by the collaboration of men and women in legislative and administrative bodies.

The Council re-affirms that men and women should have the same right to vote and to be elected on all electoral bodies and recommends all National Councils to work energetically to this end in order that the influence of women in public affairs may correspond with the responsibilities for which they are liable to the same extent as men.

PARIS 1934

International Convention Regarding Maintenance Orders

Executive STOCKHOLM 1933 resolution repeated.

Collaboration of Men and Women in Legislative  
and Administrative Bodies

Executive STOCKHOLM 1933 resolution repeated.

Nationality of Women

In view of the fact that the recent Convention of Montevideo on the nationality of married women is open to the adherence of all countries, the ICW urges the National Councils to press forward legislation in their own countries to give women, married or not, the same right as men to determine their nationality, so as to make it possible for their Governments to adhere to the Montevideo Convention; or failing that and in the event of the Hague Convention being put into operation, to make it possible to revise that Convention in 1936 on the principle of equality.

DUBROVNIK 1936

Increase of Women's Efforts Before Elections

The ICW urgently begs the National Councils in those countries where women have the vote to intensify their efforts before elections - either parliamentary or municipal - with a view to making women voters take a more active part in the elections in order to obtain the return of the most suitable candidates of either sex and that a greater number of women be elected.

In those countries where women have not yet got the vote, the ICW begs National Councils to do all in their power to increase the interest of candidates in the question of women's franchise.

Nationality of Married Women

Considering the request made by the XVI Assembly to the Council of the League of Nations to continue to follow the development of the problem of nationality both in the national and the international field with a view to further concerted international action in the future:

The ICW resolves:

- 1) to continue to work for an International Convention that shall embody the essential principle of equality between the sexes in respect of nationality, including the right of the spouses to independent nationality;
- 2) to proceed to make a special study of problems of nationality as they affect children;
- 3) to call upon the affiliated National Councils to co-operate with the ICW Laws Committee on these lines, and in particular to examine the nationality laws of their own countries and endeavour to make legally secure the above-mentioned principle in respect of nationality.

Montevideo Treaty

The ICW supports the principle laid down in the Equal Rights Treaty signed at Montevideo on December 26th, 1933, and decides to supply the affiliated National Councils with full information concerning the matter.

EDINBURGH 1938

Maintenance of Children Born  
in or out of Wedlock

The ICW urges its affiliated Councils to work in their respective countries for legislation which will allow:

- 1) the necessitous parent under whose guardianship a child (born in or out of wedlock) is placed to obtain from a competent public authority adequate immediate and provisional maintenance as long as the person liable for maintenance has not paid, likewise in case of interruption of payment;
- 2) the competent authority to pursue the legal debtor for refund.

Equal Rights Between Men and Women

Whereas the ICW has affirmed its profound conviction that it is only by permitting the encouraging women to play a full and responsible part in the political, economic and intellectual life of their country that the civilisation and the prosperity of future generations may be developed on a sound basis of general understanding and enlightenment, the sanctity of the home preserved and moral standards be prevented from sinking;

The ICW urges its member organisations to continue their work for the equality of rights between men and women in all fields.

PHILADELPHIA  
1947

National Laws and United Nations Charter

The ICW urges National Councils in those countries which have not yet given equal suffrage rights to women to bring pressure to bear on their Governments to ensure that their laws be brought into accord as soon as possible with the Charter of the United Nations on this fundamental point.

Equality of Citizenship of Both Sexes

The ICW supports and upholds the principle of the absolute equality of citizenship and individual rights - political, civil, economic, social and education - of both sexes. It considers that the true approach

PHILADELPHIA  
1947

to this whole question is from the angle of human rights and human needs; and that the full fruition of the development of civilisation can never be achieved save through the implementation of this vital principle.

ATHENS 1951

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To work for equal franchise and equal education in citizenship for men and women in all countries; to impress upon women the duties and responsibilities attached to citizenship; to endeavour to secure the presence of women in Parliament as in all bodies wielding public authority and influencing the social welfare of the community; to report developments in conventions and legislation affecting the status of women and to unite women in their efforts to work for legal reforms.

Equal Rights of Men and Women Under Civil Law

The ICW believes that men and women should have the same rights under civil law, for instance in matters of inheritance.

The ICW expresses the hope that the principle laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, according to which marriage is for either spouse a contract freely entered into when an adult, should rapidly become the actual practice in all countries and territories.

Nationality of Women: Naturalisation of Spouses

The ICW rejoices to see that the International Law Commission of the UN has agreed to draft a Convention on the Nationality of married women at the request of the Economic and Social Council of the UN.

The ICW approves the principle laid down as a basis for such a Convention by the Commission on the Status of Women at its Fourth Session, but wishes the States urged at the same time to see that the procedure of naturalisation open to the spouses be reasonably simple and inexpensive in order to favour the unity of the family without impinging on the freedom of the spouses.

ATHENS 1951

Recommendation

Prior to the naturalisation, the foreign spouse should be granted more favourable treatment than other un-naturalised persons, such treatment to continue after the death of the other spouse if there are surviving children of the union.

Convention on Equality of Political Rights

The ICW expresses the hope that, in implementation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, an international convention on equality of the sexes in the matter of political rights will speedily be concluded.

Separate Assessment of Spouses for Taxes

CONSIDERING the interest of both husband wife are not effectively safeguarded when joint financial responsibility is imposed by law, even under a regime of separate property holding, and THAT it is undesirable to encourage free unions rather than marriages, notably by taxing married couples more heavily than single persons,

The ICW

IS OF THE OPINION that it is unjust and undesirable that the separate incomes of spouses should be jointly assessed for taxation, as is done in many countries, and calls on the National Councils of Women to oppose this practice.

Treatment of Offenders: Insufficient Protection for Women in Certain Cases

The ICW draws the attention of the Secretary General of the UN to the fact that in certain cases penal law does not assure to all women the protection afforded to other persons inasmuch as certain categories of women are not given the full protection of the law when crimes and offences are committed against them;

REQUESTS the Secretary General to transmit to the ECOSOC a request that the Social Commission, in its study of the problems concerning the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders bear in mind the incidence of this on women. (Note: cf. Article 587 of the Italian Penal Code, and Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1885 of Great Britain.)

ATHENS 1951

**Married Women's Right**

The ICW believes that married women must enjoy full juridical capacity. Both spouses should be free to the same extent to manage and dispose of their private estate. When community of property exists between the spouses, there should be complete equality between husband and wife in managing and sharing this common property.

**No Discrimination of Sex**

The ICW welcomes the fact that the draft Covenant on Human Rights, now being considered by the UN, tends to eliminate by international agreement those discriminations now existing against women.

**NOTING** that the Covenant as so far drafted has three Articles bearing on the status of women, as follows:

**Article 1** "Each State party hereto undertakes to respect and ensure to all individuals within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction the rights recognised in this Covenant without distinction of any kind such as.....sex"

**Article 12** "Everyone shall have the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law:

**Article 17** All are equal before the law, all should be accorded equal protection of the law without distinction on any ground such as .....sex"

**WELCOMING** the fact that the Assembly of the UN in December 1950, when inviting the Commission on Human Rights to include social, economic and cultural rights in the draft Covenant, stressed the necessity for explicit recognition of equality of men and women as to those rights, calling the attention of the Commission to the views already expressed by the Assembly on rights related to the status of women, such as:

- access to education open to all without distinction of ....sex,
- the enjoyment by women in their work of rights and privileges which shall not be less than those enjoyed by men; women to receive equal pay with men for equal work,
- the right freely to combine in trade unions without distinction of ....sex.

**THE ICW** in addition to these matters, would wish the Covenant to voice the freedom of choice of spouse, and the equality as to marriage expressed in Article 16 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

ATHENS 1951

IN ORDER THAT the Covenant, as an International Bill of Rights, guarantees to the women of the world the rights that have so long been denied them, the ICW believes it is essential that there be incorporated in the Covenant a clear unequivocal declaration to the general effect that; No State shall make or permit any law or regulation discriminating on account of sex.

Free Consent to Marriage

The ICW is convinced that the free consent of both spouses is indispensable to the validity of a marriage and to the safeguard of the liberty and dignity of the wife and expresses its satisfaction at seeing:

- 1) the Trusteeship Council of the UN include this item in its questionnaires and draw to it the attention of missions setting out for countries in which it is customary to give a dowry in exchange for a wife at marriage;
- 2) the ad hoc Committee on Slavery investigate customs resembling the above-mentioned, such as child marriage, inheritance of a widow, the pledging or pawning of women and children;
- 3) the countries concerned with the problem promulgate laws or rely on public opinion in declaring void any marriage concluded without the consent of the wife or before the wife has reached adult age. (See note.)

The ICW expresses the wish that a severe penalty be imposed, wherever these evil practices exist, upon all those who have induced or tried to induce a woman by violence, threats or abuse of authority to accept or break a marriage against her own will.

(Note: The word "adult" is used in the ordinary signification, not in the strict juridical sense.)

HELSINKI 1954

**Women's Attainments and Responsibilities**

THE ICW, conscious of the opportunities opened to women by the equality of rights as proclaimed by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and other international agreements, calls on its National Councils of Women to persevere in the struggle to obtain in fact as well as in law, full and equal human rights for all women in all countries.

**IT REQUESTS THEM** watchfully to prevent any injustice, any retrogression that might endanger the positions gained for women and the influence of women in the world, and to lead their members to full understanding and acceptance of the civic and social responsibilities devolving on women by the very fact of wider perspectives today opening before them.

**Nationality of Spouses and of Married Women**

The ICW re-affirms its Athens resolution on the question of nationality. It stands for complete equality between the spouses in this matter. It welcomes, however, as a step forward any legislation that ensures to married women a free choice of nationality.

**Political Rights of Women**

The ICW reminds all its National Councils that in 1952 the General Assembly of United Nations adopted the Convention on the Political Rights of Women, proposed by ECOSOC, and that this Convention has since been signed by a large number of States, but ratified by comparatively few.

The ICW therefore requests all its National Councils to press for ratification by their Governments since the Convention confirms real equality in political rights, be these participation in the vote, eligibility, or access to public office.

**Maintenance Orders**

The ICW requests its National Councils to urge their Governments to support and ultimately ratify the International Conventions on Recovery of Claims and Enforcement Abroad of Maintenance Orders (drafted by the United Nations Committee of Experts on Recognition and Enforcement Abroad of Maintenance Orders 1952).

MONTREAL 1957

International Conventions for the Improvement  
of the Status of Women

The ICW once again wishes to draw the attention of its National Councils of Women to the paramount importance of the major international conventions for the improvement of the status of women, in particular those concerning equal political rights, equal pay, traffic in persons, maintenance obligations, nationality of married women. In spite of the efforts of women's organisations, too few countries have as yet signed or ratified some or all of these conventions. The ICW requests its National Councils to continue their action with their respective Governments in order that these conventions be urgently ratified and implemented.

Convention on Recovery Abroad of Maintenance

The ICW, in Conference assembled at Montreal, warmly welcomes the United Nations Convention on the Recovery Abroad of Maintenance, adopted and opened for signature on 20th June 1956. It further urges that those national States whose legal systems make it impossible for them to sign the Convention should without delay explore the possibilities of entry into bilateral Conventions for this purpose.

Equality of Rights of Spouses in  
Administration of Family Property

RECOGNISING that under the laws of many countries women are deprived of equality in the matters of the right to administer and dispose of property during marriage, and the right to share in property at the dissolution of marriage; and

FURTHER RECOGNISING that these inequities often bring hardships, suffering, and indignity to women and their children;

THE ICW RESOLVES that it is desirable that both spouses should have equality of rights in the administration and disposition of the family property during marriage, and that, at the dissolution of the marriage, the wife should have the right to share the property acquired during the marriage. THE ICW therefore requests its National Councils to work for legislation to achieve these ends in their respective countries.

ISTANBUL 1960

Status of Women

The ICW requests its affiliated Councils to urge their Governments to seek membership on the Status of Women Commission of the United Nations. The ICW further request its affiliates to follow closely the developments of the work of the Status of Women Commission and to urge their Governments to respond promptly and favourably to the requests by the United Nations for comments on the draft Convention and Recommendation on the Conditions of Marriage.

Discriminatory Measures in Matters of Taxation

The ICW, mindful of the inequities against married women in many national tax systems and desirous of bringing about systems in which taxation of the property of women and of their separate earning does not act as a deterrent to the exercise by women of the use of their initiative, talents and abilities in gainful employment, resolves that in each country its members shall work toward that system which most nearly represents justice to them and to their family.

It is further resolved that the ICW is recorded as being opposed to any tax system which does not place men and women in an equally favourable position.

UNESCO and the Status of Women

THE ICW, in Conference assembled in Istanbul in August 1950, NOTING with appreciation the Director General's proposals to strengthen UNESCO's work for the improvement of the Status of Women, INVITES member States to help increase interest among women for the aims of UNESCO and the place of women within its programme by the following measures:

- a) advertisement of fellowships, travel grants, seminars, conferences etc. open to women as well as to men;
- b) closer co-operation with women's organisations by giving them information on vacancies in secretariat posts and posts for experts under the expanded Programme of Technical Assistance.

WASHINGTON 1963

TERMS OF REFERENCE

As 1951 until "community". The final phrase was slightly altered to read: "...community; to report developments concerning international conventions and national legislation affecting the status of women and to unite women in their efforts to work for legal reforms."

Inheritance Rights

The ICW IN ACCORDANCE with its objectives and efforts to promote equality of rights between men and women in all fields of public and private life, CONSIDERING that in the legal systems and practices of many countries inheritance rights of women in intestate as well as in testamentary succession are not equal to those of men, URGES its affiliated Councils to demand their respective Governments to take the necessary measures to ensure:

- a) equality of inheritance rights between men and women which should not be affected by marriage or the matrimonial regime, and
- b) that the interest of the widow in the estate shall be equal to that of the widower.

Convention on Marriages

The ICW CONSIDERING that in some countries certain customs, ancient laws and practices relating to marriage and the family are inconsistent with the observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for men and women, CONSIDERING the primordial importance to marriage of the free choice of a spouse and of the complete elimination of child marriages, NOTING with satisfaction that an international Convention on "Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages" was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations at its 17th Session and opened for signature and ratification by States on December 10th, 1962, URGES its affiliated Councils to press their respective Governments:

- 1) to sign and ratify the said Convention, and
- 2) to take all necessary legislative measures to ensure to its nationals, men and women, the application of the principles set forth by the Convention,
- 3) to support a proposal for the re-insertion of a minimum age of marriage in the Draft Recommendation when this comes for consideration before the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations.

WASHINGTON 1963

UN Commission on the Status of Women  
The ICW

**NOTING** that in a large majority of countries the status of women is not in harmony, either in law or in fact, with the principles of the United Nations Charter, or of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

**CONSIDERING** the importance, the value and the effectiveness of the work of the Commission on the Status of Women of the United Nations for the implementation of these principles,

**URGES** its affiliated Councils to press the Governments of member States represented on the Economic and Social Council to maintain annual sessions of the Commission in order to enable it to pursue effectively its work.

TEHRAN 1966

Participation of Women in Public Life

NOTING the progress achieved during recent years in the field of political rights of women,

NOTING that the participation of women in public life is not yet satisfactory in many parts of the world due to the lack of effective use of these rights,

RECALLING that a series of United Nations Regional Seminars on the participation of women in public life have been successful in promoting a better understanding among women of their political and civic responsibilities,

NOTING with satisfaction that a series of annual seminars for the civic and political education of women is being provided by the United Nations Advisory Services Programme as from 1967, as requested by the Economic and Social Council in resolutions adopted at its 39th Session (1965),

CONSIDERING that one of these resolutions refers to "the Non-Governmental Organisations' valuable experience and special competence for assisting and equipping women for effective use of their rights and responsibilities as citizens through participation in public affairs", and invites national and local affiliates of Non-Governmental Organisations to co-operate with their Governments in planning, organising and conducting such seminars,

The ICW

INVITES its affiliated Councils to co-operate with their respective Governments in planning, organising and conducting such seminars under the United Nations Programme,

URGES affiliated Councils:

- a) to develop appropriate activities for the civic and political education of women;
- b) to combat all social and other factors which affect unfavourably the participation of women in public life (e.g. discriminatory laws or practices, reluctance of women to participate in public affairs, etc.);
- c) to undertake campaigns for women's effective participation in political life.

Maintenance Obligations

REMINDING affiliated Councils that the United Nations Convention on the Recovery Abroad of Maintenance Obligations was adopted and signed in New York on 22nd June 1956,

NOTING that, since that date, 24 nations have ratified the Convention which now works well between them,

REGRETTING that a certain number of nations, including some which receive many immigrants who may leave their families in their home countries without providing for their needs, have not yet ratified the Convention,

TEHRAN 1966

**RECALLING** that the aim of the Convention is to help a considerable number of women and children abandoned by their husbands and fathers, and to oblige the latter to provide legal support in accordance with the most elementary obligations,

**The ICW**

**ASKS** its affiliated Councils to use their influence with their respective Governments so that, if they have not already done so - and unless satisfactory agreements exist between the Governments of immigration and emigration countries - they ratify and implement without further delay a Convention which has such a patently humanitarian aim that it should be applied throughout the whole world.

**Access of Women to Higher Office in Public Service**

**NOTING** the progress made in the access of women to civil services, which, however, is mostly translated by an increase in the number of women holding lower and medium grade public office while the number of women holding senior posts is not satisfactory,

**NOTING** that the advancement of women to senior posts in civil services and other public office mostly depends upon governmental policies and other practices which disregard the principle of equal rights and equal opportunities for men and women in public services in accordance with the principles enunciated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the United Nations Convention on the political rights of women,

**DRAWING** the attention of its affiliated Councils to the reservations made by a number of nations to Article III of the Convention concerning the access of women to public office on equal terms with men,

**The ICW**

**INVITES** its affiliated Councils to take appropriate steps

- a) to see that any reservations made by their respective Governments be withdrawn;
- b) to ensure the improvement of vocational training and higher and specialised education for young women so that they may attain the qualification required for their advancement in public office;
- c) to encourage women to become interested in and ambitious to attain higher and senior posts in public office and public affairs.

**Community Development**

**BELIEVING** that the full participation of women is essential to the economic and social development of a community,

**RECOGNISING** the importance of community development in efforts to promote nation-wide economic and social development,

TEHRAN 1966

CONSIDERING the important contribution of women to community development, and the great influence of community development in stimulating the advancement of women,

The ICW

RECOMMENDS all affiliated Councils to study the current situation with regard to community development within their own country, and on the basis thereof to recommend their Governments to take the necessary steps in order to facilitate women's contribution to community development;

RECOMMENDS that all affiliated Councils support the various community development programmes within their own country, and take appropriate steps to ensure the full participation of women's organisations and their members in such programmes,

RECOMMENDS affiliated Councils in those countries which have national programmes for assistance to developing countries to work for a bigger allocation of available resources to community development projects benefiting women;

EXPRESSES the hope that the United Nations or other competent organisations or persons will undertake further concrete studies on women's participation in community development, and on the influence of community development on the advancement of women.

Appointment of Suitably Qualified Women  
as Representatives

The ICW

URGES its affiliated National Councils to continue to make strong representation to the appropriate authorities in their countries for the appointment of suitably qualified women as representatives at international, national and regional conferences, seminars and meetings.

Appointment of Suitably Qualified Women  
in Delegations to UNESCO

The ICW

REQUESTS UNESCO to urge its member Governments to include a proportion of suitably qualified women in all delegations to UNESCO meetings and conferences.

BANGKOK 1970

Ratification of the Convention on Recovery of Maintenance Abroad

RECALLING the resolutions adopted by its Plenary Council in 1914, 1930, 1933, 1954, 1957 and 1966,

RECOGNISING that some husbands who go abroad abandon their wives and children and leave them without means.

THE ICW

REQUESTS those of its affiliated Councils whose Governments have not yet ratified the United Nations Convention on the Recovery Abroad of Maintenance Obligations:

- a) to urge them to ratify this Convention and to establish special agencies to deal with this problem,
- b) to introduce a law making the abandonment of families, wives and children a criminal offence,
- c) to publish and circulate among its affiliates a list of countries which have ratified this Convention

VIENNA 1973

Protection of Privacy

BELIEVING that a proper balance should be established between scientific and technological progress and the intellectual, spiritual, cultural and moral advancement of humanity, as well as progress in the general conditions of life;

RECALLING the provisions of Article 17 of the United Nations International Convention on Civil and Political Rights;

RECALLING further the protection afforded by Article 8 of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms;

RECALLING, furthermore, Article 11 of the Universal Convention of Human Rights;

NOTING ALSO the warning of the Tehran International Conference on Human Rights that, while recent scientific discoveries and technological advances have opened up vast prospects for progress, they may nevertheless endanger the rights and freedoms of individuals;

NOTING also Resolution 2450 (XXIII) of the General Assembly of the United Nations on Human rights and Technological Development, and the work of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in this field, CONCERNED at the serious invasions of privacy by electronic data processing and technological surveillance;

CONSIDERING that the legal protection of privacy has proved inadequate in the face of rapid technological development;

The ICW

- a) calls upon the United Nations Commission on Human Rights to establish a Committee of Legal Experts on Data Bank Privacy, and a Committee of Legal Experts on Electronic Surveillance, whose purposes shall be to prepare detailed reports on the invasion of privacy in each field and to recommend action;
- b) requests the Commission on Human Rights to ask each member State of the United Nations to submit a report to it on the legal protection of privacy in respect to computers and electronic surveillance devices and on measures being taken to amplify such protection.

VANCOUVER 1976

Elimination of Discrimination Against Women

The ICW

HAVING STUDIED the United Nations draft Convention on elimination of all forms of discrimination with regard to women, which aims at ensuring the use of their civil, political, economic and social rights in full equality with men,

REQUESTS its Executive Committee, its UN representatives, and its National Councils to seize every opportunity to participate in formulating this Convention's final text, emphasising recognition of the fundamental equality of men and women.

They should ensure that the final text clearly states that steps taken to protect mothers and their part in children's education constitutes no impediment to women's economic and social role; that these steps do not constitute privileges but should ensure protection of duties essential in all societies. They can therefore never be invoked to maintain inequalities of rights in law and practice in any field detrimental or beneficial to women;

REQUESTS its National Councils to ask their Governments when the time comes to sign and ratify the Convention as soon as possible, and to see that it is acted upon.

Women on Public Bodies

The ICW

RE-AFFIRMING its resolution adopted at Tehran in 1966, and wishing to implement the Plan of work adopted by the IWY Conference at Mexico City, 1975, and

IN VIEW of ICW's continuing concern in this field, URGES its National Councils of Women to work steadfastly to ensure the increased participation of women in policy - making positions at every level of Government - local, national and international. In particular, Councils should urge Governments to ensure that women be adequately represented among the principal delegates appointed to international bodies and meetings, including those of the United Nations.

Women with Dependents

The ICW

BEARING IN MIND the growing number of women who are widowed, deserted, divorced or unmarried, and the very large number of persons dependent upon them,

INVITES each National Council to make a special study of the problems of women with dependents, and

URGES

- a) that provision should be made for women who are supporting children to receive as of right a basic maintenance allowance from the appropriate authorities and which allowance should be recoverable by them from the fathers, or from the father's estate;

VANCOUVER 1976

- b) that inheritance and pension procedures should be accelerated and simplified;
- c) that immediate financial help should be given to those who can prove they are in need;
- d) that appropriate measures should be taken to enable these women to be trained, re-trained or trained for a new employment (supportive services, flexible hours of work, part-time work etc.) so that women with dependents can be economically independent.

International Decade for Women

The ICW

CONVINCED that the status of women constitutes a basic element in any process of social and economic development,

WELCOMES the decision of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations to extend throughout the coming decade efforts to achieve the goals of equality, development and peace, set forth in the World Plan of Action adopted by the Mexico City Conference marking International Year, and

URGES its National Councils of Women to examine these goals in the context of social and economic conditions in their own countries, and, drawing upon their rich experience and the significant advances which they have already achieved, to adopt specific targets for their action during the forthcoming decade in order to stimulate necessary action on the part of Government authorities and of voluntary organisations in order to ensure equality development and peace.

FURTHER, recommends that National Councils of Women plan a system of strict vigilance to monitor the implementation of national plans to improve the status of women in matters relating to education, employment and participation in social, economic and political action, and

URGES Councils to keep ICW informed of progress so that appropriate reports may be sent forward to the United Nations, particularly in anticipation of the proposed 1980 conference for review and appraisal.

IN ADDITION, urges its National Councils to impress upon their Governments the need to establish and support national, regional and international research and training institutions designed to bring together, assess and disseminate information and research findings about advances in the status of women, such as the regional institute related to ESCAP - "The Asian and the Pacific Centre for Women and Development".

Nairobi, 1979

UN CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DECADE  
COPENHAGEN, JULY 1980

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Anticipating that a "Tribune" or "Forum" will be provided for the participation of NGOs,

Requests the ICW representatives on the NGO Committee for the Decade of Women to keep the NCs informed of developments in this regard and of any special problems arising in connection with the Conference, and to advise the NCs on matters needing urgent attention and

Suggests that the NCs draw the attention of their governments to the necessity of opening up the Conference procedure to a liberal and pragmatic participation of NGOs as observers at the UN Conference, with an opportunity to deliver oral statements at the discretion of the assembly as well as written statements without unnecessary constraint.

Seoul, 1982

UN CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS  
OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recalling its Resolution on this topic adopted at Vancouver 1976;

Noting that the UN Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women, adopted by the UN General Assembly in December 1979, has now come into force, but

Noting also that many signatories to the Convention have not yet ratified it,

Urges its affiliated National Councils to make known to the women of their countries the terms of the Convention and to bring pressure to bear on their governments to ratify it.

London, 1986

WOMEN IN DECISION-MAKING BODIES

With the approach of its 100th Anniversary in 1988

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Looks back on the continuous efforts it has made throughout its long history to secure for women recognition of their status and worth, equality of status with men, and inclusion in decision-making bodies at all levels, from the highest to the lowest, in all spheres of social, economic and political action. The Council has actively supported all the major international Conventions for the improvement of the status of women and has pressed for the presence of women throughout the UN system;

Equally, the Council has at all times stressed the importance of the education and training of women and for the need of improvement in vocational training and in higher and specialised education, in order that women may be fitted for positions of decision-making and responsibility in all spheres of life;

Inspired by its own past resolutions and welcoming the Forward-Looking Strategies adopted by the End of Decade for Women Conference, Nairobi, July 1985;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Urges its National Councils

- 1) to re-double their efforts to achieve a more satisfactory ratio of well-qualified and able women throughout all power and decision-making structures, where women are still insufficiently represented;
- 2) to take vigorous action in regard to the education, training and retraining of girls and women in scientific, technical and managerial skills and to press for the opening of opportunities for women in all spheres, and
- 3) to use their influence to inspire women to become interested in, and ambitious to obtain, higher and senior posts, to develop their leadership qualities, and to help them to campaign for inclusion in all power structures.

London, 1986

THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

As it was agreed at the UN 40th General Assembly in December 1985 that the UN Commission on the Status of Women will now be required to undertake specific and more onerous responsibilities in regard to the monitoring of the implementation of the Forward-Looking Strategies which arose from the Nairobi End of Decade Meeting of July 1985;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Urges its affiliated Councils to impress upon their governments the necessity of granting necessary funds within existing UN resources and all other facilities to the Commission to enable it successfully to discharge this important work.

LONDON, 1986

RETROGRESSION IN THE POSITION OF WOMEN

Distressed that in certain countries of the world women are at present victims of very serious discriminatory acts, and

Re-affirming its firm commitment to respect for human rights and to the principle of the equality of rights and responsibilities between men and women in every field;

**THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN**

Expresses its most profound concern that in certain countries where the position of women has retrogressed, women are being deprived of their individual, social and political rights, both as mothers and citizens, and young women are prevented from pursuing their studies or from making use of the qualifications they have obtained.

Therefore ICW calls upon its affiliated Councils to urge their governments to exert their strongest influence through the United Nations, and by every other means in their power, to redress the wrongs currently suffered in extreme form by women in certain countries.

ICW looks forward to a return to the standards of human rights which the International Council of Women has always upheld.

London, 1986

DECADE FOR WOMEN 1975/1985. FORWARD-LOOKING STRATEGIES  
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN TO THE YEAR 2000

Arising from discussion on how to proceed with the results of the Nairobi Conference it was agreed at the UN 40th General Assembly in December 1985 that the main thrust of monitoring the implementation of the Forward-Looking Strategies must come from the countries of the world working at national level;

Recognising that the International Council of Women, with its worldwide and ever increasing network of affiliated Councils, has a vital role to play as a focal point for women's activities, and proudly accepting this challenge;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Welcomes the opportunity given to its affiliated Councils to interpret global pronouncements and ideals as incorporated in the Forward-Looking Strategies at national and local levels;

Direct its affiliated Councils

- i) to an immediate and in-depth study of the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies, in order to formulate and actively to implement strategies most urgent and appropriate to the needs of the women of their country;
- ii) to advise ICW of their plans of action, so that the Commission on the Status of Women may include an ICW Report in its submission to the next meeting of the General Assembly, and
- iii) to forward to ICW during the coming year their first reports on action taken, so that ICW may prepare a First Progress Report for its Centenary Celebration Conference in Washington in 1988.

Washington, D.C., 1988

IMPROVING THE STATUS OF WOMEN ALONE  
AND WOMEN HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS

Considering that demographic statistics predict an increase in the ratio of women to men up to the year 2000;

Considering the many difficulties which confront women alone and women who are the sole supporters of their households;

Recognising the new social problems which emerge from this situation:

**THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN**

- 1) asks its National Councils to struggle against laws and customs which discriminate against women alone and women who are the sole supporters of their families;
- 2) requests its National Councils to urge their respective governments:
  - a) to introduce legislation which prevents discrimination against women alone and women who are the sole supporters of their households;
  - b) to ensure that adequate affordable housing is accessible to women alone and women who are the sole supporters of their households, and that they be granted social and other benefits as is justified by their situation or that of their families.

Washington, D.C., 1988

**PARTICIPATION AND REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN IN THE WORK  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND ITS SPECIALISED AGENCIES**

Noting that paragraph 358 of the Nairobi Forward Looking Strategies Document for the Advancement of Women clearly states that it is essential that women should participate actively in the planning and formulation of the policies and programs and in decision-making and appraisal processes in the United Nations;

Aware that Article 8 of the Charter of the United Nations reads, "The United Nations shall place no restriction on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs";

Concerned that the United Nations has not honoured resolution 2175 on opportunities for women, passed by the United Nations in 1970 nor honoured the 25% target in representation of women in the work of the United Nations established in 1978, to be met by 1982;

Believing that the purposes of the United Nations would be strengthened if more women participated in governmental and non-governmental delegations and in the Secretariat of the United Nations at policy-making levels;

**THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN**

Urges its National Councils to exercise influence on their governments:

- 1) to advance women candidates for all positions within the United Nations, especially senior positions;
- 2) to support the maintenance of the position of Coordinator for the Improvement of the Status of Women in the UN Secretariat in New York;
- 3) to increase the number of women in the foreign services of their respective countries;
- 4) to honour the 1982 25% target of representation of women in their nation's delegation to the United Nations and its Specialised Agencies and to move towards parity in representation at all levels;

and

Undertakes to exercise its influence through its Representatives to the United Nations and its Specialised Agencies to effect action on all resolutions and targets set by the UN to bring about equality in the UN and to fully implement the Forward Looking Strategies paragraph 358.

Nairobi, 1979

INFLUENCE OF TELEVISION

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

In 1979, the United Nations International Year of the Child,

Recognising the powerful influence of television on the lives of children and young people,

Believing that a nice sense of discrimination is required to differentiate between entertainment and socially acceptable standards of behaviour, and that the creation of wholesome community life must express distaste for and aversion to violence in any form,

Noting with distress the increase in violence directed against both persons and property,

Calls upon its National Councils and its Representatives accredited to the appropriate United Nations Agencies to work toward the elimination of unnecessary violence in television programmes.

Nairobi, 1979

MASS MEDIA AS A MEANS OF EDUCATION

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Noting that the use of violence is increasingly used as a means of obtaining satisfaction not only in international relations but also in community and family situations,

Realising that the mass media have tremendous potential as a vehicle for the dissemination of information in the fields of education and training, for removing (as well as perpetuating) prejudices, stereotypes and moral attitudes, and thus for advancing economic and social change;

1. Encourages its affiliated National Councils to make representatives of mass communication media aware of the importance of formulating policies and guidelines which would preclude the use of violence as an accepted means of solving problems;

2. Suggests that governmental and non-governmental organisations (especially those dealing with the media) take steps to create a greater public awareness of the futility of using violence for the solution of problems in their respective societies and to promote the use of mass media to project higher moral standards;

3. Recommends that its affiliated National Councils should encourage educational institutions and organisations to make greater use of the mass media for formal and informal education.

Nairobi, 1979

APPLICATION OF HUMANITARIAN PROVISIONS OF  
HELSINKI "FINAL ACT" AGREEMENT, 1975

a) THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Welcomes the provisions accepted by the States parties to the Conference in the "Final Act" of the Helsinki Agreement, viz.:

1. Recognition of rights of minorities,
2. Promise of free cultural exchange,
3. Promise of action to unify separated families,
4. Reiteration of respect for Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, including rights of freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief,
5. Recognition of equal rights and self-determination of peoples;

Noting that provisions of this "Final Act" concur with the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights and the UN International Convention on Civil and Political Rights,

Urges its National Councils to press their governments (if signatories of the Helsinki Agreement) to carry out the provisions of the "Final Act".

b) THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Observing that the "Final Act" of the Helsinki Agreement European Conference on Security and Cooperation 1975 recognised the freedom to emigrate and ensured that its signatories find humanitarian ways of uniting separated families,

Would reiterate the provisions adopted by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, December 16, 1966 (Part III), viz.:

1. Everyone lawfully within the territory of a state shall, within that territory, have the right of liberty of movement and freedom to choose his residence,
2. Everyone shall be free to leave any country, including his own,
3. No one shall be subjected to torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,
4. No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family or home or correspondence nor attack upon his honour or reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attack;

And requests National Councils of Women to work steadfastly to keep these principles in the minds of their fellow citizens and legislators.

Nairobi, 1979

PEACEKEEPING ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Welcoming the widespread interest shown by many countries in the peacekeeping activities of the United Nations.

Requests its National Councils to recommend such international peacekeeping activities included in the syllabuses of appropriate military institutions (where these are not already undertaken), to ensure training in this specialised and essential form of international advice.

Nairobi, 1979

EDUCATION FOR PEACE

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Bearing in mind that peace comes only through international understanding and cooperation and urges its National Councils of Women to promote Education for Peace by:

1. Incorporating the philosophy and techniques of non-violence in pre-school and school programmes of teaching;
2. Setting up courses on Peace Studies at tertiary institutions and in adult education groups;
3. Encouraging the media to emphasise the advantages of peaceful co-existence as opposed to the present emphasis on violence;
4. The creation in all countries of a more informed body of opinion which is determined to settle disputes without recourse to war.
5. Making use of the International Council of Women Twinning Programmes to help young people to respect their international neighbours and feel concern for their well being.
6. Taking part in the Associated Schools Programme of UNESCO.

Nairobi, 1979

TEACHING OF HUMAN RIGHTS

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Bearing in mind THE 30th Anniversary of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights which was celebrated in 1978,

Recalling the substantive Conventions adopted by the United Nations to give specific effect to this Declaration with regard to race, religion and belief, and

in particular

a) the World Plan of Action for the International Decade for Women adopted at the Mexico City Conference of 1975 (based upon the UN Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women);

and

b) the Recommendations by UNESCO of November 1974 concerning international understanding, cooperation and peace, and education relating to human rights and fundamental freedoms;

Convinced that for the realisation of equal rights and fair opportunities for all human beings it is essential that the principles of Human Rights be inculcated in teaching every age;

Urges its affiliated National Councils to bring pressure to bear upon their relevant national, provincial and local authorities to include teaching of the meaning of the ideas of Human Rights in the context of daily life, including the rights of women and

Suggests that National Councils might from their experience be able to make suggestions for such instruction in pre-school, primary, secondary and advanced schooling as well as in non-formal adult education.

Seoul, 1982

DISARMAMENT

Recalling resolutions previously adopted since 1895 on disarmament, on the control of the use of atomic energy, on limitation of nuclear testing, on peaceful use of outer space and of the sea-bed, on reduction and limitation of armaments, on suppression of chemical weapons, on education for peace, on procedures to strengthen peace and to settle disputes by peaceful means,

Noting that ICW resolutions over the years anticipated many of the conclusions of the 10th Special Session on Disarmament in 1978,

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Reaffirms its dedication to peace and to the development of procedures, to resolve conflicts by peaceful means and towards a world where there is freedom and security for all;

Urges its National Councils to press their governments

- 1) to pay particular attention to the relationship between disarmament and development and to the effects of expenditure on armament on the economic and social well-being of the peoples of the world, and
- 2) to support the UN effort in the field of disarmament and peace-keeping activities as laid down in the final document of the General Assembly Session on Disarmament (1978).

Seoul, 1982

THE STRUGGLE AGAINST RACISM AND RACIAL PREJUDICE

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recalling its Resolution on Racial Prejudice adopted at Istanbul in 1960 and its Resolution on Discrimination against Minorities, adopted in 1976 at Vancouver,

Referring to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the UN in 1948, to the Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice, adopted by UNESCO on 27 November 1978 and to the Athens Appeal against Racism (April 1981),

Taking into consideration the Resolution adopted in June 1981 at its 47th Conference by the NCWSA stressing "its consistent opposition to the political policy of Apartheid or Separate Development",

Considering that the role of Women's NGOs around the world seems to include essentially the awareness of the grave problems arising from intolerance and racial prejudices, as well as the awareness of the necessity of promoting Human Rights and the Fundamental Liberties,

Requests its National Councils and affiliated organisations to contribute actively

- 1) to the implementation of the international instruments concerning Human rights,
- 2) to the study of means to be used in order to attain a more effective application of the Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice, adopted by UNESCO.

Seoul, 1982

INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recalling its Resolution on International Terrorism and Hi-Jacking at Vienna 1973;

Affirming that universal peace and arbitration are objectives of the International Council of Women and of the United Nations Decade for Women;

Remembering the innocent victims of acts of armed aggression, the destruction and grief such acts engender and their increasing world-wide frequency;

Urges

- 1) the United Nations to strengthen international instruments against acts of terrorism and
- 2) its National Councils to press their governments to cooperate in the eradication of acts of international terrorism.

LONDON, 1986

THE UN INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PEACE 1986 AND THE ROLE OF WOMEN

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recognising that the aim of Peace for the Decade of Women just concluded is still far from being realised;

Recalling that the Declaration of Mexico on the Equality of Women and their contribution to Development and Peace 1975 states that women have a vital role to play in the promotion of peace in all spheres of life - the family, the community, the nation and the world;

Convinced that women have a role in the home and community to create attitudes and policies which will help towards a more peaceful world;

Being aware that the purposes of the UN would be strengthened if more women participated in governmental and non-governmental delegations, and in the Secretariat of the UN at policy-making levels;

Urges all National Councils in this UN International Year of Peace to give high priority and to stimulate action in regard to policies established in ICW with particular reference to education for Peace, the Peaceful Resolution of Conflict, and support for ideals expressed in the UN Charter.

London, 1986

INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Bearing in mind its resolutions previously adopted in Vienna in 1973 on "International Terrorism and Hijacking", at Nairobi in 1979 on "Education for Peace" and at Seoul in 1982 on "International Terrorism", and its long-standing and unswerving commitment to the peaceful settlement of disputes;

Deeply disturbed by the increasing world problem of terrorism and the new forms in which it is becoming manifest in daily living, but

Welcoming the unanimous adoption by the UN General Assembly of the proposal condemning all acts of terrorism as criminal;

Urges its National Councils

- a) to press their governments to do all they can to eliminate and prohibit both terrorist training and fund-raising in support of terrorist activities within their countries;
- b) to urge their governments to instruct their UN representatives to support vigorously all UN measures for the stricter international control of all forms of terrorism and terrorist-like acts, so that nations may support each other in the eradication of this growing evil of our times.

London, 1986

THE LAW OF THE SEA

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recalling its previous resolutions on the peaceful use of the seabed;

Deeply conscious of the significance for international peace and security of an orderly regime for the use of the sea and its resources, including the deep-seabed beyond national jurisdiction;

Re-Affirming the importance of having a comprehensive agreement on the Law of the Sea;

Notes with pleasure that 156 countries signed the Convention, 26 countries ratified it, and others are known to be researching the numerous articles prior to ratification;

Realising the value of the Convention for world peace;

Calls upon National Councils

a) to commend their governments where they have signed or ratified the Convention, and urge ratification if this has not been done; and to urge governments which have not already signed the Convention to accede to it;

b) to study the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and/or material giving explanatory information.

Washington, D.C., 1988

40th ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Noting that on this 40th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, these continue to be blatantly violated in all too many places;

Observing that the continuous extension of these rights can lead to their relative devaluation and to the weakening of the real application;

Considering the importance of respect for these rights in order to establish and maintain real peace both within and without frontiers;

Recalling that, ever since its foundation, ICW has supported the promotion of Human Rights;

Conscious of the leading role which women should and must play in implementing these Rights in the family, society and within Non-Governmental Organisations which constitute, through their independence and their pluralism, a counterweight to infringement of individual rights by the states;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Calls upon

- 1) the vigilance of its National Councils so that these rights which are constantly quoted, are in fact implemented, and that men and women of all races, beliefs, social conditions and civil status actually benefit from them;
- 2) Non-Governmental Organisations to denounce unequivocally any violation of Human Rights and of freedom of belief, thought, expression and movement, at all international bodies;

Urges National Councils to try to obtain from their governments the assurance that material and cultural conditions, indispensable to the respect and exercise of these rights, will be developed.

Urges

- 1) its National Councils to be on the watch for education in Human and Civil rights as now recommended, to be accompanied by a reminder of duties and responsibilities towards society resulting from them;
- 2) its members to refer constantly to these ideas which contain both the recognition of their responsibility as voting citizens, and the acceptance of duties which this responsibility implies, thus applying the principles which have constituted ICS's doctrine since its foundation.

Washington, D.C., 1988

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS CONSULTATIVE STATUS

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recalling its own long association as an NGO with the League of Nations and the United Nations;

Recalling also its important responsibility as an NGO in Consultative Status Category I with ECOSOC (Economic and Social Council of the UN);

Recognizing the increasing importance placed on cooperation with NGOs by governments and the organisations of the United Nations system;

Concerned that the non-governmental nature of these organisations should be assured and clearly sustainable;

Urges its National Councils:

- 1) to study the arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organisations as set out by the Economic and Social Council in May 1968 by Resolution 1296, and in particular "the Principles to be Applied in the Establishment of Consultative Relations";
- 2) to impress upon their governments the importance of adhering to those principles when new applications for consultative status are being considered by ECOSOC or when the status of currently accredited organisations is reviewed and of opposing firmly decisions which violate these principles.

MASS MEDIA - FILMS

1920 The education Standing Committee set up a special Sub-Committee for matters to do with Films  
1926 Cinema (as a Sub-Committee of the Education Committee)  
1930 Cinematography and Broadcasting (Sub-Committee of Education Committee)  
1933 Cinema and Broadcasting  
1936 Cinema  
1966 Films  
1970 Mass Media

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**Executive**  
**THE HAGUE 1922**

State Board of Censors for Films

It was unanimously agreed that the only adequate means of safeguarding cinema shows was by appointing a State Board of Censors, including women among its members, and to give the Board the supervision over the films, titles, printed matter, as well as over the advertisements and posters.

**Executive**  
**GENEVA 1927**

Composition of the Cinema Sub-Committee

That the Cinema Sub-Committee be composed of representatives of all National Councils and that Mme Dreyfus-Barney by Chairman, with power to form a small consultative committee.

Resolutions Passed by the Paris International Motion Picture Congress

See Vienna 1930.

This resolution, to the end of clause f), was adopted at Geneva and repeated at Vienna, when the "Declaration" and "Statement by the International Commission on the Educational and Social Use of Films..." were added to it.

Employment of Children in Cinema Studios

That the National Councils of Women approach their respective Governments with a request that the employment of children and young persons in cinema studios be brought under strict legal regulations.

VIENNA 1930

Cinema Sub-Committee - Change of Title

In view of the fact that the Cinema Sub-Committee will be called upon to study certain aspects of Broadcasting its terms of reference are enlarged to include this subject and the name of the Committee is altered to the "Cinematography and Broadcasting Sub-Committee".

Circulation of Educational Films

To facilitate the international circulation of educational films, it is desirable to secure a uniform descriptive classification of such films.

Removal of Customs Duties on Education Films

The ICW, in agreement with the Liaison Committee of major international associations, urges the various Governments to remove customs duties on educational films, so that their circulation may be facilitated and every encouragement thereby given to the growth of international understanding among young people.

Choice of Films

The ICW is of opinion that the presentation of detective and other stories on lines that offer suggestion in, or incentive to, crime or immorality should be checked; and that a worldwide movement should be promoted to increase the demand for films of beauty and of high moral tone.

Inflammable Films

The ICW approves the decision taken by certain Governments in respect of the use of inflammable and non-combustible films and calls upon the National Councils to keep this serious question in view in their own countries.

Resolutions Passed by the Paris International Motion Pictures Congress

The ICW, deprecating the trivial, inartistic and demoralising nature of many cinema performances and realising the increasingly important effect the cinema has in the formation of the public conscience and its evil influence in many cases on young people, decides to support the following resolutions selected from amongst those passed by the International Motion Pictures Congress of Paris 1926, and requests National Councils, as being particularly qualified, to interest public opinion in their respective countries in the desired reforms and to work as actively as possible in the directions indicated:-

VIENNA 1930

- a) Authors, producers, publishers and, in general, all persons interested in the artistic and industrial aspects of film production are recommended to avoid scenarios likely to arouse a spirit of animosity between nations and tending to perpetuate the idea of war.
- b) That the exhibition and international exchange of educational films tending to improve the mental, moral or physical conditions of children and young people be encouraged by every possible means.
- c) That in each country the necessary regulations be made to ensure hygenic and safe conditions, including the proper ventilation of cinemas, adequate air-space and a sufficient number of emergency exits etc.
- d) That in all countries, authors, publishers and producers shall do all in their power to improve their work from the intellectual, artistic and moral points of view.
- e) That close co-operation be established between scholars, producers, technicians and propagandists in order to produce the best results possible for teaching hygiene by means of the cinema.
- f) That when arranging programmes, the organisations for popular education through the cinema see that each programme is of the length necessary for one performance and sufficiently varied, so that the worker may at the same time be amused and educated.

Declaration

The International Commission on the Educational and Social Use of Films is composed of a group of big international organisations interested in questions relating to Cinematography. This Commission meets regularly at the League of Nations International Institute for Intellectual Co-operation in Paris. The ICW is one of the constituent bodies of the Commission and has also a member on the Executive Committee.

VIENNA 1930

At its last plenary meeting the Commission adopted the DECLARATION given below, while at the same time asking the various organisations to do all in their power to make it known.

Since this meeting, the President has endorsed the Declaration on behalf of the ICW; the Council is thus pledged to work on the lines indicated.

Statement by the International Commission on  
the Educational and Social Use of Films at  
its Meeting of February 6th, 1930

The International Commission on the Educational and Social Use of Films is a body constituted to represent persons and institutions using the cinema as a medium for education and social welfare work. Its object is to give publicity to the moral and social problems associated with the production and utilisation of educational films. The International Commission on the Educational and Social Use of Films is ready to collaborate with the International Commission of Intellectual Co-operation and with the Institute of Educational Cinematography of the League of Nations at Rome, which latter organisation was formed for the purpose of furthering the production and facilitating the dissemination and exchange of educational films. It notes with satisfaction the decision recently taken by the Rome Institute as a result of which a Conference was convoked at Geneva to study the possibility of abolishing the customs barriers which hamper the international circulation of educational films. It expresses the hope that the Rome Institute will, as soon as possible, prepare an international catalogue of available educational films and establish a card index of all relevant information.

The International Commission on the Educational and Social Use of Films calls the attention of producers and users of educational films to the general principles, the application of which should help to generalise the adoption of the cinematography as an aid to educational and social activities.

Educational films should meet teaching requirements and, in order that this may be assured, it is desirable that close collaboration be established between producers, teachers, scientists and educators. The educational films will thus be rid of any matter likely to exert an unfavourable influence on children and young people. The educational film should be a means of propagating thought, science, hygiene and beauty throughout the world and should help to establish better understanding between nations.

Consequently, the International Commission on the Educational and Social Use of Films issues a warning against the exhibition of any film the scenario of which might engender enmity between nations and peoples, between social classes, or between groups holding conflicting views on religious, philosophical and political questions.

VIENNA 1930

The Commission recommends, on the contrary, the showing of films that emphasise the solidarity of nations in general, the qualities of foreign peoples and the features peculiar to the different countries. It expresses the hope that the accuracy of historical representation will be scrupulously respected and that any literary work adapted for the film will, when presented on the screen, retain all its qualities without any distortion either of the author's intentions or of the setting in which the action takes place.

The International Commission on the Educational and Social Use of Films recommends that the greatest possible use be made of the cinema in primary, secondary, higher grade, training and finishing schools as well as at conferences and meetings organised for educational or recreational purposes, particularly in connection with the profitable employment of workers' spare time.

It urges competent organisations to do all in their power to further the production of educational films meeting current requirements, to remove the obstacles that hamper their international circulation, and to obtain the reduction of taxes levied on cinematography demonstrations at which none but educational and social welfare films are shown.

It calls special attention to the material conditions that should govern the organisation of cinematograph demonstrations, particularly those arranged for the benefit of children and young people. '

In particular:

- 1) From the moral point of view, consideration should be given to the impression which the details of a film are likely to make on the mind of the child; children are more inclined to remember certain incidents which arrest their attention rather than to retain a general impression of a film. Before being produced - or at least before being released - all educational films should be submitted to a special Advisory Committee composed of educators and qualified and conscientious parents. It is desirable that the hall in which films are shown be lighted sufficiently to permit constant supervision.
- 2) From the point of view of hygiene, care should be taken to ensure that the minimum cube of air in the halls is sufficient for the number of spectators, that old films liable to injure the eyesight are discarded, that the time required to show a film be kept within reasonable limits, and that no cinematography entertainments be organised in the schools during epidemics.

VIENNA 1930

- 3) As regards public safety, every possible precaution must be taken against risk of fires; none but non-inflammable films should be used and all exits should be large enough to enable spectators to leave the hall rapidly in case of emergency.

The International Commission on the Educational and Social Use of Films invites international, national, official and unofficial organisations to adopt the foregoing principles as a guide to the action they may take in connection with the dissemination and use of films for educational and social welfare purposes. It urges producers, in the interests of their business, to devote special attention to the requirements of the cinematography as an instructive and educative medium.

Executive  
STOCKHOLM 1933

Vote of Thanks to the International Institute  
for Educational Cinematography in Rome

The ICW first of all thanks the Institute of International Educational Cinematography, and especially its distinguished Director, Dr. Luciano de Feo, for the most valuable help they gave to the organisation of the Conference on Cinematography and Broadcasting in Rome, and congratulates them on the results that they have attained. The ICW, deplored the character of cinematography performances - frequently trivial, inartistic or demoralising - but realising on the other hand the increasingly important part played by the cinema in the education of youth and the formation of a public conscience, decides to work upon the recommendations which have been adopted.

Freedom from Customs Duties for Films  
of an Educational Character

The ICW approves the efforts made by the Institute of International Educational Cinematography of the League of Nations to obtain from the various Governments freedom from customs duties for films of an educational character, as well as its enquiries with a view to obtaining the suppression of taxes on the admission fees on certain cinematographical representations of an educational character, and hopes that it will speedily reach international agreement on the definition to be given to the word "educational" on the classification of this type of film.

The ICW insists that there be instituted by a competent body an enquiry into the mode of film distribution and the measures to be taken to overcome the difficulties of "blind-booking" and "block-booking".

Programmes of Films of Various Types  
Promoting International Understanding

The ICW asks that films which may provoke and develop antagonism between different races, and peoples, be rigorously excluded from the programmes; that very special encouragement be given to producers in every country to assist the development of films that make known the individual characteristics of their own nations and that these same producers having consideration for the ways and customs of other countries lay stress on the collective benefit of international co-operation and the work accomplished by the League of Nations.

The ICW expresses the wish that in order to help in the wider distribution of films worthy of cinematographic art and thus form and elevate public taste, the Institute of International Educational Cinematography prepare periodically programmes of films of various types and place these at the disposal of all countries.

Executive  
STOCKHOLM 1933

National Film Libraries

The ICW urges that national film libraries be formed in every country to facilitate the circulation of films in each country, and also the exchange of films from country to country; and that all Governments be requested to send as speedily as possible the lists of films of an educational character to the Institute in Rome, so that the catalogue may be kept up to date. It strongly urges that a standard size be fixed for reduced films. It recommends that courses of lectures on the working and use of cinematography and broadcasting as aids in education should be instituted in schools which train future teachers.

Non-inflammable and Incombustible Films

The ICW approves the decisions taken by certain Governments relating to non-inflammable and incombustible films, and appeals to the manufacturers of these films to continue further to perfect them.

IT ASKS the National Councils to help to propagate the use of these films as quickly and as widely as possible; to see that numerous wide exits are provided to allow halls to be emptied rapidly; to see that the minimum of cubic air-space is observed; and that worn films are rejected, that children are not admitted to the front rows near the screen (these being particularly injurious to their eye-sight); and that the lighting is sufficient for the proper supervision of children during the performances.

IT ASKS the intervention of National Councils to regulate at the earliest opportunity the employment of children and young persons in the studios and to see that the life and health of the actors are not unnecessarily endangered.

Influence of the Cinema on Individuals

HAVING REGARD to the fact that the cinema exercises a considerable influence on individuals, and especially on children, the Conference recognises with satisfaction that most Governments are showing an increasing interest in the important questions of the cinema as it helps to form public opinion and by repercussion affects the life of the individual, of the family and of society.

THE ICW insists that an effort should be made throughout the world to prohibit the representation of all subjects and police scenes inciting people to cruelty, crime or immorality, as well as anything which could lower the standard of civilisation or injure the good feeling between nations, and appeals to editors, producers and exhibitors to present films of a high standard.

Executive  
STOCKHOLM 1933

IT REITERATES the proposal formulated at the Paris Cinema Conference in 1926, and adopted by the ICW:- "that when arranging programmes the organisations for popular education through the cinema see that each programme be of the length necessary for one performance and sufficiently varied, so that the worker may at the same time be amused and educated."

IT RECOMMENDS consulting the workers so as to know their views on the subject.

Censorship and Boards of Censors

SEEING that most countries have found it necessary to establish a censorship of two kinds, it would be desirable to see all countries adopting the same, or the application of an effective Governmental control during the process of film production.

THE ICW urges that qualified and competent women be included on the Boards of Censors;

THAT the censorship deals also with posters, titles and the variety entertainments included in the programmes;

THAT official supervision be effectively exercised over obscene films and that persons taking part in their production, distribution and exportation be liable to punishment after trial in court;

ALSO THAT an international committee examine the systems of censorship actually in force in the different countries and seek to draw up a code which could be adopted by the majority of States and so establish a Convention on censorship, which would facilitate the exchange of films in their original forms between the different countries.

ON THE OTHER HAND, it is desirable that the artistic character of the films be respected and that no unnecessary cutting prejudicial to the author's original conception be made.

The Cinematography as Valuable Means of Acquainting  
Different Nations with the Noblest and Highest  
Aspects of Creative Art

The ICW welcomes the resolution taken by the Standing Committee of the League of Nations on Arts and Letters, July 9th, 1931, which expresses the principles already adopted by the ICW, and reads as follows:-

"THE COMMITTEE

CONVINCED that the cinematography is a valuable means of acquainting the different nations with the noblest and highest aspects of creative art in all its forms;

REQUESTS the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation to draw the attention of the International Institute of Educational Cinematography to the desirability of bringing about by appropriate means, the inclusion of an educational firm in each cinematography programme."

## MASS MEDIA

<u>Press</u>	<u>Cinema</u>	<u>Radio</u>
1899 Press	1920 The Education Committee Set Up a Special Sub-Committee for Matters to do with Films	1926 Broadcasting (as a Sub-Committee of the Education Committee)
1927 Press, Arts and Letters	1926 Cinema (as a Sub-Committee of the Education Committee)	1936 Broadcasting (Radio)
1963 Press and Public Relations	1930 Cinematograph and Broadcasting Education Committee  1933 Cinema and Broadcasting  1936 Cinema  1966 Films	1951 Radio and Television

1970 MASS MEDIA

Executive  
STOCKHOLM 1933

Having regard to the important place the cinema occupies today, it is essential to take all necessary steps to help in the diffusion of education films, which would encourage film producing companies to their greater production; to establish a close co-operation between producers, scholars and teachers for the making of instructional films or films to broaden ideas on hygiene, science, art etc. On the other hand, the ICW, looking at the matter from an educational point of view, hopes that historical truth will be respected.

PARIS 1934

Cinematography

THE ICW, having approved the plan of action of its Cinematography and Broadcasting Committee on the basis of the recommendations worked out by the Committee in 1931 at the meeting at the Institute of Educational Cinematography of the League of Nations, decides to continue its work on the same lines by every means in its power.

THE ICW welcomes the Convention adopted by the Diplomatic Conference of the League of Nations in 1933 for the purpose of facilitating the circulation of educational films, and appeals to its National Councils to work in their respective countries for the ratification and application of this important Convention.

THE ICW wishes to emphasise the importance of the International Congress in Rome organised for 1934 by the Institute of Educational Cinematography of the League of Nations, and expresses the hope that it labours on instruction, education and films bearing on international relations may be used by the various National Councils with a view to stimulating the action already taken by them in these three departments, the ideas embodied in the 1931 resolutions having been confirmed and re-inforced by those adopted at the Rome congress in 1934.

DUBROVNIK 1936

Division of the Cinematography and  
Broadcasting Committee into Two Separate  
Standing Committees

HAVING REGARD to the different nature of many of the problems associated with the uses of the Cinema and of Broadcasting, and the fact that few individuals are able to acquire and maintain an intimate acquaintance with both these subjects;

THE ICW resolves to sub-divide the existing Standing Committee into two separate Committees, each with its own officers and members, to be named respectively Committee on the Cinema and Committee on Broadcasting, the work of both Committees to continue as heretofore to be linked up through the ICW Liaison Officer with the International Organisation of Intellectual Co-operation of the League of Nations and other correlated international bodies.

Continuation of the Programmes of Work of the Committees

The ICW approves of the continuation by the Committees on Cinema and on Broadcasting of the programme work of the former Committee, which has started its activity in the domain of the Cinema in 1926 and in that of Broadcasting in 1931 and which has met with active collaboration from the National Councils of Women and with increasing interest for its efforts generally. The ICW wishes the new Committees to continue to act on the lines along which the former Committee has worked successfully since the beginning with special emphasis on education and peace.

Films of Artistic Merit and Social  
and Educational Value

The ICW requests its affiliated National Councils to foster an appreciation of films of artistic merit and pronounced social and educational value so that the production of such films shall be encouraged and also to do their utmost to disseminate information concerning them.

Condemnation of Films with Harmful Tendencies

The ICW strongly condemns all films which tend to bring one country into contempt in the eyes of others or to exploit social evils and bad customs. Such films are harmful to international relationship and impede the work of promoting international friendship and understanding.

EDINBURGH 1938

Education of Public Taste

The Cinema industry having to cater for a public which does not fully understand the power of the new art which is being presented to it, THE ICW begs its affiliated Councils to undertake as their principal task for the ensuing triennial period the education of public taste:

- a) by supporting through conferences, exhibitions, activities of specialised groups, by the judicious use of sub-standard films or by any other means films of high moral and artistic value too often neglected;
- b) by instruction in schools and universities in film appreciation and technique, for the development and guiding of the minds of the generation;
- c) by offering awards, e.g. medals and diplomas, to those cinema houses having shown during the year the scientific, documentary, journalistic, spectacular, humanitarian and practical possibilities of the seventh art, amongst which recreative films suitable for children and which to a very large degree fill the role of friendship and understanding both international and inter-racial;
- d) by conducting a worldwide crusade for the better development of cinematography in all its aspects;
- e) in encouraging the ratification and application of the League of Nations Convention which aims at facilitating the circulation of educational films between countries and in ensuring that the work of the International Institute on Educational Cinematography under the League of Nations be taken up again.

Sub-Standard Films

The ICW calls on its affiliated Councils to encourage the production of sub-standard films for schools, colleges, adult groups etc. and, in particular, to emphasise its possibilities in those countries in which there are backward native races.

Cruelty to Animals

The ICW begs its affiliated Councils in film producing countries to use their influence to prevent production of films which involve cruelty to animals.

PHILADELPHIA  
1947

Relation of the Film to Social  
Life and Support of UNESCO

The ICW urges its National Councils to press in their own countries for the establishment of any appropriate channel for research into the relation of the film to, and its development for, social and economic life, and for the support of the work of UNESCO along these lines.

ATHENS 1951

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To promote in the film producing countries movements to raise the artistic and moral level of the cinema as a means of entertainment and re-creation; to encourage the use of the cinema in schools as a medium of furthering knowledge and education; to teach children to appreciate the value of this new art in its higher and more serious aspects no less than in its function as a means of entertainment during leisure hours; to emphasise the value of the films as a great influence in education and in promoting good international relationships.

Production of Entertainment Films Suitable  
for Children and Parents

THE ICW deplores the shortage of entertainment films suitable for attendance by children and the family as a whole shown in commercial cinemas, and

URGES its National Councils of Women to appeal directly to the appropriate confederations of film producers with a view to encouraging the production of wholesome entertainment films.

Film Production for Less Developed Peoples

THE ICW, recognising both the tremendous influence of the cinema in general and the frequently harmful effect on the less developed peoples of films produced for people of other cultures, URGES that the production of either educational or entertainment films expressly for such people be assisted in every way possible, both by Governments concerned and by UNESCO.

ATHENS 1951

Special Films for Children's Entertainment  
and Their Free Circulation

THE ICW, being of opinion that children's entertainment films of the type that have been produced in Great Britain during the last six years of incalculable value, not only in raising public standards in films, but also in promoting good international relationships, URGES that such children's films should be recognised in all countries as a special category (as are educational and scientific films) in order to promote the free circulation of these films into and from all countries.

HELSINKI 1954

Family Entertainment Films

The ICW, in Conference assembled in 1954, urges its National Councils to impress upon the production, distribution and exhibition sections of their national film industry the importance of providing good family entertainment films, portraying sound moral standards and no undue violence.

TEHRAN 1966

National Films Depicting the Life of Women

The ICW urges its affiliated Councils to take active steps to encourage the production of national films depicting the life of the women of their countries.

MASS MEDIA - PRESS

1899 Press  
1927 Press, Arts and Letters  
1963 Press and Public Relations  
1970 Mass Media

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**LONDON 1899**

Press Communication

That some efficient method of communication by means of the press be adopted by the International Council and between the different National Councils; that a list of suitable newspapers and journals throughout the world be drawn up, and that the Editors be approached, with a view to inserting items of International Council news in their papers.

**KRISTIANIA 1920**

Official Organ of the ICW

That the ICW publish a periodical which shall be considered its official organ.

**Executive  
GENEVA 1927**

Enlargement of the Scope of the Standing Committee on Press

That the scope of the Standing Committee on Press be enlarged and be named in future "Standing Committee on Press, Arts and Letters".

Appointment of Two Additional Vice-Conveners to the Press Committee

That two additional Vice-Conveners be appointed, one for Arts and one for Letters.

News-sheet on Women's Activities

That a news-sheet on women's activities and matters relating thereto, similar to the Agency Havas, should be edited, if possible, every week by the Headquarters' office in London. The members of the ICW Press Committee to undertake to forward to the Headquarters' office in London items of news concerning women's activities in their country. The news-sheet to be sent regularly to the members of the Press Committee or to their proxies.

DUBROVNIK 1936

Journalism as a Career for Women

Considering the influence of the press on the mentality of the public and the difficulties which the work of women meets all over the world, the ICW urges National Councils to do their utmost to promote journalism as a career for women and especially to keep the younger generation of women journalists well informed regarding the woman's movement and any advance made in the work for peace and other aims and purposes of the ICW.

EDINBURGH 1938

Tendency Towards Sensationalism

The ICW

RECOGNISING the press as a force for good or evil, deplores the growing tendency towards sensationalism pursued by certain sections. The disregard thus shown for the liberty and dignity of the individual menaces the social life of a civilised community.

FURTHER, it considers that the inaccurate presentation of news militates against the cause of peace.

IT THEREFORE URGES National Councils to take action in their respective countries to combat this tendency through education of public opinion and by means of the women's organisations and youth movements.

PHILADELPHIA

1947

Use of Press, Radio and Films

Whereas the press, radio and films constitute the most effective media for mass communication, at home and abroad, therefore be it resolved that the National Councils of Women, by every means in their power, encourage the use of these media to reflect authentically the character, customs, traditions and status of all countries and races.

Free Access to Information

The ICW is gravely concerned at the suppression and arbitrary editing of information in many countries. Since true democracy must be based upon an informed public, the ICW considers that there should be free access to the information necessary for forming a true knowledge of both foreign and domestic affairs.

Executive  
LUGANO 1949

Propaganda for the ICW Bulletin

- 1) Representatives of the ICW Standing Committee on Press and Information should increase their efforts to spread knowledge of the ICW in their own countries, and obtain more subscribers to the Bulletin. Further publicity might be ensured through such methods as an ICW special propaganda or information week, through lectures on the aims of ICE, discussion groups, publicity in their own publications and in the general press and radio. Further, that each representative should start work in her own country as early as possible to ensure good publicity for the next Triennial Conference.
- 2) A closer co-operation should be developed with the ICW Broadcasting Committee.

ATHENS 1951

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To make known and to support the work of the ICW and to act in liaison between the headquarters of the ICW and the Press Committee of the National Councils.

Information on ICW Through the Press

CONVINCED that the ideas and aims of the ICW can contribute to building a better future for humanity, RECOGNISING in this connection the great power of the press, THE ICW URGES the National Councils of Women to see to it that its principles be made known as widely, systematically and frequently as possible through the press of each country.

WASHINGTON 1963

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To make known and to support the work of the ICW and to act as liaison between the ICW and the Press Committees or Press representatives of National Councils; to work particularly with the host country and the ICW at the time of ICW Executive and Triennial Meetings; to co-operate with the Editor of the ICW Newsletter, to be responsible for ICW publications, to maintain close contact with the Committees on Radio and TV and Cinema, as representatives of Mass Media; and to keep National Councils informed of ICW and NCW news which might be of interest and use to National Councils and of benefit to ICW.

TEHRAN 1966

TERMS OF REFERENCE

As above, with the following changes:  
"to work particularly with the host country and the ICW at the time of ICW Executive and Triennial Meetings"; to become: "to help the host country and the ICW and ICW Executive and Triennial Meetings:".  
Removal of the words "to be responsible for ICW publications".

MASS MEDIA - RADIO AND TELEVISION

1926 Broadcasting (as a Sub-Committee of the Education Committee)  
1930 Cinematography and Broadcasting (Sub-Committee of Education Committee)  
1936 Broadcasting (Radio)  
1951 Radio and Television  
1970 Mass Media

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Executive  
GENEVA 1927

Broadcasting as a Means of Propaganda

That in order to bring the women of all countries into closer touch as regards their social and intellectual activities, as well as to enlarge the field of propaganda for the ICW, the most powerful agent for mutual understanding, the radio, should be employed; and that in order to achieve this object a short resume of the questions relating to the women's movement should be given as often as possible in a quarter of an hour from each broadcasting station.

Executive  
STOCKHOLM 1933

Development of Broadcasting

The ICW, recognising the continuous development of broadcasting and its use as a means of information, instruction and amusement, hopes that it will assist in raising the moral level and in the bringing together of peoples.

It congratulates itself on the fact that at the last Session of the Assembly of the League of Nations the study of the effects of broadcasting was entrusted to the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, and adopts the following recommendations:-

The ICW asks that qualified and competent women in each country be appointed on the Committees created to deal with broadcasting; that authorities agree to the creation of a specialists' committee for the handling of women's problems.

The ICW, being of the opinion that it is of the highest cultural and social importance that there should be preserved in each country media for the public dissemination of art and information which, by the independent character of their control, retain at all times the confidence and respect of the public;

Executive  
STOCKHOLM 1933

being favourably impressed with the results already obtained in a number of countries where broadcasting is exploited as a form of public service;

appeals to the Governments and to the interested broadcasting administrations so to regulate the broadcasting conditions in their respective countries that there may be an adequate number of transmitting stations able to operate effectively without the necessity for giving programmes, the main object of which is not cultural but the furtherance of third-party interests.

PARIS 1934

Broadcasting

CONSIDERING that broadcasting is a splendid means of information, instruction and relaxation and that it is more and more used in the political and international domain, and that this increasing use becomes a danger to understanding between races and peoples unless certain rules are scrupulously observed,

THE ICW EXPRESSES the hope that an international Convention will be adopted by the various countries defining exactly these rules and looking to their observance.

THE ICW WISHES to congratulate the International Committee of Intellectual Co-operation on its pre-occupation with this question and on having asked its Paris Institute to elaborate a Draft Proposal (which has since been submitted to the various States) with a view to promoting the use of the wireless in the interest of peace.

THE ICW RECOMMENDS its National Councils to see that the recommendations adopted in 1931 and ratified in Stockholm in 1933 be applied in practice and to insist that the broadcasting companies of their respective countries draw up their programmes with a view to enlightening the public on foreign countries and to develop international understanding and goodwill among peoples.

DUBROVNIK 1936

Women in the Administration of the  
Broadcasting and Programme Committees

Considering that broadcasting is a splendid means of information and instruction and has a great influence on the mentality of the public throughout the world, the ICW calls upon its National Councils to do all in their power in their respective countries to introduce or increase the influence of the women upon broadcasting, its administration and the drawing up of its programmes. The National Councils are recommended for this purpose to form a committee of representatives of the leading women's organisations in their respective countries or to encourage those that already exist to co-operate with the Broadcasting Authority of the country in order:

- 1) to place women as well as men in the administration of the Broadcasting and to let women take part in the drawing up of programmes;
- 2) to have popular information and lectures on the woman's movement broadcast in respective countries, thus giving men as well as women a better understanding of the well-founded claims of women and the social work actually done by them;
- 3) to arrange an international exchange of broadcasts with a view to making use of the radio to promote a greater degree of understanding between various countries.

EDINBURGH 1938

Convention on the Use of Broadcasting  
in the Cause of Peace

The ICW re-affirms its desire that the League of Nations Convention on the use of broadcasting in the cause of peace be put into practice.

Women's Broadcasts

WHEREAS the ICW views broadcasting by women as of particular interest and is persuaded that such broadcasts are of special value in raising the cultural level of woman, in defending her rights, combating social evils and in the promotion of peace,

THE ICW URGES that suitably qualified women in all countries should take an active interest in broadcasting, both through organisation and by participation, thus widening the scope of women's activities by means of the wireless.

IT RECOMMENDS FURTHER that efforts should be made to induce listeners to form groups for following radio programmes and that they should send suggestions and criticisms concerning them to the proper authorities.

ATHENS 1951

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

To place women as well as men in the administration of broadcasting and let women take part in the drawing up of the programmes; to have popular information and lectures on subjects of special interest and educative value to women and to arrange international exchange of broadcasts with a view to making use of the radio to promote a greater degree of understanding between the various nations.

**Wide News Coverage for Productive Work of the UN**

The ICW

CONVINCED of the vast power of the radio and press, URGES the National Councils of Women and their branches in the various communities of the world to work toward wider and more effective use of these forces, particularly as regards information about the UN and its activities, and SUGGESTS that means be found to widen news coverage of the constructive work of the UN and the Specialised Agencies, to the end that their aims and accomplishments may become known to peoples throughout the world.

**Adult Educational Broadcasts**

RECOGNISING the very great value of the special attention to the interests of women paid by the British Broadcasting Corporation and other radio systems,

THE ICW URGES that, in countries where adult educational broadcasting on a broad basis is not already established, the National Councils of Women should press for the initiation or extension of programmes dealing with such subjects as child welfare, home economics and elementary health talks to fit the needs of the family.

HELSINKI 1954

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Add the following opening sentence: "To work for and defend freedom of speech on the air, nationally and internationally, and fair comment;" then continue "to place women etc....." as 1951.

ISTANBUL 1960

Television Programmes

The ICW

**DRAWS ATTENTION** to the rapid growth of television and the fact that more than fifty countries are now broadcasting programmes mainly of popular entertainment,

**IN VIEW OF THIS** and the great influence of television particularly on those who so far have had few educational advantages,

**THE ICW URGES** all National Councils of Women to do everything in their power to ensure that in their own countries a reasonable proportion of informative and serious material is included in their programmes.

WASHINGTON 1963

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Slight change in the wording of the first two phrases, to read:

"To work for and defend freedom of speech on the air, and fair comment, nationally and internationally; to give women an equal access with men to the administration of broadcasting and let women take part in the drawing up of the programmes....various nations."

MASS MEDIA

1970

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BANGKOK 1970

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To work for and to defend freedom of expression in all the information channels; to promote the use of films, the press, radio and television as media for education, information and leisure; to encourage women to assume responsibility in the improvement of the quality of mass media.

(Formation of one Mass Media Committee: At the 1966 Triennial Conference the three Mass Media Committees agreed to examine the feasibility of amalgamating and, during the 1967 Executive Meeting, it was resolved that this should be recommended to the next Plenary Meeting. The amalgamation was confirmed at the Bangkok Conference and the above Terms of Reference adopted.)

VANCOUVER 1976

Moral Standards in Films

The ICW

CONVINCED that violence and immorality in films have a disastrous effect on behaviour and standards especially the young, URGES its National Councils to unite in a call to film makers and exhibitors to exercise a sense of responsibility by ensuring that films uphold moral standards.

Image of Women in Mass Media

The ICW

WHEREAS the image of women presented by the Mass Media is often far from accurate and does not portray them or their place in society correctly,

THEREFORE URGES its National Councils to work towards the elimination of the present faulty image of women in Mass Media and to make all necessary efforts to portray women and their new roles in today's society in true perspective,

FURTHER urges that National Councils seek a greatly increased participation by women in decision-making areas in all forms of Mass Media.

## **M I G R A T I O N**

**1909 Emigration and Immigration**

**1930 Migration**

MIGRATION

1909 Emigration and Immigration  
1930 Migration

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TORONTO 1909

Standing Committee on Emigration and Immigration

That a Standing Committee on Emigration and Immigration be formed, not with the object of pushing emigration but to safeguard emigrants, especially women and children.

Executive  
STOCKHOLM 1911

Protection of Young Girls

The Executive recommends that National Councils be requested to urge on their respective Governments that it be made illegal for a young girl under age to be able to obtain her passport on a steamer bound for another country without previously showing documents as to her destination and giving proof of an engagement to work.

Medical Examination of Emigrants

This Committee recommends the National Councils to request their Governments to secure that a strict medical examination of all emigrants shall take place before they are allowed to leave their own country.

Regulations Regarding Medical Examination  
of Emigrants

That the members of the Emigration Committee be requested to ascertain what regulations exist in different countries as to the medical examination of emigrants before they leave their own country, as much hardship is involved for emigrants if they are stopped at the port of embarkation.

Emigration/Immigration Societies

- 1) That the members of this Committee find out which societies exist which have to do with emigration or immigration, each in their own country;
- 2) what co-operation exists between these societies in various countries.

ROME 1914

Bureaux of Information and Courses of Instruction for Intending Emigrants

That in all countries from which much emigration takes place, bureaux of information for all matters concerning emigration, and eventually courses of instruction, shall be arranged for the emigrants intending to go to foreign countries, so that they should acquire some knowledge of the land where they intend to reside.

Appeal for International Conference of Immigration Officials

That on the proposal of the Department of Immigration of the United States, the ICW request each National Council to ask their respective Governments to unite in an International Conference of Immigration Officials.

National Committees for the Care of Deported Emigrant Women

That on the proposal of the Department of Labour of the United States, the ICW request each National Council to form a Committee to correspond directly with the United States Government for the care and protection of deported women; special attention should be given to the care and protection of such girls who would not be received back into the countries from which they came.

KRISTIANIA 1920

Medical Examination at the Ports of Embarkation

In order to avoid the difficulties and privations to which immigrants are often exposed because the medical inspection at the ports of embarkation is not always sufficiently thorough, we urgently request all National Councils of Women to ask their Governments to establish a system of medical examination at the ports of embarkation which shall be in agreement with the conditions demanded by the Health Authorities at the ports of disembarkation.

Executive  
THE HAGUE 1922

Women on Delegations to International Labour Conferences

That the National Councils of Women, in those countries where the Government intends to send a delegation to the International Labour Conference next autumn, urge that on the delegation be included at least one woman expert in emigration, as the Conference is chiefly to deal with this subject.

**Executive**  
**THE HAGUE 1922**

**Women on International Emigration Commission**

That the Standing Committee on Emigration and Immigration of the ICW request the Executive of the Council to urge the International Labour Office to appoint on the International Emigration Commission women conversant with the special problems of emigrant women and girls.

**Hostels etc. for Emigrants**

That any National Council of Women at whose frontier transmigrations take place promote:

- a) the establishment of hostels at the frontier for emigrants detained through passport difficulties;
- b) the granting of free travelling facilities to ladies who undertake station work at home and abroad;
- c) to resumption of the publication of the paper "La Traite des Blanches".

**WASHINGTON 1925**

**Women Officials in Legations and Consulates**

That the National Councils be asked to urge their Governments to add responsible women officials to the staff of their Legations and Consulates for the assistance of women and children travelling abroad.

**Openings Overseas for Education Women**

The Standing Committee on Emigration and Immigration recommends that the National Councils of Women in those countries where domestic help is scarce, and where the immigration of professional women would be welcomed, should get information concerning suitable openings for well-educated girls in families as well as in professional work. Further, those National Councils of Women in countries where there is much unemployment among educated women should bring such positions before suitable applicants. On both sides, the National Councils should consider the best methods of securing assisted passages.

**Rider:**

If in any country no bureau has as yet been established to give information to professional women regarding emigration and immigration, the National Council in such country is urged to take steps to form a bureau, or at least to designate some fixed address to which professional women could write for information.

WASHINGTON 1925

Wives and Children of USA Immigrants

The ICW recognises with gratitude the action of the National Council of Women of the United States of America in urging their Government to admit the wives and minor children of men already living in the States, irrespective of quota; the International Council further makes request that, when so desired, the widowed mothers of the men be likewise received as non-quota immigrants.

Executive  
GENEVA 1927

Appointment of an Additional Vice Convener  
to the Standing Committee on Emigration  
and Immigration

That two Vice Conveners be appointed to the Standing Committee on Emigration and Immigration, one for Europe and one for the overseas countries.

Measures for the Protection of Persons  
Without Nationality

Recognising the great humanitarian importance of those measures which have been taken by the High Commissioner under the League of Nations and International Labour Office for the protection of the Russian and Armenian refugees, the Executive Committee of the ICW expresses the wish that such measures be extended to other analogous groups of refugees and persons who have lost their nationality, and would recommend that the Council of the League of Nations and the Administration of the International Labour Office should take the necessary steps to carry out this purpose.

VIENNA 1930

Change of Name of Standing Committee

That the name of the Emigration and Immigration Committee be changed to Migration Committee.

Women Officials in Legations and Consulates

The resolution adopted at WASHINGTON 1925 was repeated with a change in the last words of the sentence: "women and children travelling abroad" was changed to "women and children belonging to their country".

VIENNA 1930

Openings for Education Women in Foreign Countries

The resolution adopted at WASHINGTON 1025, under the title "Openings Overseas for Education Women" was repeated. The opening sentence "The Standing Committee on Emigration and Immigration recommends that...." was changed to "The ICW recommends that..."

Measures for the Protection of Persons

without Nationality

The resolution adopted by the Executive GENEVA 1927 was repeated with minor changes. "Armenian refugees, the Executive Committee of the ICW expresses...." was changed to "Armenian refugees, the ICW expresses....". The words "and the Administration of the International Labour Office" were omitted, to read "the League of Nations should take the necessary steps...."

International Assurance Scheme for Migrants

The ICW asks its National Councils to urge upon their various Governments the need for establishing a system of international assurance for women migrants, which will enable them to continue in the country of immigration the same payments as were made by them to an Assurance Fund in their country of origin, and shall provide for them in sickness, loss of employment and old age.

Executive  
STOCKHOLM 1933

International Committee for Securing Employment  
for Refugee Professional Workers

The ICW, having learnt with satisfaction that an International Committee for securing employment for refugee professional workers has been formed in Geneva for the purpose of assisting emigrants of the intellectual class who have been deprived of their means of livelihood, recommends the National Councils of Women to unite their efforts within the limits of possibility with those of the National Committees already existing in their respective countries.

DUBROVNIK 1936

Membership of the Conference Permanente pour la  
Protection des Migrants

That in view of the considerable advantages of membership in the "Conference Permanente pour la Protection des Migrants" (Headquarters, Geneva) and the reduction of the annual affiliation fee to 30 Swiss francs, the ICW shall apply for re-affiliation with that body and shall send a representative to its meetings.

DUBROVNIK 1936

Training of Women Settlers

Seeing that under certain of the Colonial Powers very good results are being obtained by the provision of special preparatory training for women about to settle in Colonies or other lands overseas,

THE ICW RESOLVED:

- 1) to make request to the International Labour Office to find some appropriate means of stimulating interest in this form of practical help to women settlers;
- 2) to urge upon the National Councils of Women in the countries concerned to work for the provision of such training as an integral part of their Government's overseas policy, so that women may be prepared as fully as possible for their task in the new country.

EDINBURGH 1938

Revival of Migration

IN VIEW OF the revival of migration in certain parts of the world and recent conferences held dealing with migration problems, such as the Conference of Experts at Geneva in February this year and the last International Labour Conference dealing with the question of recruiting and placing migrant workers (equality of treatment);

THE ICW URGES its affiliated Councils:

- a) to study the conditions under which their nationals emigrate;
- b) to arrange a well-organised migration service where it does not already exist, for the assistance and training of migrants by capable men and women officials, and
- c) to let these established contacts with the migrants in the new country in close co-operation with the local migration service; this refers to ordinary migrants in overseas countries as well as in Europe, and to migrant workers including seasonal and temporary workers.

EDINBURGH 1938

Refugees and Stateless Persons

The ICW

DEEPLY MOVED by the distress of the refugees and stateless persons for whom assistance, the right to work and possibilities of rehabilitation should be reassured;

ALIVE to the difficulties which their presence creates for certain nations, and

CONSIDERING that this problem can only be solved internationally;

EXPRESSES the wish

- 1) that the humanitarian work carried out up to now by the Nansen Committee and similar refugee organisations be maintained and that the Inter-Governmental Refugee Committee proposed by the Evian Conference be speedily set to work;
- 2) that the Convention concerning the International Statute of Refugees of October 28th, 1933 be ratified.

THE ICW further urges its affiliated Councils to take the necessary steps in order to obtain from the competent authorities in their respective countries the realisation of these two points.

Girls Visiting Foreign Countries

to Study the Language on Mutual Terms

The ICW invites its affiliated Councils to study existing conditions with regard to girls visiting foreign countries to study the language on mutual terms (au pair), and to endeavour through the authorities (Home Offices, Ministries of Labour etc.) and with the help of private organisations to increase facilities for the entrance into other countries of these girls.

Executive  
BRUSSELS 1946

Refugees and Displaced Persons

THE ICW LEARNS with great satisfaction that the General Assembly of UNO had recognised that the problem of refugees and displaced persons of all categories was one of immediate urgency which had to be examined in all its aspects, and that an examination has taken place already in a special Committee set up under the auspices of the Social and Economic Council.

Executive  
BRUSSELS 1946

**THE ICW KNOWS** how great the difficulties are that confront the United Nations in the solving of this problem, and all the human interest that attaches to refugees, but nevertheless wishes to underline the difficulties that the present situation causes to countries which have received or may receive such persons and where the balance of population maybe disturbed, and urges an international agreement which would free those countries from the burden.

**THE ICW URGES** every National Council to inform their respective Governments of their desire to ensure satisfactory living conditions and opportunities for rehabilitation to displaced persons, while they are awaiting permanent resettlement. To solve this world problem they should request their respective Governments to absorb a proportionate quota each of the non-repatriable displaced persons, and to issue a United Nations passport which would be accepted as a fully credited identification paper by all members of the United Nations.

PHILADELPHIA 1947

International Refugee Organisation

**THE ICW** has learned with great satisfaction of the creation of the International Refugee Organisation by the UN and asks all its affiliated Councils to urge their respective Governments to sign and ratify the constitution of this body at the earliest opportunity.

**THE ICW** strongly urges its national Councils to inform their respective Governments of their desire that satisfactory living conditions and opportunities for rehabilitation should be assured to displaced persons while they are awaiting permanent resettlement.

**THE ICW** further urges its affiliated Councils to ask their Governments to help to solve this world problem:

- 1) by absorbing a proportionate quota of non-repatriable displaced persons, and
- 2) by using their influence with the United Nations to issue to such displaced persons United Nations passports which would be accepted by all members of the United Nations as a fully accredited identification paper.

Executive  
LUGANO 1949

Unduly Prolonged Captivity

The Executive Committee of the ICW protests emphatically against the fact that four years after the cessation of hostilities, large numbers of prisoners, both men and women, are still held in captivity, and compelled to work in forced labour camps. It expresses the wish that such conditions, which are contrary to all civilised usage, shall cease. It requests Headquarters to forward this demand to the competent authorities.

Continuing Help for Displaced Persons and  
Refugees

CONSIDERING that the International Refugee Organisation may close its activities on 30th June 1950:

THAT for international refugees such as the displaced persons, the old and new refugees, international protection must be assured:  
THE ICW presents to the ECOSOC the following resolution:

- 1) that an international body be set up to ensure, after the International Refugee Organisation ceases its activities, the legal and financial protection of displaced persons, old and new refugees, and their final resettlement in a receiving country;
- 2) that the International Convention for Refugees of 28th December 1933 be applied to new refugees;
- 3) that all countries shall agree to take, to their utmost capacity, a certain number of displaced persons and refugees (old and new);
- 4) that, in view of the humanitarian principles accepted by the Member States in the Declaration of Human Rights, each nation should accept, to its utmost capacity, the re-union of families of displaced persons or refugees on its territory.

ATHENS 1951

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To study questions and problems relating to emigration and immigration; to promote international co-operation and legislation for the welfare and the protection of migrants, displaced persons, repatriates and indigent aliens; to promote suitable training for future migrants and displaced persons and to facilitate the entrance of young women into other countries for the sake of study and training.

Information and Social Services for Migrants

CONSIDERING the great number of individuals or families who are obliged under present circumstances to leave their own countries, THE ICW urgently requests the competent international organisations:

- 1) to supply special offices for this purpose in the countries of emigration with full information on economic, cultural, juridical, administrative and social conditions of the various immigration countries;
- 2) to ask the Governments of the various immigration countries to establish a competent and specialised service for the reception, adjustment and progressive assimilation of the new immigrants;
- 3) to assist the national welfare workers in their task by supplying social assistance from the country of origin of the immigrants.

Repatriation of Adults so Requesting, a Human Right

CONSIDERING that adult deported and refugee persons are still being held back, against their will, in countries other than their own, THE ICW requests the UN to take the necessary steps to ensure that, according to the terms of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, all those desiring repatriation can be repatriated.

Development of the Position of the High Commissioner for Refugees

The ICW joins in the wishes recently expressed by the Conference of Non-Governmental Organisations interested in the problems of migration which met in Geneva, from 11th/22nd March, and which read as follows:

ATHENS 1951

"It is essential that an international institution be maintained without interruption to resettle and assist the refugees and provide them with emergency relief",

and it trusts that the terms of appointment of the High Commissioner may include appropriate provisions for this purpose.

Moral Obligation Towards the Hard-core Refugees

CONSIDERING that the recruiting missions from the various countries have selected, among the refugees, the strongest, youngest and most capable ones,

THE ICW attracts the attention of these countries' Governments to the fact that it is imperative to prove their humanitarian attitude by accepting also a certain percentage of old and sick people and of invalids.

HELSINKI 1954

Preparation of Women for Migration

The ICW, in Conference assembled in Helsinki in 1954, urges the National Councils of Women in the countries of emigration to endeavour to take some responsibility for the preparation for migration of women intending to settle in other countries in order that women migrants may have the best possible knowledge of the countries to which they intend going; and that the National Councils in countries of immigration should be prepared to supply such information as is not available in the countries of emigration.

Repatriation of Expatriated and Detained People

The ICW, in Conference assembled in Helsinki in 1954, re-affirming its belief in the principles of dignity and worth of the human person as embodied in Article 9 of the Declaration of Human Rights ("No-one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile"), CONSIDERING the fact that a great number of military and civilian personnel are still being held in countries other than their own, REQUESTS the UN to reconsider the case and take the necessary steps to put an end to the tragedy of the expatriated and detained people.

HELSINKI 1954

International Refugee Convention

The ICW, in Conference assembled in Helsinki in 1954,

- a) calls upon the National Councils of Women in those countries which have not yet ratified the International Convention on Refugees to urge their Governments to ratify this Convention;
- b) calls upon the National Councils of Women earnestly to urge their Governments to continue and intensify their assistance to the agencies specially formed by United Nations for the relief and legal protection of refugees.

MONTREAL 1957

Continued International Help for Refugees and Expatriated Persons

CONSIDERING that recent political upheavals have resulted in new waves of refugees, expellees and exiles, increasing thus the particular hardships of those previous refugees long awaiting their resettlement, THE ICW once again re-affirms its faith in the principles of Article 9 of the Declaration of Human Rights which states that no-one should be arbitrarily arrested, detained or exiled, and of Article 2 which proscribes racial and religious discrimination.

THE ICW re-affirms the need of continued international help for refugees and expatriated persons, and insists on the urgent necessity for an international solution of the problems of all stateless persons, irrespective of the date on which they left their country and irrespective of the circumstances of their departure.

IT REQUESTS National Councils to urge their Governments to sign and ratify the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons.

Reunion of Migrant Families

The ICW draws the attention of Governments, inter-Governmental and non-Governmental Organisations concerned with migration to the serious moral danger resulting from a late reunion of families whose head has emigrated alone; the ICW requests them to do all in their power to reduce the time lapse between the emigration of the head of the family and that of its other members.

MONTREAL 1957

**Rehabilitation of Difficult Cases Among Refugees**

The ICW

**DRAWS THE ATTENTION** of its affiliated Councils to the prolonged cruel suffering of refugees who are still living in camps, and implores them to urge their Governments to put the necessary funds for the realisation of the UNREF Four Year Programme - as proposed by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and approved by the General Assembly in October 1954 - effectively at the disposal of the High Commissioner;

**REQUESTS** the National Councils of countries not participating in the UNREF Programme to urge their Governments to give financial help for the rehabilitation of difficult cases among refugees;

**REQUESTS** overseas countries that have already received refugee workers to extend their help by opening their borders to a certain number of handicapped refugees (as many as possible) in order that the European camps be quickly emptied.

ISTANBUL 1960

✓ **Hard-core Refugees**

**THE ICW** expresses its satisfaction at the success of the World Refugee Year, to which its Councils have contributed actively.

**IT SUGGESTS** that its affiliated Councils continue their work in favour of refugees after the end of this year, considering the deep distress of displaced persons who as yet are not assisted by the High Commissioner and live either in non-official camps or refugees living outside of camps.

**THE ICW** urges its Councils to petition all free nations so that these countries accept a larger number of aged and disabled persons to re-absorb this hard core.

WASHINGTON 1963

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Omit the three words "the sake of", the final phrase then to read: "...young women into other countries for study and training."

WASHINGTON 1963

Integration of the Family Unit in a New Country

The ICW urges its National Councils to ensure:

- 1) that the conditions of work for immigrant labour and refugees be guaranteed contractually equal to those established for national labour in all fields of activity;
- 2) that no discrimination be shown in the allocation of accommodation, in the access to any educational or vocational courses, in the availability of any form of help provided for mothers and their children, so that the integration of the family unit in the new country may be more rapid and more effective.

TEHRAN 1966

Refugees

CONSIDERING that millions of refugees still live in particularly precarious conditions.

BANGKOK 1970

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To study problems and to recommend practical measures in relation to emigration and immigration with particular reference to the welfare and protection of migrants and refugees; to study the best ways of promoting the integration of migrants into the community.

VIENNA 1973

The Right to Leave Any Country

As Article 13, Section 2, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights declares: "Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country",

THE ICW draws the attention of National Councils to the distress caused by any restriction of these rights.

Nairobi, 1979

EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Expresses its gratification that a Conference attended by 75 countries of the world was recently convened in Geneva by the Secretary General of the United Nations to discuss refugee problems, with particular reference to the urgent problem of Chinese and Vietnamese refugees,

and

Hopes for the continuation of world concern until this problem be solved.

It further expresses the hope that additional funds will be allocated to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to enable greater facility and efficiency in dealing with this urgent matter.

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Further requests its National Councils to draw the attention of their governments to the urgency of action to alleviate the grave world problem of refugees, with special reference to the aspect of the problems affecting them.

Seoul, 1982

WELFARE OF MIGRANT AND REFUGEE WOMEN

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Mindful of the principles stated in its resolutions "The Training of Women Settlers", (Dubrovnic 1936), "International Refugee Organisation", (Philadelphia 1947) and "Integration of the Family Unit in a New Country", (Washington 1963);

Noting also that migrant women do not always have the same rights as migrant men;

Urges its National Councils to request their governments:

- 1) to take measures to improve the legal position of migrant women;
- 2) to support the work of the High Commissioner for Refugees in framing an international convention on the protection of the rights of all migrant workers and their families, and
- 3) to consider the humanitarian aspects in all programmes for the admittance and re-establishment of refugees.

Washington, D.C., 1988

WOMEN AND GENEVA CONVENTION ON REFUGEES (1951)

Concerned by the increasing number of refugees, including many women, who having had to leave their own country for specific reasons are trying to recreate a new home in an adoptive country;

Recognising that a great many women in host countries are experiencing enormous difficulties;

Referring to the Declaration of April 26th 1985 of the High Commissioner for Refugees in Geneva relating to problems with which refugee women are confronted;

Recalling the ECOSOC Resolution 1986/25 concerning measures of assistance provided to political refugees and particularly women;

ICW undertakes and National Councils of Women are urged to press their governments:

- 1) to make proposals to the UN Organisations concerned that programmes of assistance to refugees take into account the specific needs of refugee women and that these women be given their fair share of economical, educational and medical facilities;
- 2) to support all suggestions which would improve the quality of life of refugee women and to supervise the application of the provisions of the Geneva Convention of 1951 and the Protocol of 1967.

SOCIAL WELFARE

1904 White Slave Traffic and Equal Moral Standard  
1909 Equal Moral Standard and Traffic in Women  
1947 Moral Welfare  
1963 Social Welfare

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**BERLIN 1904**

**White Slave Traffic**

That the ICW is earnestly requested to keep the question of the White Slave Traffic on the international programme till its end be accomplished. That each National Council be asked to co-operate with every effort in its own country for its suppression; and that, considering that it is impossible to combat the White Slave Traffic as long as the state regulation of vice continues, all women unite to obtain the suppression of this odious system which is an insult to all women, and strengthens the idea of a double moral standard for men and women.

**TORONTO 1909**

**Suppression of Traffic in Women**

- a) That the name of the Standing Committee on White Slave Traffic and Equal Moral Standard should read Equal Moral Standard and Traffic in Women.
- b) The experience of various organisations working for the suppression of the Traffic in Women having proved that this nefarious traffic is most widely carried on in those countries where Governments have not enacted active measures for its repression and ultimate suppression, this meeting of the ICW urges all National Councils:
  1. to ascertain what measures of the character referred to exist in their respective countries, and
  2. to assist in the enforcement of those that already exist,
  3. to take all possible steps to secure enactments of similar laws in countries where they have not yet been adopted.

Executive  
STOCKHOLM 1911

National Committees Against the White Slave Traffic

That the Executive of the ICW shall recommend the National Councils of Women to use all their influence with the 'National Committees against the White Slave Traffic' in order to secure that these Committees should pursue with strict impartiality their study of the influence of State Regulation on the Traffic in Women.

Penalties on Those Taking Part in Traffic in Women

The Executive recommends that the National Councils be requested to urge on their respective Governments the need for an international law, inflicting rigorous penalties on any person taking part in or benefiting in any way by Traffic in Women, whether the offence be committed in respect of a minor or of a women of full age.

ROME 1914

Suppression of Licensed Houses of Ill-Fame

The ICW, being firmly convinced that licensed houses of ill-fame form one of the principal causes of the White Slave Traffic, urges the women of all the affiliated National Councils to carry on a continuous propaganda with the object of obtaining their entire suppression.

Supervision Over Young Girls

The ICW urges that, until the various Governments take measures to establish some form of supervision over young girls on board the steamers and emigrant ships, there should be a women specially appointed on board all such transport vessels for this purpose; if possible she should be recommended by societies interested in the care of girls. Similar action should be taken in the case of trans-continental trains.

KRISTIANIA 1920

Campaign Against Traffic in Women

That the ICW continue whole-heartedly to fight against the traffic in women, and call upon the different Governments to take rigorous measures to enforce the laws made for the protection of women and girls, and the suppression of procuration in all its forms.

KRISTIANIA 1920

Abolishment of State Regulation of Prostitution

The the ICW call upon all Governments to abolish the regulation of prostitution, especially in the forms of compulsory medical examination of women, the registration of prostitutes, the licensing of houses of ill-fame, and all similar administrative measures, such measures being against the equal moral standard, and ineffective in reducing disease.

State Regulation of Vice in Mandatory Territories

That the ICW request the League of Nations to add to the mandatory clauses a stipulation that its States Members should undertake not to introduce State Regulation of Prostitution in any country administered by them, and should abolish it where it already exists in the mandatory territory.

Instruction in the Essential Principles of Health and Sexual Morality

That the ICW promote the introduction of instruction in the essential principles of health and sexual morality in all sections of public education.

Segregation of Persons Proved Incapable of Sex Control

That the greatest menace to persona liberty and free social intercourse is the unrestrained presence of moral perverts and sexually uncontrolled persons in the community, and that universal steps be taken to segregate, under medical care until cure is effected, all persons who have proved themselves incapable of sexual control by being convicted of one or more serious sexual offences.

Deprecation of Recent Exaggerations in Dress and Dancing

That the ICW deprecates the exaggeration in dress and dancing which has recently arisen in many countries.

Recommendation for a Return to a Simpler Mode of Life

Whereas it is within the power, and it is also the duty of women to co-operate in the economic reconstruction of their respective countries, the ICW recommends all affiliated National Councils to use their influence to bring about a return to a simpler mode of life, and to combat, in the home as well as in society, luxurious habits which lead to extravagance and display in dress and amusements and which, in the opinion of the ICW, contribute largely to arouse class animosity and discontent, which are amongst the worst evils of our day.

**Executive**  
**THE HAGUE 1922**

**Age of Consent**

That the age of consent be at least 18.

**Women Officers for the Protection of Young Girls  
on Steamships**

That the ICW request the League of Nations to use its influence with the Governments of the affiliated countries to ask them to make it compulsory that the steamship companies appoint women officers nominated by the women's organisations for the protection of young girls. That the ICW likewise address themselves to the Governments of the countries not affiliated to the League of Nations in order to obtain from the latter the creation of a similar organisation.

**Executive**  
**THE HAGUE 1924**

**Tribute to Dame Rachel Crowdy**

Considering the great services rendered to the cause of the struggle against the Traffic in Women by the Secretary of the Consultative Commission at the League of Nations, the Executive Committee of the ICW expresses its gratitude to Dame Rachel Crowdy, Secretary of the Consultative Commission against the Traffic in Women at the League of Nations for the competence and devotion which she has shown in defence of the principles for which the Council stands.

**Co-operation Between Societies Working Against  
the Traffic in Women and Societies Working in  
Aid of Emigrants**

Considering the immense benefit that would accrue if the international societies established a common plan of work for the protection of the emigrants and for the campaign against the Traffic in Women, the Committee against the Traffic urges:

That the National Councils endeavour by their influence with their affiliated societies to establish a more effective and economical organisation in their different countries and co-operation between the societies working against Traffic in Women and the societies working in aid of the emigrants.

tive  
AGUE 1924

Regulation of Prostitution

ew of the necessity of pursuing without relaxation the struggle taken by the ICW to obtain the suppression of the State ation of Prostitution which is morally bad, is opposed to public and is ineffective as a means of promoting public health, it is ved:

That the National Councils in those countries in which there is still State Regulation of Prostitution should continue to work for the suppression of regulation which, by degrading a whole class of women, perpetrates an injustice and is an outrage against womanhood.

INGTON 1925

Cooperation Between Societies Working Against Traffic in Women and Societies Working in Emigrants

utive Copenhagen 1924 resolution repeated.

Regulation of Prostitution

utive Copenhagen 1924 resolution repeated.

Super Advertisements

ICW urges that measures be taken for the suppression of such super advertisements as are calculated to incite immoral tour.

Police

ICW urges the institution in all countries of women police with im status and responsibilities as men in the same service.

Convention in Geneva

ICW urges all women in countries not yet having ratified the Convention of Geneva 1921, for the protection of women and children, to all their influence to obtain ratification.

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Executive  
LONDON 1929

Action Proposed by Joint Maritime Committee

That the Executive Committee of the ICW views with dismay the recommendation (No. 6) in the report of the Joint Maritime Committee of the International Labour Office to control and medically examine prostitutes in ports, and asks the International Labour Conference (Maritime Affairs) to reject this proposal as contrary to the methods which are recommended both on social and medical evidence for the reduction of venereal disease or commercialised vice.

Immediate Repatriation of Young Girls

The Executive Committee of the ICW desires to draw the attention of the League of Nations Consultative Commission for the Protection of Children and Young People to the proposal that was made, in the course of the discussion on deserted children, that young girls out of work or in danger of becoming prostitutes should immediately be repatriated without having received previous warning. The Executive Committee of the ICW is of opinion that such a course of action is in opposition to the principles it was always upheld and is further not in accordance with present-day humanitarian ideas.

VIENNA 1930

Women Police

Executive Geneva 1927 resolution repeated.

Strengthening of Laws Against Traffickers

Executive Geneva 1927 resolution repeated; removal of the one word "male".

Questions Recommended by the Equal Moral Standard Committee for Study During the Next Period

1. That serious study should be undertaken of the various means of caring for and finding employment for prostitutes who are repatriated or, rather, expelled from a country, in conjunction with the societies organised for purposes of rescue and relief.
2. Further, considering that women of whatever age or reputation should not be the objects of commerce, the ICW asks the National Councils to press for the elimination of any age limit in laws which may regulate such traffic.

VIENNA 1930

3. Considering the great service that has been, and can be, rendered by police work in connection with the protection of women and children in towns, the ICW urges the League of Nations to continue the study of the question and hopes that Governments which have not so far created such a service will do so without delay.
4. Considering the great danger not only for young people but for general moral conditions, of the circulation and sale of obscene literature, the ICW urges the National Councils to insist that their Governments should adopt the resolutions voted on at Geneva, and put them into force.
5. The ICW reminds the National Councils of the resolution passed by the London Executive last year with regard to the welfare of seamen in ports and urges the National Councils to do all in their power to provide better conditions for seamen while at the same time being on the watch that no sanitary measures are enacted against women, especially prostitutes.

Study of Question of Immorality

That a joint study of the question of immorality in connection with race degeneration be undertaken by the Equal Moral Standard and the Public Health Committees.

Penal Reform

That the ICW cordially welcomes the action taken by the Council of the League of Nations in requesting the Assembly to place the important subject of Penal Reform on its agenda. The ICW trusts that this action may eventually lead to the regulation of prisons and penal institutions in all parts of the world in accordance with modern economic, social and health standards.

Closer Co-operation Between Organisations Concerned with the Protection of Women and Girls

Considering the necessity of establishing a closer collaboration in all countries between associations which are concerned with the protection of women and girls who may be in danger of becoming victims of the Traffic, it is herewith resolved that such associations should be in constant contact, not only between themselves, but also with the competent central authority in each country in order that victims of the Traffic may be rescued or protected.

VIENNA 1930

Campaign Against Licensed Houses

That a campaign be undertaken by the National Councils jointly with the associations concerned with public morality against the 'Maisons Tolerees' or the registration of women in those countries where the system still exists.

Age of Consent

That the League of Nations be asked to draw the attention of the States Members in countries where the age of consent is lower than the age of marriage to the necessity of raising the age of consent to the legal age of marriage, or if that latter is higher than 16 years of age, that the age of consent be raised to 16.

Welfare of Seamen

In view of the high death and damage rate amongst seafarers and the resulting serious re-actions on the health and welfare of women and children and the large numbers of men and boys involved, the ICW asks the National Councils to give all possible support to the endeavour to procure for the seafarers of all nations better social, medical and recreation facilities in all the leading ports of the world through an international convention regarding which Governments are now considering the questionnaire of the International Labour Office.

Executive  
STOCKHOLM 1933

Convention for the Abolition of Slavery

That the National Councils be urged to follow very closely the proceedings of the Commission which was set up by the 13th Assembly of the League of Nations in 1932 in order to supervise the carrying out of the Convention for the Abolition of Slavery throughout the world, signed by 49 nations, and to render the Commission every aid in their power.

Draft Protocol from the Advisory Commission on  
Traffic in Women of the League of Nations

That the Draft Protocol from the Advisory Commission on the Traffic in Women of the League of Nations marks an advance in as much as for the first time internationally it makes the Traffic in Women of whatever age and even with her consent, a punishable offence, but the Executive Committee urge that the interpretation should read that Traffickers will also be liable to punishment in cases where the victims are transferred from a mother country to her colonies, protectorates and mandated areas.

Executive  
STOCKHOLM 1933

Beauty Competitions for Young Persons and Children

That the ICW do everything in its power to combat the evil of beauty competitions for young persons and children.

Investigation Regarding Women's Prisons, Houses  
of Detention and Police Stations

That the ICW by means of its Law and Equal Moral Standard Committees make an all-round investigation regarding women's prisons, houses of detention, police stations, and the way in which women, who are charged with an offence or a crime, are treated in the various countries.

PARIS 1934

Investigation Regarding Women's Prisons, Houses  
of Detention and Police Stations

Executive Stockholm 1933 resolution repeated.

Suggestions to Appoint a League of Nations Commission  
on the Treatment of Prisoners

The ICW supports the request put forward to the League of Nations by the International Federation of League of Nations Societies that a League of Nations Commission on the Treatment of Prisoners be appointed, with a view to securing the general adopted by the States Members of the League and other States of the revised Standard Minimum Rules drawn up by the International Penal and Penitentiary Commission and circulated to members and non-members of the League by instruction of the Assembly of 1933.

Total Suppression of Slavery Throughout the World

This public meeting, convened by the ICW in Paris, welcomes the decision of the League of Nations to work for "the total suppression of slavery in all its forms throughout the world" and the recent appointment of a Committee on Slavery to devote itself to this object. The ICW desires to record its cordial support of this great cause, and calls upon its affiliated National Councils to stimulate an enlightened public opinion in their own countries on the difficult problems that are still involved in the work of complete abolition.

PARIS 1934

New Slavery Commissions Under the League of Nations

The National Councils of Women are urged to follow very closely the reports of the Committee on Slavery which has now been appointed by the Council of the League of Nations, in order to supervise the carrying out of the Convention for the Abolition of Slavery throughout the world, and to enquire into all forms of slavery, including certain domestic forms and tribal customs imposed upon women and girls among some of the native races of Africa and certain methods of adoption of children in the East.

Knowledge of the Problems of Sex and Sex Hygiene

Whereas it is generally agreed that all young people should have some knowledge of the problems of sex and sex hygiene and that this knowledge should come from persons with real understanding of its importance for the life of the individual and the race, and whereas many parents and older people do not know how to meet the natural questions of children on these subjects with simplicity and frankness,

- 1) The ICW urges each National Council to be ready to supply to all organisations a brief printed list of books in the language of the country, which will help parents to discuss this subject with their children.
- 2) All institutions for the training of teachers should prepare their students to understand this subject and to be able at least to answer such questions as may be addressed to them by their pupils.
- 3) Each National Council should urge the teaching of general biology in the schools as the best means of providing a basis of scientific knowledge to which individual advice by parents and teachers on such matters can be related.

DUBROVNIK 1936

Eradication of Slavery

The ICW welcomes the Report on Slavery communicated to the Council of the League of Nations by the Advisory Committee of Experts at the close of its session in April 1935.

DUBROVNIK 1936

The ICW would particularly draw attention to the statement of the Committee that in some cases there was insufficiency of information in the Governmental documents provided, and desires warmly to support the Committees' suggestion that they be allowed to hear direct evidence on points arising in the documents supplied by the Governments.

The ICW notes with satisfaction the inclusion in the Report of practices or customs restrictive of the liberty of the person, e.g. the "enslavement of children disguised as adoption" and certain forms of peonage.

It regrets the decision of the Committee to exclude from their purview the custom of the acquisition of girls by purchase, which goes under the name of payment of dowry. The ICW hopes that the Committee will reconsider this matter in the near future.

The affiliated National Councils of Women are urged to follow closely the work of this Committee of the League and to keep before the public in their own countries the urgent need of co-ordinated efforts on the part of the Governments in order to accomplish the complete eradication of slavery in all its forms.

Draft International Convention for Suppressing  
the Exploitation of Prostitution

The ICW, after careful consideration of the Draft Convention proposed at the 15th Session of the Traffic in Women and Children Committee of the League of Nations, cordially agrees with its text. It strikes at every individual of either sex who derives profit from the prostitution of others.

The ICW considers, in fact, that it is illogical to punish the souteneur without punishing the tenancier of the tolerated house, who lives wholly or in part on the immoral earnings of women, and accordingly urges upon the Traffic in Women Committee of the League of Nations to press for the punishment of all third party exploitation of prostitution and for the complete abolition of tolerated houses.

It further urges that the National Councils do all in their power in their respective countries to obtain not only the acceptance by their Governments of the resolutions adopted by the Traffic in Women Committee of the League of Nations, but also the actual enforcement of the recommendations contained in the resolutions.

Adherence of Young People to a High and  
Equal Moral Standard

The ICW calls upon its National Councils throughout the world to consider what steps can be taken to secure the loyal adherence of young people to a high and equal moral standard and in particular to study how the reasons for good morals and good citizenship may best be presented to them.

DUBROVNIK 1936

It further urges the National Councils to do all in their power in their respective countries to obtain the abolition of State regulation (reglementation) of prostitutes, but also an equal moral standard for both sexes in all domains.

Women Police

The ICW notes with satisfaction the increasing interest throughout the world in police work as a profession for women, and the success attending the employment of women police in carrying out police duties. In view of the importance of accurate information on methods of appointment, duties and conditions of service for women police, whether with the status of police officers or otherwise employed by the police, obtaining in the different countries where they are already functioning;

The ICW URGES the National Councils to assist the Standing Committee on Laws in the collection of statistics and information relating to the growth of the movement.

DINBURGH 1938

Application of the Principle of a High and Equal Moral Standard for Both Sexes

The ICW urges upon its affiliated Councils the necessity of organising or of intensifying educational propaganda in their respective countries with the object of arousing the interest of the public and of the Government in favour of the complete application of the principle of a high and equal moral standard for both sexes by abolitionist methods and of dealing with this not only from the point of view of the suppression of all regulated prostitution but also by emphasising the fact that satisfactory results are most likely to be achieved by voluntary, confidential and free treatment of venereal disease, combined with adequate social services available for all persons under conditions of absolute equality for all classes and for both sexes.

Ratification and Application of International Conventions on the Suppression of Traffic in Women and Children

The ICW impresses upon its affiliated Councils the necessity of organising, with the means at their disposal in their respective countries, systematic propaganda in order to make known the work undertaken by the League of National Advisory Committee on Social Questions, with the object of obtaining in each country the ratification and the application of International Conventions on the Suppression of Traffic in Women and Children.

DINBURGH 1938

Psychiatric Examination

The ICW urges that persons convicted of sexual offences should be psychiatrically examined, and appropriate treatment given in cases where the sexual offence indicates mental abnormality.

PHILADELPHIA 1947

Women Police

The ICW, highly appreciating the excellent services rendered by the women police during the war in various fields of action, expresses its gratitude and appreciation of the work of the women engaged in this service and urges all countries to strengthen this valuable service or to organise it in the countries which have not as yet introduced it. It also urges Governments to provide for police women a training corresponding to the great responsibility of their work.

Conventions Concerning Protection of Women & Children

Considering that the post-war reconstruction of the world should be based on full international co-operation in political as well as moral spheres the ICW urges the UN to push further the protection of women and children by the following means:

- 1) to re-affirm and assure the application by all nations of the four Conventions (1904, 1910, 1921, 1933) on Traffic in Women and Children;
- 2) to enforce the Draft of the fifth Convention for Suppressing the Exploitation of Prostitution of Others;
- 3) to urge that all nations should amend their national legislation according to the above-mentioned Conventions and on the basis of the abolitionist programme.

**Executive  
LUGANO 1949**

**Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons**

The Executive Committee of the ICW urges the ECOSOC which meets at Geneva in July 1949 to give consideration to the views of the ICW on the draft Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others, adopted by the Social Commission at its 4th Session of the ECOSOC at Geneva in July 1949, and especially to Articles 6, 17, 18(a) and (c), and 19.

The Executive Committee of the ICW is of the opinion that:-

- a) Article 6: It is essential that this Article be retained as it stands (abolishing any existing special regulation for persons who engage in or are suspected of engaging in prostitution) and that any amendment for keeping health regulations for prostitutes be rejected.
- b) Article 17: The words "and the rehabilitation of prostitutes" should be replaced by the words "and for the social adjustment of victims of the offences cited in the present Convention".
- c) Article 18(a): The words "Women and children" should be replaced by "persons".
- d) Article 18(c): The words "of embarkation" should be deleted.
- e) Article 19: The expression "aliens who are prostitutes" should be replaced by "victims of international traffic in persons for the purpose of prostitution".

The Executive Committee of the ICW further requests the National Councils of Women of countries with Government delegates in the ECOSOC to convey these recommendations to their delegates.

**Women Police**

The Committees on Child Welfare and Moral Welfare have studied the United Nations questionnaire on methods to be adopted in the fight against prostitution and request the appointment of women police in all places where they do not already exist.

**Executive  
LEGANO 1949**

To be efficient, women police should be drawn from among women who hold a diploma of social studies or an equivalent. These women should have high technical training as well as moral standing, and should receive equal pay with men for comparable work and qualifications.

The women police should, as part of their regular duties, make police investigations concerned with women and children. They should also organise patrol work in all places where children are to be found. They should in no sense have their duties confined to such work.

Both Committees hope that the women police of the various countries will meet in conferences in order to study the best methods for the prevention of prostitution. These international conferences should also organise an exchange of police women.

**ATHENS 1951**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

To insist upon the necessity for a high and equal moral standard for men and women and to organise public opinion for this purpose; to foster all efforts and measures of prevention in moral welfare and the education of youths and adults based on the above principle; to support all actions and measures for the suppression of tolerated houses and for the prohibition of any type of regulation of prostitution; to encourage all means of rehabilitation both for men and women; to work for the universal application of the international Conventions against Traffic in Women and Children and any form of exploitation of prostitution of others and for the appropriate adjustment of national legislation according to these Conventions; to co-operate with other national and international bodies serving the above principles.

**Convention for the Suppression of Traffic in Persons  
and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others  
Must be Signed and Ratified by Governments**

The ICW earnestly requests all National Councils of Women to urge their Governments to sign and ratify without delay the International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others, adopted by the UN General Assembly on 2nd December 1949, thus putting the Convention into force in their respective countries.

ATHENS 1951

Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic  
in Persons to be Made Effective in Non-member States

The ICW requests the Economic and Social Council to give consideration to the necessity of taking effective steps for the suppression of the Traffic in Persons by inviting as soon as possible the non-member States of the UN to adhere to the Convention.

HELSINKI 1954

Moral Standards

The ICW, in Conference assembled at Helsinki in 1954,

- a) re-affirms its belief in the necessity of applying high moral standards to men and women equally;
- b) re-affirms its conviction that the system of regulating prostitution and licensing brothels, whether it is operated by a public health or a police authority, is contrary to this belief, and fundamentally unjust;
- c) calls upon the National Councils to be vigilant in safeguarding this principle at all times.

MONTREAL 1957

Pornographic Publications

The ICW appeals to women's organisations in all parts of the world to work against pornographic publications which destroy the morals of youth and degrade women, this especially in countries where there is no legislation against the distribution of pornographic publications.

Equal Moral Responsibilities

The ICW, in Conference assembled in Montreal, re-affirms its consistent belief in the principle of the equal moral responsibility of men and women in matters of sexual morality, and in consequence:

URGES all National Councils of Women and Councils of Women to reconsider the problems attaching to prostitution in particular to recognise that the man is as responsible for the practice of prostitution as the women,

IT FURTHER URGES all National Councils of Women and Councils of Women to study the best means of moral education in the light of the abolitionist principles.

MONTREAL 1957

Competition of Young People for High Ideals

The ICW requests its National Councils of Women to try to influence public opinion against the exaggerated importance attributed to beauty contests, and to encourage the young to compete on a higher level for moral and intellectual ideals.

Convention on the Abolition of Slavery

The ICW, re-affirming its resolution adopted at Athens, warmly welcomes the work of ECOSOC for a supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade and Institutions and Practices similar to Slavery, adopted in Geneva on 4th September 1956; NOTES with satisfaction that the Commission on the Status of Women proposes to continue the study of this Convention, insisting particularly on certain forms of slavery of women (marriage contract), on the question of minimum age of marriage and the free consent to marriage by women.

ISTANBUL 1960

UN Convention on the Suppression of Traffic in Human Beings

The ICW, recognising that only 26 countries have ratified, or adhered to, the UN Convention on the Suppression of Traffic in Human Beings and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others, recommends its National Councils of Women in countries which have not yet done so to bring this Convention to the notice of their Governments. The ICW also recommends the National Councils to study the excellent Report issued by the Secretary of the UNO under the title "Study on the Traffic in Human Beings and Prostitution" and to draw the attention of the authorities to the suggested provisions. These provisions ought to precede and accompany the suppression of the regulation for prostitution, otherwise it would be impossible to combat effectively the traffic in human beings and the exploitation of prostitution.

Executive  
ROME 1962

UN Convention on the Abolition of Slavery

The Executive Committee of ICW, meeting in Rome in May 1962, urges the National Councils to press their Governments:

- 1) to sign and ratify the UN Convention on the Abolition of Slavery;

Executive  
ROME 1962

2) to give the additional information required under Article VIII of the Convention. Further, ICW urges that an Ad Hoc Committee of Experts be set up by ECOSOC at their meeting in July to examine the world position regarding slavery.

WASHINGTON 1963

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Slight changes in wording: "suppression of tolerated houses" to become "suppression of houses of prostitution". "...moral welfare..." to become "...social welfare..." "legislation according to these Conventions" to become "legislation to these Conventions".

Women Prisoners

The ICW

CONSIDERING the importance of the rehabilitation of women prisoners because of women's influence over the family and the community; BELIEVING that the two principle aims of rehabilitation are to help the prisoner to recover her self-respect and the ability to shoulder responsibilities; ASKS THAT women prisoners be given:

- a complete medical check-up and care,
- a general education when this is lacking,
- training for family life, as a mother and as a housewife,
- vocational training according to individual aptitudes,
- sufficient remuneration for her work to enable her to save for the future, in order to prepare the prisoner's re-integration in the community upon her release.

WASHINGTON 1963

The ICW RECOGNIZING the benefit of a transition period between imprisonment and resuming life in the community URGES its affiliated Councils to ask their respective Governments to apply in this respect the measures recommended by the UN Second Conference on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Delinquents.

Slavery Conventions

The ICW CONSIDERING Article 4 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which states that "no-one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms";

CONVINCED that slavery and similar institutions and practices are deplorable and degrading to human dignity;

KEEPING IN MIND that an International Convention of the Abolition of Slavery was concluded in 1926 by the League of Nations and that a Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery was concluded by the UN in 1956 and has been in force since 1957;

NOTING with satisfaction Resolution 1841 unanimously adopted by the General Assembly at its 17th Session, which, taking into consideration the great number of Member States not parties to the said Conventions, "calls upon Member States of the UN or Members of the Specialised Agencies which have not yet become parties to these Conventions to do so";

RECOMMENDS its affiliated Councils to urge their respective Governments:

- 1) to ratify or accede to the League of Nations International Convention on the Abolition of Slavery (1926) and the UN Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade and Institutions and Practices similar to Slavery (1956) if they have not already done so;
- 2) to provide the information called for under Article VIII of the Supplementary Convention.

FURTHER URGES that affiliated Councils should urge their respective Governments to request that a Standing Committee of expert advisers should be established by the Economic and Social Council at its 36th Session in July 1963, to maintain continuity of investigation of the problem and to make policy recommendations as was done by the League of Nations in 1934.

TEHRAN 1966

Social Defence

RE-AFFIRMING its belief in the equal responsibility of men and women in questions of sexual morality,  
EMPHASISING particularly the importance of the role of men who are prepared to pay for the services which the prostitute offers, and who thus constitute the demand in this market,  
AWARE that the volume of prostitution will not diminish unless this demand diminishes,  
the ICW  
URGES its affiliated Councils to continue to insist upon the necessity for sex education for boys and young men in order to enlighten them as to their responsibilities in this matter.

Rehabilitation of Offenders

BELIEVING that the detention of a person, either on remand or under sentence, subjects his dependants to serious and unjust hardships,  
RECOGNISING the importance of trying to preserve what is left of the already deprived and broken family so that it, together with the offending member, may be satisfactorily rehabilitated and again become a valuable unit in the community,  
the ICW  
URGES its affiliated Councils to press their Governments to make available rapid and satisfactory social services and to promote suitable programmes for both the family and the offender so that these people may resume their place in society.

Abolition of Slavery

CONSIDERING Article 4 of the the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that "No-one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms",  
CONVINCED that slavery and similar institutions and practices are deplorable and degrading to human dignity,  
RECALLING that an International Convention on the Abolition of Slavery was concluded in 1926 by the League of Nations, and that a Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices similar to Slavery, was concluded by the UN in 1956 and has been in force since 1957,  
NOTING with satisfaction that the appointment of a Special Rapporteur on this subject was authorised by the Economic and Social Council in Resolution 960 (XXXVI) adopted in Geneva on 12th July 1963,  
THAT the term of office of the Special Rapporteur has been extended,  
THAT the Special Rapporteur, in his statement E/AC.7/L.466 addressed to the Meeting of the Economic and Social Council in July 1965, cited the demand for a wide programme of education and the exertion of great international moral pressure,

TEHRAN 1966

THAT his final report will be submitted to the Economic and Social Council in July 1966,  
DEEPLY APPRECIATING the invaluable services rendered by the Special Rapporteur,  
REALISING the magnitude of the task entrusted to him, as it was evident from his Statement that slavery and similar institutions and practices are still widespread,  
The ICW  
REQUESTS the Secretary General of the UN to ask the Division on Human Rights, in consultation with the Commission on Human Rights, to provide for the organisation of Regional Seminars on the abolition of slavery in countries where slavery still exists, in which representatives of non-Governmental Organisations concerned with the question of slavery would be invited to participate,  
RECOMMENDS its affiliated Councils to urge their respective Governments to press for the appointment by the Economic and Social Council of a Permanent Committee of expert advisers to make a continuing study of slavery and analogous practices, and to advise the Economic and Social Council thereof, so as to hasten the abolition of slavery, the slave trade, and institutions and practices similar to slavery.

BANGKOK 1970

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To promote an equal moral responsibility in both sexes and a sense of dignity and worth of all human persons; to work for the abolition of the traffic in persons and of all forms of regulation of prostitution; to study all forms of rehabilitation of criminals and maladjusted persons; to educate men and women, and especially young people, to realise their family and social responsibilities.

VIENNA 1973

Slavery

The ICW

CONCERNED with the continued existence of slavery and similar practices, seventeen years after the adoption of the UN Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices similar to Slavery, 1956, which 81 Member States of the UN have ratified or acceded to;

VIENNA 1973

CONVINCED of the need for more positive and comprehensive methods of implementing the Convention,  
**STRONGLY** recommends the following views to the attention of its affiliated National Councils:

- 1) States which have not ratified or acceded to the Convention be urged to do so;
- 2) States which ratified or acceded to the Convention be urged to provide for:
  - a) the education of public opinion in their countries to an awareness of the evils of slavery and to a firm determination to support measures to end slavery;
  - b) the enactment and enforcement of laws providing for the infliction of severe penalties on all who connive at slavery and similar practices;
- 3) Expresses the hope that the UN will assist Member States by:
  - a) setting up, at an early date, permanent machinery to further implementation of the Convention;
  - b) establishing and carrying out a five-year plan of technical co-operation and advisory services, available to all who apply for help in eradicating slavery, and adopting a system of regular progress reports;
  - c) encouraging States in which slavery exists or has been abolished to give special assistance to, and promote the rehabilitation of, persons freed from slavery or other forms of servitude;
  - d) co-operating closely with INTERPOL;
  - e) appointing a competent Adviser with authority and means to co-ordinate schemes for effective implementation of the Convention;
- 4) Recognising that slavery is rooted in the existence of and exploitation of poverty;

VIENNA 1973

The ICW

**RECOMMENDS** that National Councils study how their countries could refrain from economic and monetary measures which may be prejudicial to the economy of poorer nations, and take positive action to assist such nations, thus furthering the eradication of slavery.

VANCOUVER 1976

**Prostitution of Human Beings**

The ICW

**REFERRING** to its resolutions adopted from 1904 to 1938 by Conferences held in Berlin, Toronto, Rome, Oslo, Vienna and Edinburgh, concerning the Suppression of the Traffic in Human Beings and Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others which has led to the consideration of prostitution as a form of slavery and a scourge on society, **AND** has contributed to the adoption by the League of Nations of the Geneva Convention of 1921 and in 1956 to the UN Convention, **AND** referring also to the resolutions of the Athens Conference of 1951, **REQUESTS** the National Councils to urge their respective Governments to ratify that UN Convention on the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons 1948 and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others, **ALSO REQUESTS** National Councils to work to prevent prostitution from becoming an acknowledged profession under the pretext of doing this as a humanitarian and social measure for persons who are prostitutes.

**Loneliness**

The ICW

**REQUESTS** the Standing Committees on Child and Family, Social Welfare, Health, Women and Employment, to study the problems of people who live alone so that appropriate action may be taken with regard to this generally overlooked social category.

Nairobi, 1979

TRAFFIC IN OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Bearing in mind and convinced that the League of Nations (No. 710) International Convention for the Suppression of the Circulation of and Traffic in Obscene Publications concluded at Geneva on 12th September 1923 (2), as amended by the protocol signed at Lake Success, New York on 12th November 1947 (3) by 25 UN Member States, is not now being adhered to, and that because of this, obscene writings, drawings, prints, paintings, printed matter, pictures, posters, emblems, photographs, cinematography films, television films or any other obscene objects, are degrading women and are also posing threats to children.

The International Council of Women recognises that in all probability most of the signatory UN Member States since the Convention came into force (2nd February 1950), feel that there has been changed community attitudes and the general consensus would be that governments consider that adults have a basic right to decide for themselves what they read and see,

Requests that its National Councils urge their governments to secure that the UN, which instigated the "Decade for Women" and the "International Year of the Child" investigates the desirability of modernizing the existing Conventions but insisting on allowing adults basic rights to decide for themselves what they read and see, provided that this does not imply the exploitation of human persons, particularly in the area of exploitation of women and children.

Nairobi, 1989

EXPLOITATION OF PROSTITUTION OF OTHERS

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Reaffirming its constant belief in the principle of the equal responsibility of men and women in matters of sexual morality and its conviction that it is necessary to work to prevent the Traffic in Persons and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of others, particularly of Minors;

Therefore urges all National Councils to reconsider the problems attaching to the practice of prostitution, in particular to recognise that the man is as responsible as the woman, and also to stress the need to promote an appreciation and understanding - especially among the young - of the importance of human relationships.

London, 1986

VIDEO AND SOUND TAPES

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Bearing in mind its resolutions adopted at Nairobi in 1979 ("Influence of Television" and "Traffic in Obscene Publications") in which ICW stressed the need "to differentiate between entertainment and socially acceptable standards of behaviour", and recognising the consumer's right to know, noted with distress the increase in violence directed against both persons and property, and stated its clear opposition to "the exploitation of human persons, particularly in the area of the exploitation of women and children";

Urges its affiliated Council to press their governments to institute comprehensive classification and information measures in regard to the production, sale and distribution of video and sound tapes, and further urges its affiliated Council to monitor the implementation of these measures.

London, 1986

CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL,  
INHUMAN AND DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT

Whereas the ICW has undertaken to support the principles and guarantees of Human Rights as set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and

Whereas in December 1984 the General Assembly of the UN adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the Human Rights Commission's Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment and Punishment.

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Urges its National Councils

- 1) to study and give publicity to the provisions of the Convention, and
- 2) to call upon their governments to sign and ratify the Convention as a matter of priority, and to give equal priority to its implementation.

Washington, D.C., 1988

OLD AGE

Observing the aging of the population in many parts of the world and the high proportion of women reaching old age;

Noting that the loosening of traditional family structures leads to an increase in old people's loneliness;

Recalling the Nairobi Forward Looking Strategies (Sec. 286) and the International Plan of Action on Aging adopted by the World Assembly on Aging in 1982;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Calls upon its National Councils:

- 1) to press their governments to provide the aged with social legislation including adequate pension schemes in countries where this is not yet available;
- 2) to involve themselves in the creation of services for people who can no longer lead an independent existence;
- 3) to do all in their power to ensure that elderly people retain their active participation in community life;
- 4) to promote the provision of adequate arrangements to help them remain in their own homes whenever this is possible and wished for.

WOMEN AND EMPLOYMENT

1914 Trades, Professions and Employment for Women  
1970 Women and Employment

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LONDON 1899

National Councils' Bureaux of Information

That every National Council be recommended to form a Standing Committee of Information, with a Bureau of Information if possible, where statistics regarding the women of the country shall be collected and kept up to date. The business of this Committee or Bureau shall be to gather together and to give accurate information regarding the position, employment, education, pursuits etc. of the women of the country, and to collect any further information required.

International Bureau of Information

That an International Bureau of Information concerning women's work and women's position and progress in all countries would be useful to the work of the International Council; and that for the next Quinquennial period the Information Bureau of the Women's Institute be used as such by the National Councils; but the International Council specially desires that on all questions relating to or connected with the work of the National Councils, Councils should correspond direct with other National Councils.

TORONTO 1909

Information Bureaux

- 1) That a list of existing Information Bureaux be furnished by each National Council to the Corresponding Secretary and be kept up to date by her.
- 2) That only simple statements of fact be furnished gratis and that elaborate inquiries requiring time and trouble to answer be paid for by arrangement to cover cost.
- 3) That any National Council may sanction any affiliated society to make inquiries during a Quinquennial period, such sanction to be officially notified to the Corresponding Secretary of the ICW at the beginning of each Quinquennial period; but this is not to apply to individuals.

ROME 1914

Committee on Trades, Professions and Employment for Women

That a Standing Committee on Trades, Professions and Employment for Women be formed by the ICW.

License for Employment Agencies and Registry Offices

That efforts be made to secure an international agreement which shall apply to employment agencies and registry offices, and make it obligatory on them to obtain a licence which shall impose certain uniform conditions in relating to the placing of minors in situations, and that as a specimen of what might be useful in this direction the Council recommend that the regulations approved by the Standing Committee on Equal Moral Standard and Traffic in Women be sent to the Inter-parliamentary Committee. (Inter-parliamentary Union).

KRISTIANIA 1920

Closer Relationship Between the Various Departments Affecting Education, Trades, Professions and Equal Moral Standard

That National Councils of Women endeavour to obtain closer relationship between the various Departments and Committees in their respective countries not only in matters affecting public health, but also as regards education, trades and professions, and equal moral standard.

Executive  
THE HAGUE 1922

Equal Rights for Women Within the Various Employments

The ICW opposes the professional inequality of women and demands for them equal rights within the various employments.

Equal Pay for Equal Work

The ICW affirms the principle of "equal pay for equal work" which signifies that the payment be not influenced by the sex of the worker.

Executive  
THE HAGUE 1922

Liaison Committee with Labour Organisation  
of League of Nations

That a permanent Sub-Committee be established to act as a Liaison Committee with the Labour Department of the League of Nations.

Maternity Provision

The ICW desires that the prohibition to work in the weeks before and after confinement be accompanied by a maternity provision equal at least to a minimum living wage.

Executive  
COPENHAGEN 1924

Liaison Committee Between the ICW and the  
League of Nations and the International Labour Office

That the special Sub-Committee of the Standing Committee on Trades and Professions, appointed to act as a Liaison Committee between that Committee and the League of Nations and the International Labour Office at Geneva, shall have its scope of work enlarged and serve as a Liaison Committee of the ICW directly responsible to the Executive Committee.

WASHINGTON 1925

The International Labour Office

The ICW recommends that National Councils give their earnest attention to the work of the International Labour Office and to place it on the programme of study for the ensuing year.

Rider The ICW thanks the International Labour Office for the continued interest taken in the work of women as well as for the large place given to women within the organisation.

Equal Professional Rights for Women

The ICW opposes the professional inequality of women and demands for them equal opportunities and rights within the various employments.

The Right of Married Women to Work

The ICW declares itself against any limitation of the work of married women apart from provisions for maternity.

WASHINGTON 1925

Equal Pay for Equal Work

The ICW affirms the principle of "Equal Pay for Equal Work" which signifies that wages should be established on the basis of the occupation and not on the basis of sex.

Maternity Provision After Confinement

The ICW desires that the prohibition to work in the weeks before and after confinement be accompanied by a maternity provision.

Executive  
GENEVA 1927

Protective Legislation

That no action in regard to protective legislation for women's work be taken either by the ICW or by the National Councils without first consulting the working women's organisations concerned.

The Employment of Married Women

That the National Councils of Women study the problems affecting the employment of married women before the next quinquennial meeting.

Executive  
LONDON 1929

Study of Minimum Wage Legislation

That the National Councils be recommended:

- 1) to study the subject of minimum wage legislation both from its national and its international aspects.
- 2) to investigate such machinery as exists and report on its efficiency to combat sweating.
- 3) to urge their respective Governments:
  - a) to ratify the Minimum Wage Convention (Geneva 1928) and
  - b) to establish minimum wage-fixing machinery which both raises the standard of living of the poorest classes and reduces the chance of unfair international trade competition, which is a danger to world peace.

VIENNA 1930

Protective Legislation

That no action in regard to protective legislation for women's work be taken by the ICW without first consulting the working women's and other organisations concerned.

Minimum Wage Legislation

Recognising that unfair trade competition is a danger to world peace, the ICW recommends the National Councils:-

- 1) to study the subject of minimum wage legislation both from the national and international aspects;
- 2) to investigate such machinery as exists and report on its efficacy to combat sweating;
- 3) to study the Minimum Wage Convention of Geneva 1928 and, if it be deemed advisable, to urge their respective Governments to ratify it, and
- 4) to establish a minimum wage-fixing machinery that shall raise the standards of living which are unduly low.

Rider: Always having regard to the principle accepted in Article 427 of the Treaty of Versailles "that men and women should receive equal remuneration for work of equal value".

Executive  
STOCKHOLM 1933

Equal Conditions of Work Between Men and Women

The ICW affirms the principle that a woman, married or unmarried, shall have the same right as a man to keep or obtain paid work and is resolved to promote equal conditions of work between men and women.

Unemployment and Limitation of Work of Married Women

The ICW, reminding the National Councils of its resolution adopted at Washington in 1925 concerning the employment of married women and realising the danger which the present great volume of unemployment means to women's work, urges the National Councils to do all in their power to suppress any tendency to limiting the work of married women.

Washington Convention and Night Work of Women

That the governing body of the International Labour Organisation should place on the agenda of the Conference the revision of the Washington Convention with a view to permitting the employment at night of women engaged on posts of supervision or management, and of such other women as are not ordinarily engaged in manual work.

PARIS 1934

Women Factory Inspectors

The factory inspectorate in every country should include a sufficient number of women inspectors in each grade, including the higher administrative posts, who should have the same authority, salaries and chances of promotion as men, provided that they have the same or corresponding training. To this end, it is desirable that conditions of entry and promotion be the same for men and women.

Unemployment and Limitation of Work of Married Women  
(Executive Stockholm 1933 resolution repeated)

The Right of Women to Work

The ICW, noting with anxiety the tendencies in certain countries to restrict the right of women to work and more particularly to undertake paid work in industry and the professions, AFFIRMS its belief in the principle that the right to work is essential to the dignity and the liberty of human beings, and calls upon its affiliated National Councils to maintain this principle, to watch over its application and to oppose with all the influence at their command any restriction of the rights already acquired by women, especially the right of married women to carry on any occupation or profession.

Equal Conditions of Work Between Men and Women  
(Executive Stockholm 1933 resolution repeated)

The Governing Body of the International Labour Office

The ICW draws attention to the fact that women have not yet been appointed to the governing body of the International Labour Organisation, and makes urgent appeal to the Governments and associations concerned to include women in the nominations now being made for the new body, in order that women may have fuller participation in the aims and deliberations of the International Labour Organisation.

Reactionary Restrictions on Women's Work

The ICW calls the urgent attention of its affiliated National Councils to the statement made on 15th June by one of the Workers' delegates from Luxembourg at the International Labour Conference of this year, that in his country the employment of women, married or not, had for some time been subject to a preliminary authorisation by the Government. In view of this statement the ICW records its protest

PARIS 1934

against such flagrantly one-sided measures calling in question the elementary right of existence which is the birthright of both sexes alike, and requests the governing body of the International Labour Organisation to call the attention of the Conference to the injustice of the reactionary restrictions in the employment of women that are at present being unduly pressed forward on the plea of economic stress.

Women on ILO Delegations

In view of the small number of women appointed to serve on the delegations to the International Labour Conferences this year 11 women among 148 delegates and Advisers, 3 among those sent by Workers' Organisations and none from the Employers' - The ICW urges its affiliated National Councils to carry on propaganda in their respective countries on the common interests of men and women in the conditions of labour and industry, and the equality accorded to men and women under Article 7 of the Versailles Treaty to serve as Delegates and Advisers or in any other capacities connected with the League of Nations and the International Labour Organisation.

Night Work Convention

The ICW WHILE RECOGNISING that under the revision by the International Labour Conference on the Convention on Night Work for Women the hours of night work have been made more flexible, and a definite statement has been made that women in responsible positions of management are excluded from the operation of the Convention, RECORDS its profound regret that the request put forward by the Council for the exclusion also of "all such women as are not ordinarily engaged in manual work" has not been satisfied; FURTHER, that by the new Standard Articles denunciation of the Convention will be made more difficult as it can only take place during one period of 12 months in every ten years.

Unemployment Among Young People

In view of the unemployment of great numbers of people in various countries and especially as regards the social and moral dangers resulting from unemployment for adolescents and young people; FURTHER, in view of the fact that the International Labour Organisation has placed on the agenda of its 1935 Conference the question of unemployment of young people; THE ICW recommends the National Councils to study the subject in its various aspects in their respective countries, having in view the extent of the unemployment, the effects on the young people, and the question of prolonging attendance at the schools.

DUBROVNIK 1936

Restrictions on Women's Right to Work

The ICW requests the National Councils to consider the re-action which is taking place against the principle of equality of the sexes, and to take energetic action to safeguard rights already obtained and to secure that they shall be put into practice.

The ICW is especially concerned at the increasing tendency of Governments, local authorities, employers and Trade Unions to restrict the right of women to earn, that is to provide with self-respect for themselves and their dependants, and in particular it views with alarm the delegation of arbitrary powers of restriction to Ministers and officials, thus placing women virtually "outside the law".

The ICW therefore protests against all such restrictions and demands full equality of rights.

Loan Funds and Training Schemes for Women Over the Age of 30

The ICW desires to call the attention of the National Councils to the increasing difficulty experienced by women over the age of thirty years in retaining or obtaining employment, and urges the need of measures such as loan funds and training schemes to enable such women to qualify themselves for entry into new occupations.

Equal Conditions of Work Between Men and Women

The ICW invites the National Councils to combat the assumption that the economic dependency of the woman is necessary to the unity and stability of the family and again re-affirms the resolution adopted at the Council Meeting in Paris in 1934:-

"The ICW re-affirms the principle that a woman, married or unmarried, shall have the same right as a man to keep or obtain paid work and is resolved to promote equal conditions of work between men and women".

Weekly Rest of One and a Half Days

The ICW considers that the maximum working hours in industry and commerce should be so distributed as to allow at least one and a half days' weekly rest for all workers, and that these intervals should be continuous whenever possible: (the so-called "English week-end").

EDINBURGH 1938

Domestic Employment

The ICW welcomes the resolution of the International Labour Conference to consider the question of the protection of domestic workers and hopes that their conditions of employment will, in the near future, form the subject of a regulation. Further, it strongly urges the

EDINBURGH 1938

affiliated Councils to endeavour to influence public opinion in their respective countries in order to secure the adoption of appropriate regulation.

Agricultural Work

Seeing that a great number of workers in agriculture having in many countries been up to the present without effective regulation of their conditions of work, the ICW invites all the affiliated Councils to urge their respective Governments to extend to agricultural workers the benefits of social legislation, and to extend inspection to cover agricultural employment.

Executive  
BRUSSELS 1946

Trades and Professions for Women

The ICW, recognising the valuable work women have been doing during the war, the necessity of promoting the largest possible production, and the importance of women having full opportunity to support themselves and their dependants and to develop their abilities, considers it essential"

- That women should have the same opportunities of training and re-training as men;
- That women should be prepared on entering the labour market to share all the responsibilities of employment;
- That wages in the special women's occupations should be raised;
- That no difference between men's and women's wages in 'similar' work should exist;
- That equal pay for equal work irrespective of sex, should become a reality in the Civil Services and other public occupations and in all private enterprises;
- neither marriage nor child-bearing should debar women from having full opportunities in trades and professions, including the Civil Services, and that all existing barriers should be abolished.

The ICW would desire to emphasise the need to safeguard countries which are likely to become industrialised against the danger of any introduction of the principle of inequality.

**PHILADELPHIA 1947**

The above resolution was submitted to the Philadelphia Meeting and was adopted in the following amended form:

**Women in the Labour Market**

The ICW, recognising the valuable work women have been doing during the war, the necessity of promoting the largest possible production, and the importance of women having full opportunity to support themselves and their dependants and to develop their abilities, considers it essential:

- That women should have the same opportunities of training and retraining as men;
- That women should be prepared on entering the labour market to share all the responsibilities of employment;
- That irrespective of sex, equal pay for equal work and equal opportunities for promotion should become a reality in all gainful employment;
- That neither marriage nor child-bearing should debar women from having full opportunities in trades and professions, including the Civil Services, and that all existing barriers should be abolished.

The ICE desires to emphasise the need to safeguard countries which are likely to become industrialised against the danger of any introduction of the principle of inequality.

ATHENS 1951

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To study position, achievements and difficulties of the woman worker in all trades and professions: by comparison of legislation, regulation, custom, etc. and by exchange of information, to help the Councils in all countries to secure freedom of opportunity for their women workers and any necessary reforms in industrial, business and professional conditions and to educate public opinion on the dignity and spiritual value of human endeavour.

Equal Pay Without Sex Discrimination:

Support of a Convention

The ICW

CONSIDERING that in many countries women's work of equal value is paid for at a lower rate than men's work, and that this is a discrimination based on sex,

EXPRESSES its satisfaction at seeing the ILO discuss at its 34th Session the question of equal remuneration for men and women workers for work of equal value,

OF THE TWO solutions proposed by the ILO, the ICW supports vigorously the proposal of an international convention embodying the general principle supplemented by a recommendation setting forth the methods of application.

CONSIDERING that all professions and occupations should be covered by the proposed convention and recommendation, and

CONSIDERING that the present text of Article 2 of the draft recommendation carries several limitations in this respect,

The ICW

PROPOSES the following wording for this article:

"Appropriate action should be taken after consultation with the representatives of the employers' and workers' organisations concerned, to ensure the application of the principle of equal remuneration for the job without sex discrimination in all occupations besides those mentioned in paragraph 1 of the aforesaid draft recommendation."

IN THIS CONNECTION the ICW calls attention to the necessity of consulting organisations that represent women workers.

THE ICW also deems it essential that this international agreement should enunciate the principle that equal opportunities of access and promotion to all posts in all occupations should be open to both men and women.

ATHENS 1951

Equality for Women and Men in All Pension Schemes

The ICW urges that, when deductions from salaries are made equally from the salaries of men and women, the spouse and dependants of women should benefit from the pensions and other death benefits to the same extent and in the same manner as the spouse and dependants of men.

HELSINKI 1954

Equal Pay

- a) The ICW, in Conference assembled at Helsinki in June 1954, calls upon the National Councils of Women in those countries which have not yet ratified the Convention on Equal Pay to urge their Governments to ratify this Convention;
- b) calls upon all National Councils earnestly to urge the competent Government authorities and other wage-regulatory bodies to apply the principle of equal pay in practice;
- c) draws attention of the National Councils to the new development of the technique of job assessment. It therefore recommends that women avail themselves of training opportunities, in order to be equipped to work on the committees of job assessment, so that decision on wages may be worked out objectively.

Unemployment Benefits

The ICW, in Conference assembled in Helsinki in 1954, declares that measures taken in favour of the unemployed must be the same for both sexes in times of unemployment as well as in times of full employment.

Part-Time Work

The ICW, in Conference assembled in Helsinki in 1954, noting the urgent need of various categories of persons for part-time work in many countries, calls upon its Standing Committee on Trades and Professions to continue the studies of this important question, with special reference to:

- a) the best means of integrating part-time work into the total work organisation as it exists in any country,
- b) whether it is necessary to define standards and conditions of employment for part-time workers.

HELSINKI 1954

Family Probationers

The ICW, assembled in Helsinki in 1954, aware of the possible dangers to which young girls working abroad without salary might be exposed, recommends that the regulation on family workers adopted by France be studied by the International Labour Organisation in order to prepare a recommendation.

Older Women Workers

The ICW, in Conference assembled in Helsinki in June 1954,

- 1) calls attention to the great difficulty middle-aged and older women workers encounter in many countries in finding employment or being retained in an employment,
- 2) calls upon the National Councils of Women to try to improve this situation, for instance by advocating training or retraining.

MONTREAL 1957

Right of Women to Take Up Paid Employment

The ICW upholds the principle that a woman, whether married or single, has the right to take up paid employment.

The ICW re-affirms women's rights as workers, notably to equal pay for equal work, fair assessment of jobs, and access to all forms of vocational training, to all positions and to fair promotion.

The ICW, stressing the economic responsibilities towards their families now shouldered by many women, urges the development and adoption of regulations making just allowance to women workers in such matters as pensions, social benefits, tax deduction, and in similar regulations which now exist or may hereafter be adopted.

Working Contracts of Single Women Abroad

The ICW requests its NCWs to study the possibility of being consulted by their Government where working contracts of single women wishing to work abroad are concerned.

ISTANBUL 1960

Legislation re Women's Work

Considering that it seems necessary for those directly interested to take their share in making rules and regulations for workers, and considering that those responsible ought, in the first instance, to be consulted on every measure for which legislation concerning women is required, the ICW in Conference assembled asks that professional and women's organisations in every country should be consulted before the adoption of laws which concern conditions of work and more especially those dealing with women.

Discriminatory Measures: Remuneration, Access to Professions

CONSIDERING that the application of the principles of non-discrimination for reason of sex is one of the essential points of the rights of man, proclaimed in the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration of Human Rights;

CONSIDERING that this principle should be upheld and applied by all member countries of United Nations, and that it should therefore be included in the basic law or Constitution of all countries;

The ICW, meeting in Istanbul in August 1960, re-affirms the principle of non-discrimination between the sexes in matters of work, especially in regard to remuneration and access to and promotion in professions.

WASHINGTON 1963

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Very slight change of wording from "legislation, regulation, custom etc..." to "legislation, regulations and custom,".

BANGKOK 1970

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To promote the equality and freedom of access of women to all categories of employment; and, to this end, to examine and compare national legislation, regulations and custom; to endeavour to improve employment opportunities and conditions of work for women in all fields including commerce, industry, agriculture, public service and in the professions; to endeavour to secure the application in practice of equal pay.

BANGKOK 1970

Non-Discrimination in Job Classification

NOTING with satisfaction that many nations have now statutorily established the principles of equal pay for equal work and non-discrimination in employment, but recognising that practice in many areas is not in accord with principle;

AWARE that jobs filled primarily by women tend to be rated at a lower wage scale than jobs filled primarily by men, though requiring comparable training and skill;

REGRETTING that girls and women are not entering the more highly-paid fields of employment nor moving into management responsibility in sufficient numbers;

The ICW COMMENDS those nations and affiliated Councils that are informing girls and women of a wide range of job opportunities and of training facilities and encouraging them to be venturesome in career planning;

URGES affiliated Councils to use their influence with Governments unions of workers, employers and self-employed, and with public and private employers, to ensure that the principles of non-discrimination in employment and of equal pay for comparable work are applied both de jure and de facto;

EMPHASISES the importance of job classification which is the basis for judging whether the work done by men and women is comparable and thus whether pay should be equal, and

RECOMMENDS affiliated Councils to stress that women should be represented on job classification committees.

Training and Employment of Women Workers

RECOGNISING that in both industrially advanced and industrially developing countries science and technology are bringing rapid changes in occupation and manpower requirements and that women workers are vitally affected thereby,

AWARE that well-trained women are an essential human resource for the economic and social development of every country,

The ICW

REQUESTS the International Labour Organisation:

- a) to stress that women workers should be included in all assessments of manpower needs;
- b) to urge that women, especially those who wish to re-enter the labour market after a long absence, should be actively recruited to participate in vocational training programmes;
- c) to use its influence with labour and employers' organisations everywhere to open skilled job opportunities to qualified women.

BANGKOK 1970

Role of the Working Mother

RE-AFFIRMING the resolution adopted by its Plenary Council in 1957, RECOGNISING the role of the working mother in modern times and the importance of her contribution to the economy of her country and to the welfare of her children,

The ICW

RECOMMENDS its affiliates to encourage the opening of a wide network of day nurseries so that the mother may go out to work with the assurance that her children are well taken care of.

The Standing of Women in a Community

BELIEVING that women's standing in a community involves women whose work is mainly or entirely in the home, as well as women who work for pay outside the home,

CONSCIOUS that there is a lack of appreciation of the economic value of the unpaid work of women in the home,

CONVINCED that this work supports and sustains the community, including the young, the old and the feeble, as well as the paid workers outside the home,

The ICW

RECOMMENDS its affiliated Councils to institute studies directed to an economic evaluation of the work of women in the home, URGES its affiliated Councils to press their Governments to provide, for the worker in the home, social security and community benefits as effective as those provided for the paid worker.

VANCOUVER 1976

Development Programmes

The ICW

WELCOMES the plans announced by the United Nations Development Programme to advance development throughout the less industrialised countries by assisting Governments to set up technical training in different fields, and

URGES National Councils of Women to inform themselves about the opportunities for training offered by these projects; and, in particular, urges Councils to impress upon their Governments and upon voluntary organisations the importance of drawing women into these projects, in the stage of planning as well as in the realisation of programmes.

VANCOUVER 1976

Retraining for Employment

The ICW

WHEREAS many women frequently leave the working force to assume family responsibility; and  
WHEREAS they encounter difficulties in re-entering the working force;  
RECOMMENDS its National Councils to urge their Governments, voluntary organisations and appropriate agencies to facilitate the re-integration of such women into the working force by offering re-training programmes and opening new opportunities for them.

Women in Employment

The ICW

NOTING that women are still under-represented in many fields of economic activity and that they do not reach the higher echelons in these fields,  
CALLS UPON National Councils:

- a) to undertake a programme of information to encourage women to take full advantage of possibilities offered to them, and
- b) to urge their Governments, business professions and industry to provide incentives for the attainment of these aims.

Non-Remunerated Work for Women

The ICW

WHEREAS many women spend their lives wholly or in part as housewives, and  
WHEREAS the housewife's work is not considered as remunerative work,  
RECOMMENDS that Councils take action to ensure that non-remunerated work at home, in family enterprises or as a parent be duly taken into account in the determination of entitlement to social security.

Nairobi, 1979

SELECTION OF TECHNOLOGIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recognises that human beings require for their dignity and fulfillment the opportunity to express themselves in work.

It therefore applauds the efforts of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and a number of National governments to seek the appropriate technology for agricultural and industrial development.

It directs the urgent attention of National Councils to development projects where they occur.

ICW reiterates the view expressed at its Oslo Seminar (June 1978) and at the ICW Seminar for Rural Women in Manila that National Councils of Women should consider themselves involved in the terms in which their governments make applications to International and National Agencies for development assistance; and thus

Urges that Councils impress upon national authorities the importance of creating development projects which should be based on the participation of all members of society, men and women alike.

Seoul, 1982

WOMEN'S RE-ENTRY INTO THE LABOUR MARKET

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Noting that many women after a period of family responsibility wish to resume paid employment, and

Noting that difficulties are encountered in re-entering the labour market;

Requests National Councils to urge their governments to facilitate the re-entry of such women into the labour force

- 1) by removing over-restrictive age limits,
- 2) by giving due recognition, in assessing their capabilities, to their experience outside the labour force,
- 3) and by stimulating the setting up of schemes for re-training and occupational resettlement.

Seoul, 1982

UNEMPLOYMENT AND ITS EFFECT ON WOMEN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recalling its resolution adopted in Paris in 1934;

Deeply concerned about the present increasing rate of unemployment in many parts of the world and its effect on the right of women and young people to undertake paid work and on their motivation for education;

Urges the affiliated National Councils to bring pressure to bear on their relevant national and provincial authorities to secure the right of women and young people to paid work during times of economic change, and

Requests the International Labour Organisation to give more intensive attention to this problem.

Seoul, 1982

PROTECTION FOR UNPAID WORKERS

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Recognising the necessity for unpaid work as well as paid work in the labour market for the functioning of society as a whole and convinced that all kinds of work are equally valuable in supporting and sustaining the community;

Aware that far more unpaid work is done by women than by men;

Recommends its affiliated Councils to work towards a more equitable distribution of paid and unpaid work between men and women.

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN further

Urges its National Councils to work to protect voluntary workers from the misuse of their contribution to society, and

Recommends that voluntary workers be included in insurance schemes.

Seoul, 1982

VOLUNTARY FUND FOR THE UN DECADE FOR WOMEN

Recognising that the Voluntary Fund for the UN Decade for Women was created to provide financial and technical support to the activities of countries and regions and was intended to involve and benefit women in the development effort,

Expressing appreciation for the Fund's special consideration for rural and poor urban women, and for the least-developed, landlocked and island developing countries,

Expressing appreciation also that the Fund provides assistance directly to non-governmental organisations,

Taking note that VFDW has been the major factor in the creation and institutionalisation of regional women's programmes,

Noting that the Decade Committee of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organisations (CONGO) has urged NGOs in consultative status to establish a direct relationship with the Fund,

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Encourages National Councils

- 1) to make known the needs of the Fund to their governments and promote the increase of pledges both governmental and private to the Fund;
- 2) to promote in developing countries the work with rural and poor urban women through projects assisted by the Fund.

WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT AID

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Concerned that the effects of development aid programmes on the economic and social roles of women are often overlooked;

Aware that few aid projects are designed specifically for women;

Urges National Councils to request:

- 1) that governments and other agencies, in consultation with women of the recipient country, assess the probable effects of any new projects on the situation of women to ensure they are not further disadvantaged, and
- 2) that a significant proportion of aid funds be allocated to projects specifically designed to benefit women.

Washington, D.C., 1988

WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT

Considering the important part played by women in the economic and social development process;

Recognising women's urgent need of training at all levels, without discrimination;

Remembering the resolution adopted in Seoul in 1982 on an "International Strategy for Development", and the Forward Looking Strategies adopted in Nairobi in 1985;

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

Urges its National Councils:

- 1) to intensify their efforts in helping women integrate satisfactorily into the development process;
- 2) to increase their efforts for technological training of women;
- 3) to facilitate the access of women to formal and informal credit on more liberal terms;
- 4) to press for the elimination of laws and customs which prevent women from owning land in their own rights;
- 5) and in the agricultural field, to support the involvement of rural women through expert aid in the fields of both applied technology and care of plants and animals.

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**Note 2** Resolutions listed under ADMINISTRATION and FINANCE are not included in this index.

**Note 3** In the early years when Resolutions were adopted by the Executive Committee, certain Resolutions were approved for discussion at the next Quinquennial/Triennial Plenary Meeting. The text was sometimes altered before final adoption by Council. The final text has been marked by an asterisk.

**Note 4** Abbreviations:

Arts, Letters and Music	ALM
Child and the Family	CF
Economics	Ec
Education	Ed
Environment and Habitat:	
Housing	En:Hsg
Environment	En
Environment and Habitat	En.H
Finance	Fi
Health	Hlth
Home Economics	H.Ec
International Relations and Peace	IRP
Laws and Suffrage	L&S
Mass Media	
Films	MM.F
Press	MM.P
Radio and Television	MM.RTv
Mass Media	MM
Migration	Mig
Social Welfare	SW
Women and Employment	W&E

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