

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Council at its substantive session of 2004 on the action taken to follow up the present resolution; including the findings of the Working Group and an assessment of its work and mandate.

*47th plenary meeting
24 July 2003*

2003/49

Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 2002/23 of 24 July 2002, and its decision to establish the regular sub-item “Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes of the United Nations system” in order to, inter alia, monitor and evaluate achievements made and obstacles encountered by the United Nations system, and to consider further measures to strengthen the implementation and monitoring of gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system,

Also recalling its agreed conclusions 1997/2 on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system,¹⁶⁸ and its subsequent decision to devote a coordination segment before 2005 to a review and appraisal of the system-wide implementation of those agreed conclusions,

Affirming that gender mainstreaming is a globally accepted strategy for promoting gender equality,

Reaffirming that gender mainstreaming constitutes a critical strategy in the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action¹⁶⁹ and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,¹⁷⁰

Underlining the catalytic role played by the Commission on the Status of Women in promoting gender mainstreaming,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on follow-up to and progress in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,¹⁷¹ especially on measures taken by the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies to mainstream a gender perspective into their work;

2. *Decides* to undertake, during its coordination segment in 2004, a review and appraisal of the system-wide implementation of its agreed conclusions 1997/2

3. *Calls upon* Member States and all other actors of the United Nations system to continue to mainstream a gender perspective into all activities at all levels;

4. *Decides* to intensify its efforts to ensure that gender mainstreaming is an integral part of all activities in its work, and therefore to give appropriate attention to gender perspectives and the particular obstacles that women face in all its

14. *Notes with appreciation* the expanded efforts of the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality to support gender mainstreaming in a growing number of sectors, especially its efforts to ensure that gender perspectives are addressed systematically by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, and in this regard encourages the Board in its efforts to mainstream gender perspectives throughout the United Nations system;

15. *Encourages* United Nations bodies to promote inter-agency arrangements through the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality for increased coordination and partnership on gender issues across the United Nations system;

16. *Welcomes* the efforts by the regional commissions to promote gender mainstreaming and improve the situation of women, and encourages the regional commissions to intensify those efforts;

17. *Underlines* the importance of reports to intergovernmental bodies consistently giving attention to gender equality through systematic and rigorous analysis of the issues involved, and presenting issues and approaches in a gender-sensitive manner so as to give concrete and practical recommendations and serve as