BPW International
Policy Advocacy Resolutions Register

RESOLUTIONS ON EXTERNAL AND ADVOCACY MATTERS PASSED BY
BPW INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES AND BOARDS

This register documents all Resolutions relevant to BPW International policy advocacy that have been passed at Congresses and Board Meetings since 1930 to the present time. It will be updated as new Resolutions are passed at future Congresses and Board Meetings. There is a separate Register for Resolutions relevant to BPW International operational matters.

The Resolutions have been put in sub-categories within categories for easier reference. In addition, an Index has been included so that Resolutions dealing with more than one subject area can be cross-referenced.

FORWARD
extracted from the June 1962 Policy Resolutions Booklet

Your BPW International Executive, in presenting to your this booklet of Policy Resolutions, believes that it will fill a long-felt want.

Within these pages are resolutions submitted by federations, standing committees and individual members that have been adopted at Board Meetings and Congresses since 1930, the year when our International Federation was launched in Geneva. Recommendations which accompanied reports to these various meetings, and which were approved, will be the subject of a later booklet.

Whilst all resolutions are based on the aims and purposes of our International Federation, it is interesting to note the progress made towards the achievement of our many goals through the years. For instance, there has been a change in approach to action through the world organizations and other authoritative bodies in local and national level.

Even during the disruptive gap 1939-45 caused by the Second world War, the aims and purposes of our International Federation were kept alive through the Three-year Objective: viz. "More women in public office and executive positions", which was adopted at the Stockholm Board Meeting in 1937, and which exerted a beneficent influence and inspired continuous activity in many national federations. Full acknowledgement of this resolution is given in Part I under the main heading "Economic Opportunities for Women" and its numerous cross-references.

What achievements have stemmed from these resolutions? That is a difficult question to answer and perhaps the best and most realistic reply is to be found in a record of the "follow up" work that has been done persistently in each country during the years.

Resolutions are not for the pigeon hole: they are for interpretation into intelligent, concerted and responsible action be each national federation, and club and individual member.

It is earnestly hoped then that the careful study of this booklet will lead in the future to a better formulation and presentation generally of resolutions; a greater urgency in follow up action and, above all, a deeper understanding of the philosophy underlying our international aims which must be our individual aims and daily practised by us.

Horgen, Switzerland
June, 1962

Elisabeth Feller
President of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women

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10 EQUAL RIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN PAID EMPLOYMENT

EQUAL RIGHTS TO RETRAIN OR OBTAIN PAID WORK (1934)

RESOLVED that the President be authorized to support at the coming mass meeting the International Council of Women in Paris the following resolution:

"This meeting, representing the Equal Rights International, the Federation of Soroptimist Clubs, the International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship, the International Co-operative Women's Guild, the International Council of Women, the International Federation of Business and Professional Women, the International Federation of Medical Women, the International Federation of University Women, the International Federation of Women Lawyers, the Open Door International, St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, the World Union of Women for International Concord and the World Young Women's Christian Association, whose total membership represents many millions of women in all parts of the world, declares that a woman, whether married or unmarried, shall have the same right as a man to retain or obtain paid work, and strongly protests against any attempt to deprive her of this right."

IN THE EVENT that the resolution would be reworded, the President was authorized to support it in any form, which did not violate its original intent.

THE RIGHT TO WORK IN PAID EMPLOYMENT (1935)

RESOLVED that the International Federation is fixed in its belief that every woman, as well as every man, has an inherent and inalienable right to earn a reasonable living and calls upon the several governments so to organize their social, economic and political structures as to provide full opportunities for the exercise of this right.

EQUAL RIGHTS - CONSTITUTIONAL, CIVIC, AND ECONOMIC (1936)

RESOLVED that the International Federation declares its conviction that women should have the same constitutional, civic, and economic rights as men and asks its national organizations to undertake the action necessary to acquire and maintain such rights.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES (1936)

RESOLVED that the International Federation shall assist women to enter all professions and businesses according to their abilities and qualifications, and is opposed to any restrictions on grounds of sex.

OLDER WOMEN WORKERS (1953)

RESOLVED that national federations begin at once their consideration of this subject, so that information can immediately be forwarded when requested by the United Nations Committee and the Employment Conditions Committee of the International Federation for transmission to the Status of Women Commission.
ACHIEVING EQUALITY THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE NEGOTIATIONS (1959)

RESOLVED that national federations:
1. inform themselves fully as to the extent of the participation of women in the elaboration of the methods by which employment policy and remuneration and other conditions of employment in their country are determined, and
2. encourage qualified women to attain office in business and professional organizations, and to participate fully in the work of all bodies through which they may exert greater influence on the formation of policy on matters affecting them.

VALUE OF WOMEN'S WORK (1971-09)

RESOLVED that National Federations and Associate Clubs make such an assessment and evaluation in order to set their own specific objectives and minimum targets which it is believed might be achieved by 1980 to increase the effective contribution of women to the growth and development of their country and the improvement of their own status. Report of targets set should be reported to International Headquarters by January 1972, for forwarding by the UN Chairman to the Commission on the Status of Women.

VALUE OF WOMEN'S WORK (1976-08)

RESOLVED that all National Federations and Associate Clubs bring these problems to the attention of their governments and to support appropriate legislative action to overcome them.

1. Although equality of enumeration already prevails ostensibly in most countries, differentials are maintained between the sexes in that lower salaries or wages are paid in professions and other occupations that are traditionally the province of women than those of "men", that the promotion of women is slower and that they rarely have access to positions of higher responsibility.
2. No assessment of the housewife's work has been made with the result social security and pension coverage for housewives is generally poor. This applies above all to women in agriculture but also to those women who choose the role of housewife and mother as their occupation.

WOMEN IN TIMES OF BUSINESS RECESSION (1977-04)

RESOLVED that all National Federations and Associate Clubs:
1. condemn the existing practice of employing and dismissing women on account of the economic situation;
2. urge women to demonstrate their adaptability and perseverance in difficult circumstances;
3. declare their willingness to support as far as possible any action of solidarity whatever the legal status, age, or profession of the women involved;
4. encourage women to have confidence in their abilities and be ready to accept responsibilities.

WOMEN'S IMPACT ON THE ECONOMY OF THEIR COUNTRIES (1982-06)

RESOLVED that National Federations and Associate Clubs:
1. explore and list available resources, both human and material, for the development of handicrafts and other items from local materials;
2. stimulate and assist local communities to establish a centre for information about sources of material, items suitable for sale, regulations governing channels of distributions, and to set quality standards with enforcement controls.

ENCOURAGEMENT AND PROMOTION OF YOUNG WOMEN (1985-02)

RESOLVED that National Federations and Associate Clubs encourage, support and promote young women in their endeavours to obtain, as their right, equality in all fields of activity and especially at decision-making levels in the economic, social, cultural and health policies in their own countries.
RESOLVED that National Federations and Associate Clubs:
1. seek to have included in the Gross National Products of their countries the value of women's paid and unpaid work.
2. CREATE an awareness of the extent of women's work and the contribution made by women in the building of an expanding economy.

ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN (1989-04)

RESOLVED that National Federations and Associate Clubs:
1. urge National Governments to adopt the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women at national level to ensure that women fulfil their potential for self-reliance and independence by:
   a) working towards elimination of all forms of wage discrimination between men and women;
   b) encouraging greater provision of employment opportunities in both traditional and non-traditional areas of employment;
   c) making credit more easily available to women to start their own businesses;
   d) developing adequate social support systems for working women including proper maternal health care, provision of child care during working hours;
   e) making proper pension arrangements for women; and
   f) structuring training programmes to encourage more women into workforce.
2. co-operate with non-governmental organisations at national level to work towards the advancement of women in the economic field by working together to influence governments to take more positive actions to help women and to urge women to participate more fully in the economic life of their countries and their communities.

EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN (1989-12)

RESOLVED that the International Federation:
1. suggests to the UN Division for the Advancement of Women that documentation prepared for the Extended Session stresses the need for additional training opportunities for women to help them move out of the low-paying traditional jobs, and prepare them for:
   a) employment opportunities in business, trade and commerce, including managerial and decision-making positions;
   b) self-employment and entrepreneurship;
   c) new types of employment in the fields of science and technology;
2. urges the National Federations and Associate Clubs to:
   a) make available to members, information on economic issues of the area and ways in which they can help build an expanding economy;
   b) assist members to secure credit for establishing their own businesses;
   c) alert women to prepare for non-traditional and new types of employment in a rapidly changing marketplace;
   d) initiate out-of-school and on-the-job training opportunities to help women up-grade their skills and thus obtain the opportunity to develop themselves in their employment and be able to reach a higher level of employment.

ETHICAL INVESTMENTS AND LOAN FUNDS AVAILABLE TO WOMEN (1999-06)

RESOLVED that BPW International:
1. Adopt an educational programme for women about the availability of ethical investment funds, venture capital and credit sources for women, to ensure that women have adequate information about finance at fair rates.
2. Encourage their clubs to establish or join an existing women's loan fund.
20 EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK/VALUE OF WORK

EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK: UN PAMPHLET (1936)

RESOLVED that the International Federation declares that it is an essential safeguard for the maintenance of professional standards that the principle of equal pay for equal work should be adopted.

EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY AND EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK (1937)

RESOLVED that the International Federation reiterates this principle and urges all its member federations to exercise their utmost efforts towards bringing about its practical application.

TRAINING, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND PROMOTIONS (1938)

RESOLVED that the International Federation reaffirms its belief in the need for equality of educational and technical training, business and professional opportunities and possibilities of promotion of merit as between men and women and in order to maintain such standard that the principle of equal work be recognized.

"THE RATE FOR THE JOB" (1949)

RESOLVED that the International Federation reaffirms and declares its support of the principle of "the rate for the job" as stipulated in Article 2 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: "Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration without discrimination of any kind such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status..."

EQUAL REMUNERATION FOR MEN AND WOMEN WORKERS FOR WORK OF EQUAL VALUE (1950)

RESOLVED that the urgent and immediate work before the International Federation is to press, through all available channels, for the setting up of appropriate international machinery on the subject of "Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value", which comes before the Conference of the International Labour Organization in 1951 for its second and final discussion. And should such international instrument be established, national federations shall undertake immediately to work for its ratification and implementation by their governments.

EQUAL REMUNERATION FOR WORK OF EQUAL VALUE (1955)

RESOLVED that in view of the fact that securing recognition of the principle of equal remuneration for work of equal value for men and women workers has been a major area of work of the International Federation, and since the Secretary-General of the United Nations has requested of non-governmental organizations additional data on present status of the application of the principle of equal pay results achieved and methods found useful in creating a favourable climate of public opinion for the acceptance of the principle, RESOLVED that the International Federation requests national federations to forward to the International Federation additional data by October 15th so that it may be submitted to the Secretary-General by November 1st, 1955, for incorporation in a new document to be reviewed at the next session of the Commission of the United Nations of the Status of Women.

EQUAL REMUNERATION FOR MEN AND WOMEN WORKERS FOR WORK OF EQUAL VALUE (1956)

RESOLVED that its views on this subject be communicated to the Commission on the Status of Women and that national federations urge their respective governments to remove any differentiation within the jurisdiction of government and to use their influence to have any such differentiation removed in all pension schemes.

BPWI Policy Resolutions
EQUAL REMUNERATION FOR WORK OF EQUAL VALUE: NEW UN PAMPHLET (1959)

RESOLVED to COMMEND the Commission on the Status of Women for its efforts to compile and publish a pamphlet to increase understanding of the international aspects of the problems and guidance for speeding application to all workers, and RECOMMENDS that its member federations encourage wide distribution of the new UN pamphlet on equal pay when available.

UN PAMPHLET: EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK (1962-15)

RESOLVED member federations and clubs promote the sale and study of the pamphlet, (Equal Pay for Equal Work prepared on the recommendation of the Status of Women Commission and issued as United Nations Sales Publication No.60 IV, 4) in their efforts to obtain equal pay for equal work.

EQUALITY OF REMUNERATION (1967-06)

RESOLVED that this question be placed on the agenda of the 11th Congress of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women to be held in London in July 1968.

EQUAL PAY (2011)

RESOLVED that all BPW International affiliates be urged to:

1. lobby governments, UN Institutions and other relevant bodies too develop and implement gender sensitive policies and programmes aimed at promoting women’s economic empowerment including enhancing access to full and productive employment, decent work for all and equal pay for equal work or work of equal value
2. adopt and effect measures to promote this by continuing and expanding the Equal Pay Day Campaign and to make Equal Pay Day an annual event in each country
3. report progress on the implementation of this resolution to BPW International within 2 years of this Congress.

ENDORsing THE CAMPAIGNS FOR DECENT WORKING CONDITIONS IN THE GARMENT INDUSTRY (2014 E-7)

Given that BPW International endorsed and actively promotes the Women’s Empowerment Principles; and
• reaffirming the resolution adopted by the General Assembly in 1999 on the Clean Clothes Campaign but also seeing the need for modernizing and reviving its implications and implementation;
• recalling the devastating occurrence when Rana Plaza collapsed in Bangladesh in 2013;
• applauding the activities of campaigns and activities such as the Clean Clothes Campaign (Originating from Europe), the Fairwear campaign in Australia and the activities of the ILO related to the “decent work agenda”;

RESOLVED to address this issue as a policy priority by endorsing the Clean Clothes Campaign and similar initiatives in other regions and countries and actively advocates through its Affiliates and UN representatives for the implementation of the “Decent Work Agenda” and initiatives derived from that, with gender equality as a crosscutting objective and adoption of the WEPs by the companies involved to create a safe garment industry with living wages and equal treatment.
30 PENSIONS/RETIREMENTS/BENEFITS

EQUALITY IN RESPECT TO PENSION PLANS AND RETIREMENT AGE (1958)

Believing that there should be no differentiation between men and women workers with respect to age of retirement and right to pension, RESOLVED to urge national federations to continue to support equal treatment of men and women workers, by Industry and national governments, with respect to pension plans and the implementation of the principle that the normal retirement age and pensionable age should be the same for men and women.

EQUALITY IN RESPECT TO PENSION PLANS AND RETIREMENT AGE (1959)

RESOLVED to urge national federations and clubs to promote by all appropriate means, the equal treatment of men and women workers with respect to pension plans and the implementation of the principle that the retirement age, either optional or compulsory, and the pensionable age and benefits should be the same for men and women workers.

NOTE: This subject was referred to the ILO for study at the 14th Session of the Status of Women Commission 1960.

PART-TIME WORK AND AGE OF RETIREMENT (1964-06)

The International Federation recognizes the extreme danger of a new insidious disguised form of special protection of women's work, for which there is a tendency throughout the world, and considering that parliamentary proceedings, those of various committees and commissions, are contemplating or have achieved regulations governing part-time work and the fixing of retiring age for women earlier than that for men; RESOLVED to wish that each national federation and associate club will undertake intense propaganda action with men and women of their respective countries regarding the dangers of such measures, and vigilant action with public authorities with a view to ensuring that such measures be abrogated, or not adopted.

FLEXIBLE USE OF THE LABOUR FORCE (1985-01)

RESOLVED that the International Federation requests National Federations and Associate Clubs to:
1. investigate how to make it legally possible for people to work part-time or to take leave from the work force, deemed necessary, without loss of employment and social benefits,
2. urge their Governments to adopt and implement such legislation,
3. report back to the International Federation through the Employment Conditions Committee on the success or otherwise of their efforts by a date to be determined.

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN ON BASIS OF AGE (1989-11)

RESOLVED that the International Federation suggests that National Federations and Associate Clubs:
1. survey the situation as it exists in their countries to note the extent to which women are prevented from employment or advancement on the job on the basis of age;
2. initiate programmes to create an awareness of the value of the older woman worker;
3. consider whether the national age of compulsory retirement in their countries should be adjusted or eliminated.
40 DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT

WITHIN COMMERCIAL & PROFESSIONAL BODIES AGAINST WOMEN MEMBERS (1930)

RESOLVED that each affiliated federation prepare and send to headquarters a list of commercial and professional bodies which admit and which do not admit women members, e.g. chambers of commerce, architectural associations, law societies, engineering institutes, etc.

THREE-YEAR OBJECTIVE - TRAINING, JOB OPPORTUNITIES, ADVANCEMENT, CO-OPERATION (1937)

RESOLVED
1. that for the coming three years the International Federation adopt this three-year Objective as the principal phase of its programme;
2. that the various national federations concentrate upon exposing current fallacies regarding business and professional women;
3. that more women are placed in public office and executive positions of trust and responsibility;
4. that, through the education of the younger generation and a gradual changing of the public attitude, certain psychological adjustments will be made which will tend to further the advancement of business and professional women,

FURTHER RESOLVED that the various member federations also investigate the possibilities of a revision in educational methods which shall result in girls being given from the beginning the same type of training and the same educational opportunities as boys.

Whereas it has been definitely developed in discussion at this meeting that there does not exist a complete and sympathetic comprehension of each other's problems on the part of gainfully employed women and women of the leisure class,

RESOLVED that in the coming year a sustained effort be made to stimulate co-operation between these two groups and also with non-federated groups of business and professional women, with a view to developing a united women's front for the women of the world.

Whereas, even though an upward trend in the economic field is evident, there still exists in some countries a tendency to prefer the man worker to the women worker of equal qualifications and to give men an advantage over equally qualified women in the matter of executive positions and salaries,

RESOLVED that national federations of business and professional women everywhere continue their efforts to combat this tendency and to present united opposition to all such discriminations.

DISCRIMINATION OF A PERSON BY REASON OF SEX AND OTHER STATUS (1949)

RESOLVED
1. to protest against the proposed Dutch legislation regarding married women officials, which requires all married women officials to be discharged as from January 1950, after which no married women will be admitted as officials; and
2. that such legislation is contrary to Article 2 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that there shall be no discrimination against any person by reason of sex and other status; and
3. to urge that this proposed Dutch legislation regarding married women officials should be brought into accordance with Article 2 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST MARRIED WOMEN (1958)

RESOLVED to urge the inclusion of "married or civil status" in Article I of the Draft Convention on Discrimination in the Field of Employment and Occupation, and directs that this view be brought to the attention of the ILO in the appropriate manner.

NOTE: proposed ILO Convention against Discrimination in the Field of Employment and Occupation in Article I (paragraph 1) - such discrimination includes adverse treatment which is made on the basis of race, colour, sex, religion, political opinion, national extraction or social origin,
DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT AND OCCUPATION (1959)

RESOLVED to approve ILO Convention No. 111 on Discrimination in the Field of Employment and Occupation, and recommends national federations to urge their governments to ratify the Convention, and urges national federations to promote the policy of equality through education, legislation, administrative procedure, and cooperation of employers' and workers' organizations.

ELIMINATE DISCRIMINATORY LAWS AND PRACTICES AGAINST MARRIED WOMEN (1961)

RESOLVED to
1. commend the action of the Status of Women Commission at its 15th Session in respect to discrimination on the right of women to work,
2. reaffirm its opposition to all discriminations on the right of women to work,
3. urge national federations to continue their efforts to eliminate discriminatory laws and practices and create the acceptance on the part of the public and employers to give married women full opportunities for employment on the same terms as unmarried women.

PROFESSIONAL WOMEN WORKING UNDERGROUND IN MINES (1982-13)

RESOLVED that affiliates urge their governments or industrial courts to introduce the necessary legislation or regulations to ensure that women professionals and managers are not denied employment opportunities in mining communities.

NOTE: ILO Convention 45 Article 3, allows National laws or regulations to be passed exempting females from the prohibition against their employment on underground work in any mine provided that they are:
   a) females holding positions of management who do not perform manual work;
   b) females employed in health and welfare services;
   c) females who, in the course of their studies, spend a period of training in the underground parts of a mine; and
   d) any other females who may occasionally have to enter the underground parts of a mine for the purpose of a non-manual occupation; and

IMMIGRANT LABOUR (1989-06)

RESOLVED that the International Federation asks National Federations and Associate Clubs to:
1. put pressure on governments to legislate for recognition and legally binding contracts of employment for immigrant labour, of which women make up the most exploitable section;
2. interest local administrations in order to set up social assistance, health care and education service for immigrant families;
3. urge that immigrants should be informed by the government of the country of their choice about market and social life there.

CLEAN CLOTHES CAMPAIGN (1999-07)

RESOLVED that BPW International urges all Affiliates to support the Clean Clothes Campaign and promote:
1. The adoption of the three core principles by companies, that they
   a) accept responsibility for their workers,
   b) observe core ILO labour standards, and
   c) include observance of the Clean Clothes Campaign Code, a concise statement of minimum standards, as a condition of any agreements with contractors and suppliers.
2. The adoption of the Code by companies, industry associations and employer organisations in the garment and sportswear industry.
3. Commitment by companies to take positive action to ensure implementation of the Code.
RESOLVED that BPW International calls upon all National Federations and Associate Clubs to urge National Governments to
1. Sign, ratify, and implement the Terms of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.
2. Regulate and monitor all intermediaries involved in the recruitment, transport and employment of migrant women workers.
3. Ensure that all industries and employment situations are subject to national legislation, in line with international law, regulations, labour codes and social security legislation.
4. Monitor the welfare of migrant workers to ensure that migrant women workers receive at least the same legal rights and protections as local workers.
5. Adopt effective sanctions against those involved, either directly or indirectly, in the exploitation and abuse of migrant women workers.

COMPLIANCE WITH THE ILO MATERNITY PROTECTION CONVENTION 2000 (2008-18)

Recognising that BPW works to promote equality of all women in the workforce and the health and safety of the mother and child and
Knowing that the protection of maternity in national law and practice is not equally developed in all countries and
Being aware that maternity is a major factor compromising the equality of economic and social rights and well being of women who need, or wish, to work

RESOLVED that BPW International urges all National Federations and Associate Clubs to use their influence to bring about full compliance with the minimum requirements of the ILO Maternity Protection Convention 2000 in their countries.
50 NIGHT WORK

EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN ON NIGHT WORK: SUPERVISORS AND MANAGEMENT (1933)

RESOLVED that the International Federation opposes the Washington Convention concerning the employment of women during the night in so far as it applies to women who hold positions of supervision or management and who are not ordinarily engaged in manual work.

EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN DURING THE NIGHT - COOPERATION WITH ILO (1934)

RESOLVED that the International Federation expresses sincere appreciation of the close co-operation between the International Federation of Business and Professional Women and the International Labour Office, which has prevailed during the past year in connection with various problems. In particular, while regretting that a wider revision of the Convention concerning the Employment of Women during the Night has not been achieved, the Board of Directors appreciates the significant change brought about in international legislation by the partial Revision of the Convention, whereby the existence of technical and administrative women in industry has been recognized.

RATIFICATION OF CONVENTION OF EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN DURING THE NIGHT - (1934)

RESOLVED that the International Federation,
1. notes the results obtained through the partial Revision of the Convention concerning the "Employment of Women during the Night",
2. recognizes that, according to the revised text, only a small number of intellectual women workers are authorized to work during the night, and
3. recommends that:
   a) In countries whose governments have ratified the Convention, and where the Convention is strictly applied, national organizations take the necessary steps to obtain the ratification of the revised Convention as rapidly as possible,
   b) In countries whose governments have not ratified the Convention, or where the Convention has been ratified, but not strictly applied against women intellectual workers, national organizations do not press for ratification.

NIGHT WORK FOR WOMEN: DISCRIMINATION (1958)

RESOLVED its opposition to such prohibition of night work for working women, and directs that this view be brought to the attention of the ILO in the appropriate manner at the earliest possible time.

PROHIBITION OF NIGHT WORK TO WORKERS AS WOMEN (1964-07)

RESOLVED to affirm its belief that this prohibition of night work applying to women only is far from being a protection for women workers, considering
1. that it has not been proven by scientific methods that women resist less well than men to physical and mental efforts of night work;
2. that if this type of work may affect health and the working ability of some persons of either sex, it is not justified, for the reason above, to maintain in form regulations which are discriminatory to women only;
3. that the regulations covering working hours are and remain an obstacle to the employment of women, and to their advancement in particular, if one takes into account the adoption of two or three-shift method in industry and that this constitutes an evident discrimination based on sex; and that the International Federation, national federations and associate clubs appeal to member states of the ILO and also to their respective governments, to abolish all special measures in matters of night work when applicable to workers as women.
PARTICIPATION IN HIGHER EXECUTIVE POSTS

60 PARTICIPATION IN HIGHER EXECUTIVE POSTS, PROFESSIONS AND DIPLOMATIC SERVICE

INCREASING PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN HIGHER EXECUTIVE POSTS (1938)

RESOLVED to recommend that national federations
1. intensify their efforts to increase the number of women on legislative and municipal councils,
2. undertake vigorously all useful steps to awaken the interest of women and to increase their influence in higher executive posts,
3. recognise the benefits that would result from the greater participation of women in the higher councils of cooperatives, organizations of employers and workers and of all social insurance services.

NECESSITY AND CAPACITY OF WOMEN IN HIGHER EXECUTIVE POSTS (1939)

RESOLVED that it calls to the attention of the public the results of its recent investigation, which shows that in many parts of the world fallacies regarding women's employment are being effectively dispelled; that the economic necessity for such work is substantiated; and that the capacity of women to hold high executive and administrative positions is clearly established.

HELPING WOMEN PARTICIPATE IN ALL PHASES OF WORLD AFFAIRS (1947)

RESOLVED to extend a warm and cordial welcome to those women who in many countries are now emerging into full citizenship, and pledge all possible help to enable them to participate in all phases of world affairs at all levels.

EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN (AFTER AGE 40) IN PROFESSIONS AND HIGHER EXECUTIVE POSTS (1950)

RESOLVED
1. That it is essential that the training, skills and experience of man and woman power of each country should be used to its fullest capacity in work for which it is best qualified,
2. That an investigation be made by national federations as to the position in their respective countries; and if it is found that women over 40 are faced with problems in any sphere of employment,
3. That national federations take appropriate action with their governments and with employers' and employees' organizations for a solution of these problems, so as to prevent loss to the economic, social and educational life of the community.

RIGHT to VOTE, HOLD POLITICAL OFFICE, AND APPOINTMENT TO DIPLOMATIC SERVICE (1958)

RESOLVED to
1. request national federations to transmit to the International Legislation Chairman by December 1st, 1958, such new and supplementary material as pertains to such rights (the right to vote and hold office) and the exercise thereof,
2. urges national federations to influence their governments towards full implementation of these principles and particularly in respect of the appointment of women for diplomatic service on the same terms as men,
3. urges national federations to stress the importance of training for governmental service including diplomatic service.

ARCHITECTURE, ENGINEERING, LAW - GLOBAL STUDY (1959)

NOTING the request for information for the 15th Session of Status of Women Commission in 1961 on availability of opportunities for women in positions related to the professions of engineering, architecture and law in the middle level, such as employment as draughtsmen, science and engineering technicians, accountants, economists and statisticians to be forwarded by non-governmental organizations in consultative status to the Secretary-General of the United Nations,
RESOLVED that national federations to review the situation in their own countries and to forward related
EXPANDING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN (1961)

RESOLVED to
1. commend the action of the Commission on the Status of Women in recommending action by the Economic and Social Council,
2. urge the adoption by the Economic and Social Council of the resolution on the Expansion of Employment Opportunities for Women requested by the commission on the Status of Women,
3. urge Member Federations to co-operate in the promotion of opportunities for women to obtain employment in accordance with their qualifications and abilities,
4. pledge the co-operation of the International Federation to obtain additional information if requested by the United Nations Secretariat.

ENGINEERING PROJECTS (1964-04)

RESOLVED that, as part of IFBPW’s programme to assist women in developing countries, IFBPW seek information through its national federations, its associate members, its committees and from the United Nations and elsewhere, on the various engineering developments (such as power and light developments, irrigation and well and water systems) being undertaken or planned in Africa and Asia through the United Nations, The Colombo Plan, and those being undertaken with foreign capital, and through appropriate contacts, attempt to ensure
a) that consideration is given, from the planning stage to completion, toward employing these systems and services in alleviating domestic hardships (such as water-carrying, fuel gathering and processing);
b) that these systems and services be extended to alleviate domestic hardships wherever possible; and
c) that opportunities are given to appropriate persons from developing countries to become familiar in practice with working conditions in homes in other countries.

MORE WOMEN AS BOARD MEMBERS (1987-16)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to work towards:
1. More women being appointed as board members.
2. Better support of women by women.
3. Greater use of the vote by women so as to achieve greater participation by women in public office.
4. The discovery of capable and willing women who can be recommended for appointment to boards and/or public office.

WOMEN IN SPORTS (1996-11)

RESOLVED that the International Federation recognise that the Brighton Declaration is especially ‘...directed at all governments, public authorities, organizations, the media, education and research establishments, women's organizations...’ and urges its affiliates
• to influence their governments to implement policies and programs which guarantee that sports institutions and organizations respect the plan of the United Nation’s document on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and of the United Nation’s Convention regarding the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women.
• To promote a greater participation by women in the different levels of sports, such as athletes, trainers, directors, thus contributing to the formation, preparation, training, etc. of athletic women in other areas of activities such as management.
EQUALITY IN NATIONALITY

EQUALITY IN ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO NATIONALITY (1935)

RESOLVED that the International Federation endorses the principle of equality in all matters pertaining to nationality.

NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN (1949)

RESOLVED that The International Federation reaffirms and declares that its position on the nationality rights of married women is as set forth in Article 15 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights:
1. Everyone has the right to a nationality,
2. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his nationality,
3. and urges that a study be made by national federations of the Secretary-General's report on "Conflict in Law and Practice Relating to Nationality of Married Women" (Document 3/CN6/482) and that they make representation to their respective governments as to their federation's position.

EQUAL RIGHTS AS TO NATIONALITY (1952)

RESOLVED that the International Federation stands for the principle of equal rights as to nationality between men and women and urges our constituent organizations to work in their own countries to this end.

DRAFT CONVENTION ON NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN (1953)

RESOLVED that member federations study the Draft Convention and forward their considered views to their respective governments so that government comments submitted may reflect the thinking of member federations.

STUDYING DRAFT CONVENTION ON NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN (1955)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges national federations to study the revised draft convention and to make known to their respective governments by October 15th, 1955, their opinions, and their decision as to whether it should be adopted by the 10th Session of the General Assembly, sending report of action to the Chairman of the International Federation Legislation Committee.
SERVICES FOR WORKING WOMEN WITH RESPONSIBILITIES

80 SERVICES FOR WORKING WOMEN WITH RESPONSIBILITIES

WORKING WOMEN WITH HOME RESPONSIBILITIES (1956)

RESOLVED that the International Federation asks national federations to forward to the headquarters of the International Federation by December 1st, 1956, information concerning existing problems in this field (employed women with home responsibilities) and methods found effective in dealing with them so that the International Federation may submit material for discussion by the Commission at its 11th Session.

PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT FOR WOMEN (1961)

PLEDGES the co-operation of the International Federation in obtaining information on the need of women for part-time and opportunities for such work, if requested by the United Nations Secretariat.

NOTE: Commission on the Status of Women at its 15th Session requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to bring up to date previous studies on part-time work for women.

SERVICE CENTRES FOR WORKERS (1967-08)

RESOLVED that federations influence the responsible authorities to observe the demands of a changing world and therefore to create such centres with service facilities for childcare, cooking, laundry, house cleaning, "concierge", etc., bearing in mind not only the disadvantages but also the advantages of high apartment blocks.

RECOVERY ABROAD OF MAINTENANCE OBLIGATIONS (1967-11)

RESOLVED that national federations take energetic steps vis-à-vis their respective governments with a view to ratification and implementation (if this has not already been done) without delay of those conventions of the United Nations favourable to women and to children, notably the convention of 22nd June 1956 "Recovery Abroad of Maintenance Obligations", in order to remedy, with a humanitarian object, numerous distressing and unjust situations.

FAMILY RESPONSIBILITY (1971-07)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to support and sponsor activities to influence public opinion in order to create shared responsibility by working spouses for the upbringing of children and the upkeep of the home.

DAY NURSERIES (1974-12)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to recommend to their governments and their local authorities the creation of Day Nurseries with adequate professional personnel in charge, in order that every mother, without distinction of social class, shall have the opportunity to leave her pre-school age children and her school age children, if she wishes, every day during her working day.

DAY CENTRES - FLEXIBLE WORKING HOURS - HOUSING FOR FAMILIES (1979-06)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to take the necessary action with the competent authorities in their countries:

1. To make Day Centres for Children from infancy to adolescence available to working women during the working hours of parents, especially out-of-school hours,
2. To improve and to ease the systems of flexible working hours,
3. To ensure that measures are taken to facilitate the provision of reasonable housing for families with children.

BPWI Policy Resolutions
PARENTAL LEAVE (1980-14)

RESOLVED that the International Federation recommends that National Federations and Associate Clubs work for laws to secure "parenthood leave" for either parent on request and also work for legal possibilities whereby "parenthood leave" can be shared between the parents.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A FORM OF EMPLOYMENT KNOWN AS A "HOME MANAGER" (1980-23)

RESOLVED that the International Federation recommend that National Federations and Associate Clubs actively pursue the establishment a form of employment known as a "Home Management", which would carry a good status in society, be well paid, and serve to enable both parents to follow full-time occupations in the knowledge that their home and dependants are being cared for.

SELF-HELP PROGRAMS FOR UNEMPLOYED WOMEN (1980-27)

Noting that the International Federation has resolved to introduce programmes relating to the following:
1. promotion of "self awareness" aimed at making young children more conscious on their natural inclinations and abilities in all school curricula;
2. vocational guidance adopting more realistic approaches to job possibilities and requirements stressing that change in technology and oversupply of labour has meant that the outdated attitudes of traditional "women's jobs" must be reformed;
3. specific training to ensure that all females have qualifications as the need for "unskilled" employment becomes obsolete in the wake of automation.

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges that unemployed women be encouraged to initiate self-help programs by the use of "facilitators" who are people working in the areas of unemployed women by assisting individuals to find employment, listen to their problems and direct them to the appropriate services.

PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT (1980-28)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. recommends that the chairman of the Employment Conditions Standing Committee of the National Federations and Associate Clubs be requested to investigate the situation of part-time employment and an effort be made to secure appropriate percentage of all benefit leave days in proportion to part-time employment in each country and report the finding to the International Federation of Business and Professional Women Standing Committee Chairman, and further
2. recommend that such investigation be relied on to assist in formulating proposals to the various countries to ensure protection and security for part-time workers and to make sure that part-time work is not expanding in a way which increases the discrimination of women.

FAMILIES HEADED BY WOMEN (1987-10)

RESOLVED that the International Federation requests National Federations and Associate Clubs:
1. To investigate the situation in their own countries.
2. To promote an information campaign aimed at eliminating discrimination against single mothers and their children.
3. To pressure policy-makers to study and implement laws which recognize and take into account these different family structures.
4. To report their action on this resolution to the Legislation Committee of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women at least six months prior to the next Congress.

PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT (1987-17)

RESOLVED that the International Federation agrees that National Federations and Associate Clubs urge their governments, employer organisations and trade unions:
1. To adopt a more positive attitude towards part-time and flextime employment for both men and women.
2. To recognize that part-time and flex time employment should be a means not only to improve the quality of
life but also to share existing jobs equitably for men as well as women.

ONE-PARENT FAMILY SUPPORT (1996-12)

RESOLVED that the International Federation requests Affiliates to pressure policy-makers and legislators to implement legal provisions which could give recognition and support to one-parent family structures and ensure that one-parent families are included in discussions and policy decisions on family policies, legislative and ethical matters (reaffirmation of part of Resolution 1987-10).

WOMEN AND UNEMPLOYMENT (1999-02)

RESOLVED that BPW International urges every Affiliate to encourage their government to manage the changing socio-economic conditions in ways which do not cause increased health risks among the families involved.
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO ENTREPRENEURS

ACCESS OF WOMEN TO FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (1977-18)

RESOLVED that the International Federation

- Recommends that IFBPW leaders support international governmental as well as private arrangements which establish and make available financial assistance to women;
- Urges National and Associate Clubs to bring to the attention of their governments the request made by the UN General Assembly to increase opportunities for financial assistance to be secured by women and include in their training programmes, workshops and seminars as recommended, courses designed to improve the efficiency of women in business and financial management; and
- Suggests that the extent to which women are discriminated against in securing financial assistance be determined in each local community and efforts be made to make loans and credit available to women on the same basis as men.

NOTE: UN 30th General Assembly (Res. 3522) urged governments and non-governmental organizations to support more vigorously official and private efforts to extend to women facilities now being offered only to men by financial and lending institutions, to encourage those efforts which will make it possible for women to obtain credits and loans to improve their economic activities and to provide business and financial management training.

WOMEN IN SMALL BUSINESS (1987-06)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs:

1. To work for economic, social and legal recognition of the position of women in small business, in accordance with the principles of equal treatment of men and women.
2. To sponsor and arrange special training programmes for women planning to start businesses and those women who already own a business.
3. To encourage and support women to start their own business after studying the prevailing market situation, including businesses outside the traditional female field.
4. To seek the establishment of easy access to regular capital resources to female entrepreneurs from government agencies and/or monetary institutions.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the International Federation assigns to the Employment Conditions Committee the responsibility to be a resource centre for the compilation and dissemination of information relative to female entrepreneurship, and that a working party made up of entrepreneurs be established by the Employment Conditions Chairman to carry the responsibility of implementing the plan of action outlined above.

ASSISTANCE FOR SMALL BUSINESS (1987-13)

RESOLVED that the International Federation requests the Executive Committee to establish a working party to:

1. Encourage retired business executives to offer their services as Consultants through the Trade Directory.
2. Explore ways in which any expertise available, especially retired business executives can be used globally in training women in procedures involved in small business.
3. Study the financing of such a programme.
4. Report back to the XIX Congress.

DEVELOPING WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURIAL AND MANAGEMENT SKILLS (1991-01)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to urge their governments to:

1. Increase women's educational opportunities in management science;
2. Expose women to labour saving and cost effective technology so as to upscale their production;
3. Encourage women to widen the scope of their businesses and venture into medium to large scale industries;
4. Make available to women business incentives and information pertaining to sources of raw materials, project ideas, credit facilities and market outlets;

BPWI Policy Resolutions
5. Support women’s business development and entrepreneurship.

**NEED FOR MUTUAL EFFORTS IN ESTABLISHING AND DEVELOPING BUSINESS RELATIONSHIPS**

(1991-02)

**RESOLVED** that the International Federation calls upon National Federations and Associate Clubs to:

1. Encourage group projects as well as one-woman businesses;
2. Urge their governments to encourage women to acquire effective marketing strategies through regional co-operation;
3. Seek the involvement of regional economic organizations in the development of women economically, socially, and politically;
4. Work towards a healthy economic relationship with National Federations and Associate Clubs within their regions and in other regions;
5. Introduce or improve networking among their own Federations and Club members and with other BPW members regionally and internationally.

**WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS (1993-EM3/14)**

**RESOLVED** that the International Federation urges its Affiliates to initiate measures to ensure equal access to existing facilities which assist women to become entrepreneurs by making known opportunities which may be available to develop skills and to secure markets for goods provided.
ENCOURAGE WOMEN TO RECEIVE AND COUNTRIES TO OFFER TRAINING (1953)

RESOLVED that national federations should exert their influence to:
1. Encourage young women to receive adequate guidance and training for employment,
2. Urge those women withdrawing from their employment, to keep up training so as to facilitate their return whenever they desire,
3. Assist women who desire to work, to retain such gainful employment until retirement age, and
4. Promote in the community opportunities for vocational guidance and training and help to devise suitable means in each country for the continuous study and dissemination of information on questions of interest to the women as workers.

PROMOTION OF ADEQUATE TRAINING FACILITIES FOR VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE AND TECHNICAL TRAINING (1956)

Aware that a comprehensive consideration of the whole problem of preparation of women for various occupations is being undertaken by the United Nations,
RESOLVED that the International Federation endorse and support the resolution of the Status of Women Commission, asking the Secretary-General of the United Nations to include these subjects in his study and that national federations forward to International headquarters information on progress that is being made to establish adequate facilities for vocational guidance, apprenticeship, etc., in their country.

STUDY AUTOMATION & ITS IMPACT ON EMPLOYMENT (1956)

RESOLVED that the International Federation recommends to its national federations the study of automation and its impact on employment and the standard of living and requests them to submit their findings to the headquarters of the International Federation by 31st January 1957.

RIGHTS OF EDUCATION - FACILITIES AND TEACHERS (1958)

RESOLVED that the right of education being essential, national federations be requested to promote action to correct shortage of school buildings and of qualified teachers where these conditions exist, and to support increased use of exchange of teachers and students between countries.

PROMOTE VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE FOR GIRLS & FAVOURABLE PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR WOMEN TO ADVANCE TO HIGHER POSTS (1959)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges national federations to:
1. Promote vocational guidance opportunities for girls and development of public opinion towards a wider understanding and knowledge of the facilities existing for girls and women, particularly in the professions of architecture, engineering and law;
2. Create favourable attitudes on the part of the public and of employers towards the recruitment of women in these professions;
3. Work towards the improvement of conditions of employment and the increased availability for advancement to higher posts in fields of work using women trained in these professions.

NOTE: Resolution adopted at 13th Session of Status of Women Commission on occupational outlook for women

BPWI Policy Resolutions
ASSISTANCE IN PLANNING AND CONDUCTING REGIONAL SEMINARS (1959)

RESOLVED that the International Federation:

1. Accepts with satisfaction that seminars for women are to be held on an annual basis and in particular the seminar for African women which should be attended by a representative of the International Federation,

2. Urges that the United Nations considers ways that international women's organizations in consultative status with particular competence in special fields be used in planning national seminars,

3. Asks that other provisions of the advisory services such as fellowships and expert assistance in particular fields affecting the position of women be considered and more widely used,

4. Recommends that member federations and clubs hold national seminars to which women from other countries may be invited to discuss civic responsibility and increased participation of women in public life as part of their programme to advance the position of women.

SPONSOR CAREER CLINICS, CLASSES AND TRAINING FACILITIES (1961)

RESOLVED that the International Federation

1. Urges national federations to promote in their own countries an improvement to the vocational preparation, guidance and training of girls,

2. Recommends that national federations and local clubs sponsor career clinics, classes and training facilities for women desiring to advance in their trades and profession and urges local authorities and other bodies to do the same.

NOTE: 14th Session of Status of Women Commission recommended that governments take all steps within their power to bring about a rapid and substantial improvement in the vocational preparation, guidance and training of girls and women and invited the ILO to give continuing priority to the same subject.

OUT-OF-SCHOOL EDUCATION (1961)

RESOLVED to:

1. Recommend to national federations and local clubs study of various programmes of out-of-school education, particularly programmes of community development and fundamental education in the newly developing countries,

2. Urge National Federations
   a) to promote study courses for their own members as a part of the out-of-school education,
   b) to urge their governments and all other competent authorities to provide more adequate facilities for women within their countries and to assist in developing educational institutions particularly for women and in providing educational aid within the under-developed countries and in offering exchange scholarships to the young women of such countries.

3. Suggest that where possible national federations explore opportunities that may exist in rural areas of their own countries and take appropriate action for their improvement.

CONSIDERATION OF OPPORTUNITIES IN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING (1962-01)

RESOLVED that member federations encourage young women to give special consideration to a scientific career.

ADULT EDUCATION - STUDY OF CULTURE (1962-07)

RESOLVED to recommend to national federations to place extensive cultural information minutely prepared by well studied and co-ordinate programmes foremost in the line of the aims pursued.

EDUCATION - INTERNATIONAL COMPREHENSION A FACTOR FOR PEACE (1962-08)

RSOLVED that our zeal for international comprehension may get stronger as such understanding remains the main factor for peace. NOTE: Federation has taken a special interest in UNESCO work concerning the extension of its aims to countries of Africa and Asia and two grants for a study tour for women adult education leaders have been awarded by UNESCO to an African and a Japanese member.
TRAINING, TECHNICAL TRAINING & VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE

COLLABORATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION (1962-12)

RESOLVED that member federations be urged to offer governments their collaboration in the development of education, bringing the population into this work and making full use of local resources.

NOTE: Resolution adopted by 16th Session of Commission on the Status of Women on the access of girls and women to elementary education;

SEMINARS, FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS (1962-13)

RESOLVED to:
1. Recommend that member federations stimulate governments and public opinion with regard to the programmes of the United Nations, which contribute to the advancement of women;
2. Urge member federations and clubs to hold regional, national and local seminars and promote greater use of fellowships and scholarships by persons and appropriate authorities concerned with the status of women.

NOTE: Resolution adopted by 16th Session of Commission on the Status of Women on assistance for the achievement of women in developing countries;

ADDITIONAL REGIONAL SEMINARS (1962-14)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Commends the Secretary-General for the seminars already sponsored;
2. Urges favourable consideration by the United Nations Secretary-General and governments to the request of the Status of Women Commission for additional seminars;
3. Expresses the hope that all national federations will work to promote and assist in the organization of local and national seminars in their own countries.

NOTE: Request by 16th Session of Status of Women Commission to the Secretary-General to continue his plans for annual regional seminars on the status of women and to give favourable consideration to requests for assistance in the organization of seminars among small groups of member States, under the programme of advisory service in the field of human rights;

VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE & COUNSELLING - WOMEN & GIRLS (1962-16)

RESOLVED to urge that member federations will develop facilities for assisting as appropriate the vocational guidance and counselling as well as the vocational and technical training of women and girls.


TRAINING CENTRES FOR WOMEN (1964-05)

RESOLVED that the appropriate committee of IFBPW investigates the situation and advise whether IFBPW should urge the United Nations through appropriate channels to extend the project of training centres to other countries under UNRWA or some other agency of United Nations, and that in carrying out this directive, it would be desirable to consider possible avenues of employment after training.

RETRAINING MATURE WOMEN FOR EMPLOYMENT (1967-07)

RESOLVED that the International Federation of Business and Professional Women recommends to its affiliated national federations and associate clubs to investigate conditions in their countries in this respect (re-entering employment after a break) and to urge their authorities to take necessary measures to solve the problems of retraining.

BPWI Policy Resolutions
INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION YEAR (1970-08)

RESOLVED that the Board of the International Federation
1. Supports the objectives of International Education Year (1970) with special concern for furthering equal access for women and girls to education at all levels and in all fields and for the adoption of education both general and technical to the needs of the modern world; and
2. Suggests that affiliated Federations and Clubs co-operate with national committees which may exist for the observation of International Education Year, and, where possible, take steps to:
   a) Find and list discriminations either legal or through customs and tradition against women and girls in access to any form of education, vocational guidance, technical training, apprenticeship or preparation for the professions;
   b) Keep parents informed of educational facilities currently available to their daughters;
   c) Initiate programmes to eliminate discriminations in education, increase facilities and encourage wider use of opportunities which are available, or to undertake other related programmes of interest to national or local affiliates;
   d) Report activities to the International Federation Headquarters by January 1971, so that these may be included in the International report to United Nations and UNESCO and to the 12th International Congress.

YOUTH (1971-05)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges all Federations and Associate Clubs to promote and support by all appropriate means the education, welfare and participation of youth within their own countries and encourage a responsible interest by them in International affairs.
NOTE: The Secretary General to the United Nations: “That youth were to be treated not as an isolated element in Society, but as an integral part of it”.

LIFE-LONG EDUCATION (1973-07)

RESOLVED that National Federations and Associate Clubs concentrate particularly on all activities pertaining to life-long education which are, or should be, open to girls and women, and, according to the stage of development of their respective countries:
   a) Take an active interest in literacy and post-literacy programmes; and
   b) Take an active interest in programmes which ensure equality of access and opportunity to girls and women at all levels of education, development and employment at every stage of their lives, account being taken of their role within the family and within society, so they can participate fully and creatively in the economic and social development of their countries.
NOTE: United Nations programmes for the Second Development Decade presuppose the full integration of women into political administrative, professional and social life, (UNESCO 17th Conference Res. 1142)

SCHOOL PROGRAMMES (1973-09)

RESOLVED to urge National Federations and Associate Clubs to use their influence in whatever ways may be appropriate in their own countries to have included in school programmes and extra-curricular activities a consciousness of problems facing man in his struggle towards peaceful development.

PROMOTION OF INFORMATION CONCERNING SEX EDUCATION (1973-11)

RESOLVED to urge National Federations and Associate Clubs to work for the promotion of intelligent information concerning sex education.
LIFE-LONG EDUCATION (1974-08)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges its National Federations and Associate Clubs to envisage continuous education as the principle means for solving the educational problem and to use their influence in whatever ways may be appropriate in their own countries.

SCHOOL DROPOUTS AND GRADE REPETITION (1974-09)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs where applicable, to:
1. Encourage research and statistical analysis to determine the causes and circumstances that effect dropouts and/or grade repetition;
2. Collaborate with every institution, public and private, in any way connected with these problems;
3. Encourage and support the necessary changes in the various educational systems in accordance with the needs and nature of each area, taking into consideration local conditions and cultural heritage;
4. Evaluate regularly the changes resulting from measures adopted.

TECHNOLOGICAL EXPERIENCES (1974-10)

RESOLVED that the International Federation encourages National Federations and Associate Clubs to urge educational authorities in their own countries to include in whatever ways may be appropriate the contents and activities peculiar to technological culture in school curricula which will help pupils later in deciding their vocation.

PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDY CENTRES (1974-11)

RESOLVED that the International Federation recommends to National Federations and Associate Clubs to work for the inclusion of trained professional teams of psychologists, sociologists, social workers, etc., at all levels of lifelong education in order to offer the necessary guidance to parents and to their children.

EDUCATING BOYS AND GIRLS FOR THEIR DUAL ROLES IN PROFESSIONAL AND FAMILY LIFE (1974-13)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges all National Federations and Associate Clubs to work for the kind of school system that will enable girls and boys, through their upbringing and education, to become prepared for their dual roles, professional and family.

UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY (1976-07)

RESOLVED to
1. Commend the United Nations General Assembly for its vision in establishing the United Nations University;
2. Note with interest the proposed action-oriented programme of studies to be offered;
3. Deplore the fact that the name of only one women appears on the list of members of the Council of the University;
4. Remind the Secretary-General that our Organization has consistently urged that more women be appointed to Councils and Commissions of the United Nations and to decision-making posts within the UN system and that he himself had promised to do this and that he has urged this precept on others during International Women's Year;
5. Request the Secretary-General to do all he can to see that there is a more equitable representation of women on the Council and leadership of the University; and
6. Urge National Federations and Associate Clubs to request their governments to contribute to the United Nations University endowment funds.
ACTION RE UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY (1977-12)

RESOLVED to
1. Request the Rector of the United Nations University to make use of the talents of the women of the world in the planning and administering of programmes for the University;
2. Urge the Rector to keep in mind the educational needs of women not only in the traditional fields of so-called women's work but also in those of agriculture, food-processing and distribution, etc.; and
3. Urge National Federations and Associate Clubs to write to the Rector of the United Nations University inquiring about the details of the programmes planned, where they will be sited, etc., so that he and his Associates will realize the interest women are tasking in the United Nations University.

RESTRUCTURING THE UNITED NATIONS (1977-15)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Asks the United Nations Secretary-General to use his influence to incorporate in the final structure of the Economic and Social Sections:
   a) Provisions for full participation of Non-governmental Organizations in consultative status in all areas of work of the United Nations according to their special interests and competence; and
   b) The maintenance of the Commission of the Status of Women and the Branch on the Promotion of Equality between Men and Women as separate units with wide freedom of action to stimulate, expand and co-ordinate programmes designed to make possible full participation of women in all aspects of society;
2. Suggests that National Federations and Associate Clubs urge their governments to support the foregoing in the UN Sessions dealing with restructuring.

DEVELOPMENT OF CONTINUING EDUCATION (1977-21)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Urges all National Federations and Associate Clubs to work towards an effective development of continuing education with particular emphasis on rural areas; and
2. Further URGES the Governments and other public and private organizations linked to rural districts in their respective countries should pass legislation concerning the necessary measures and set up supervision of their implementation to ensure that the programmes established should be effective, enabling parents and children to work towards self-fulfilment and to become active promoters of universal peace.

SEX ROLES OF GIRLS AND BOYS (1977-23)

RESOLVED the International Federation urges all National Federations and Associate Clubs to use their influence so that both boys and girls shall be informed and taught at school about sex roles, and that schools actively influence pupils to change the traditional pattern of sex roles and encourage unconventional choice of education and work.

CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (1979-10)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Requests that the Conference on Science and Technology, to be held in Vienna in 1979:
   a) Makes available through training programmes in areas where there is need, technology that will provide labour-saving methods for performing household tasks, will help to meet basic health needs, and will provide means to develop skills for income-producing economic activity,
   b) Places in its Plan of Action the fact that women should have equal opportunity for all types of technological training, the opportunity for full participation in policy-making decisions and for utilization of new training and information, as required,
2. Recommends to National Federations and Associate Clubs that they urge their Governments to:
   a) Include qualified women in their delegations to the Conference on Science and Technology,
   b) Instruct their delegates to initiate or support proposals that will help women to benefit as well as to participate in the development process.
CHILDREN'S TOYS (1979-13)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges all National Federations and Associate Clubs to use their influence in their countries to ensure that toys displayed, publicized and offered for sale are designated for "children" and not identified for boys and for girls.

UN ASSISTANCE RE TRAINING SEMINARS AND COURSES (1979-11)

RESOLVED that the International Federation requests the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations (UNESCO, UNICEF, ILO, etc.) when formulating their biennial budget to take into account the role of Non-Governmental Organizations, and include in their budgets amounts adequate to provide to Non-Governmental Organizations technical and financial assistance enabling them to organize and hold seminars and educational courses, and to undertake experimental projects, related to rural teaching and training, exodus for rural areas, technical training, and training in the establishment and management of small business and enterprises.

NOTE: Resolution 3523 (UN XXX Session): "that the rural woman performs an essential role not only in her family unit but also in the national development process, working in agriculture and, above all, in food production and distribution"; and Requested the Secretary-General to give guidelines for the preparation of non-academic educational programs contributing to the rural women's full use of her capacity as well as to social development, and urged United Nations Organization and its Specialized Agencies to give special attention to progress to programs and projects aiming at the full integration of the rural woman in the development of her country; and

Resolution No. 3522 (UN XXX Session): the General Assembly urged Non-Governmental Organizations to include in their programmes seminars and practical training courses aimed at improving women's efficiency in the setting up of financial activities and enterprises;

AID TO RURAL COMMUNITIES (1980-08)

RESOLVED that all affiliates should work for the improvement of social and general living conditions in rural communities by the use of the Mass Media: through radio and television (where appropriate) backed up by documentation such as the "School's Broadcasts" of Colombia; and encourage educational programmes in non-industrial or only partly industrialized countries through "long distance" education.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS (1980-15)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urge appropriate National Federations and Associate Clubs to prevail upon their governments to set up schemes for the education and training of community health workers at the village and community level, to ensure the provision of adequate financial support for trainees, and appropriate employment opportunities and facilities for their employment when trained.

ROLE OF WOMEN IN FUTURE OF TECHNOLOGICAL AGE (1980-17)

RESOLVED that all National Federations and Associate Clubs encourage their members to:
1. become more involved in the economic life of their countries and expand the fields of training and employment for women;
2. seek positions of responsibility in industry and commerce and use their influence to build a more human and equitable business world in which all women can contribute their full potential.
TRAINING IN THE FIELDS OF ECONOMICS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (1980-18)

RESOLVED that the International Federation asks National Federations and Associate Clubs to:
1. Urge their school boards to provide courses in subjects preparatory to training in the fields of economics, science and technology and to stimulate girls to choose them,
2. Make known to girls and young women the wide range of new jobs becoming available to those with training in the necessary Secondary School courses in physical, chemistry and advanced mathematics,
3. Encourage and where possible assist those with essential basic training to seek higher education which will equip them to hold decision-making positions, to assure them of equal access to all facilities and to professional courses in the above fields, and to urge all students to complete the courses which they undertake,
4. Make it possible for women with this education to obtain employment in these fields;
5. Work to change community attitudes and expectations in education, training and employment for women and girls in the areas specified in this resolution.

PROMOTING LITERACY FOR WOMEN (1982-02)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to approach their National Governments to initiate or strengthen functional literacy programmes for women, and that National Federations and Associate Clubs:
1. assist in the running of adult literacy programmes;
2. encourage sponsorship for the training of women literacy teachers.

WOMEN AND HIGH TECHNOLOGY - EDUCATION (1985-05)

RESOLVED that the International Federation:
1. Urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to awaken women’s interest in high technology studies in the various communities and centres where they work by showing them the benefits of such training and,
2. Recommends that affiliates urge their respective governments to promote training in high technology.

THE CHILD AS A FUTURE CONSUMER - EDUCATION (1985-06)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to ensure that children become aware of their obligation to seek as much information as possible about the quality, truth and cost of different products from magazines, newspapers, catalogues, notices etc. in order to develop a sense of critical judgement so that when they reach adulthood they are able to evaluate the usual publicity thus enabling them to become disciplined in marketing and to contribute meaningfully to a balance in the economy.

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION (1985-19)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges affiliates to ask all levels of their governments to alter their educational laws and policies in order to:
1. Initiate programmes to assist and to encourage the continuation of education for those females who have to leave school prematurely, and,
2. Make specific educational information, including information on family planning, available to all female members of the public, so as to ensure health and well being of their families.

NOTE: United Nations’ Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women, states in Part III, Article 10, that State Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women, in order to ensure they have equal rights, with men in the field of education, and in particular to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women: (f) The reduction of female students drop-out rates and the organization of programmes for girls and women who have left school prematurely, and,
RESOLVED that the International Federation calls upon National Federations and Associate Clubs to:

1. urge all governments to provide compulsory full-time education at primary and secondary school level to both boys and girls and ensure that access to tertiary education is available equally to men and women;

2. call upon governments to implement Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women to achieve full economic equality between men and women by:
   a) providing training courses and other incentives to women to become functionally literate;
   b) persuading employers, trade unions and other industrial organisations at national level to recognize the need to develop strategies specifically aimed at women, to open and extend training and retraining courses in functional literacy both in secondary and tertiary educational levels, as well as in the workplace.

3. work with non-governmental organisations at national, regional and international level to make women aware of the need to develop basic and functional literacy by means of persuasion through the media as well as through their own organisations, by pressing government and business to provide proper training and by providing role-models with whom women and girls can identify.

OPEN UNIVERSITY OF IFBPW (1993-04)

RESOLVED that the International Federation proposes the creation and publication of a Database of training resources, providing courses, seminars, lectures in areas of technology, science, commerce, humanities, leadership and health to members of IFBPW, with updated curricula.

EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (1999-04)

RESOLVED that BPW International urges:

1. All Affiliates to work to empower women in the science and technological fields through increased knowledge and skills.

2. Each government, if not already doing so, to study and develop special curriculum to interest girls in science and technology.

3. Each government to develop programmes to women, particularly those not currently in paid employment to re-enter higher education to refresh and upgrade their skills in science and technology.

ASSISTANCE FOR AFGHANI MOTHERS AND YOUNG WOMEN (2002)

RESOLVED that BPW International demonstrate the support of the members of BPW world-wide for the women of Afghanistan by providing service and support through the medium of Project Five ‘0’ or other international coalitions of women’s organisations in a form that will benefit the mothers of the many families left destitute as well as a form of benefit to young women, deprived of years of education, who, if not assisted, will not be able to reach their potential in business or the professions.
20 EQUALITY

EQUAL FACILITIES FOR TECHNICAL TRAINING AND VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE AND TRAINING (1955)

RESOLVED that the International Federation asks national federations to work for the adoption of legislation and such action as will secure for women equal rights and opportunities with men, particularly equal pay for equal work, and will promote the establishment of vocational guidance and training facilities, including training for management, and enable women to make their contribution at all levels to the economic life of their country.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOCATIONAL TRAINING (1958)

RESOLVED that the national federations urge their governments to provide the same opportunities to both sexes for vocational training in all fields.

APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY FOR WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT (1980-19)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Suggests that the new inter-governmental committee be asked to give due regard to the perspectives and interests of women in all its recommendations for programmes and action;
2. Asks National Federations and Associate Clubs to seek the appointment of qualified women to attend international meetings and to serve on national and local bodies determining programs and projects for the application of science and technology for development;
3. Recommends that affiliates ask those in their countries who are determining programmes to increase the number designated to integrate women in development and to make available on the local level appropriate technology for the use of women engaged in agricultural and community development.
NOTE: The only resolution adopted at the Conference on Science and Technology for Development in Vienna in 1979 was on the role of women in related fields;

WOMEN AND TRAINING PROGRAMMES (1987-08)

RESOLVED that the International Federation requests all National Federations and Associate Clubs to press for:
1. The setting up of training and refresher courses in the work place and/or as near the place of work as possible.
2. To provide equal opportunities for the participation of women in such courses to prevent them from missing job opportunities and from being discriminated against.

NON-SEXIST SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS (1987-11)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to press for the revision of primary and secondary school textbooks to be non-sexist and non-stereotyped as advocated in the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the Forward Looking Strategies document.
RESOLVED that BPW International urges all Affiliates to:
1. Lobby their government to fully implement the 12th Strategic Objective of the Platform for Action from the UN Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing, China 1995.
2. Lobby their government to provide resources for the education of girls in economic and political issues.
3. Strengthen partnership programmes with youth organisations and BPW Young Career Women to increase girls’ knowledge and skills relating to the functioning of economic, financial and political systems.
4. Lobby their governments to obtain separate statistics for girls and boys.
5. Develop joint projects with mass media and public and private education institutes to obtain an on-going improvement in education and training for girls and women.

NOTE: 12th Strategic Objective of the Platform for Action, UN Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing 1995, at Para 280 states that governments should
a) provide education and skills training to increase girls’ opportunities for employment and access to decision-making processes,
b) provide education to increase girls’ knowledge and skills related to the functioning of economic, financial and political systems.
30 EDUCATION IN THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES

ASSISTANCE TO WOMEN IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (1970-09)

RESOLVED that Federations and Associate Clubs be requested to report to the 1971 Congress on what has already been accomplished and provide details of any further practical assistance still necessary in education and leadership training during the Second Development Decade of the United Nations.

COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA (1973-15)

RESOLVED that IFBPW
1. Confirms its belief that the policy governing the communications media throughout the world should be aimed at serving the community through education and spiritual development; and
2. Emphasises that it is essential that the governing bodies of the mass communications media should as their guiding principle a respect for truth and objectivity.

THE NEED OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES FOR THE RETURN OF THEIR OWN NATIONALS WHO HAVE QUALIFIED ABOARD (1980-20)

RESOLVED that the International Federation asks National Federations and Associate Clubs to urge governments to give good incentives to attract nationals studying abroad to return to their own country when they have obtained their basic degree and to give at least two years’ work to that country before leaving, if they wish, for another country to obtain a higher degree.
40 MISCELLANEOUS

SEMINARS TO ADVANCE UNDERSTANDING AND EXCHANGE IDEAS BETWEEN RACES (1961)

RESOLVED to:
1. Recommend to member federations the organization of such seminars (promoting status of women particularly in public life),
2. Urge all member federations, clubs and individual members of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women to take every opportunity of meeting women of all races and promoting contacts with them in an effort to advance understanding and exchange of ideas.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROBLEMS OF IMMIGRANT WOMEN (1982-04)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges all National Federations and Associate Clubs in interested countries to ensure that their governments and institutions give due consideration to the problem of immigrants and especially those of immigrant women.

RE-INTEGRATION OF THE PROFESSIONAL WOMAN TO THE WORK FORCE (1983-11)

RESOLVED that the International Federation recommends that the National Federations and Associate Clubs search for practicable solutions concerning the political aspects on the labour market (re-integration of professional women into the workforce after a childcare break irrespective of any difficulties in the labour market), and educational and individual aspects as well.
10 DISARMAMENT/PEACE

DISARMAMENT (1933)

RESOLVED that we continue our membership in the Disarmament Committee of the Women's International Organizations and that our Executive Director continues to represent us upon that Committee.

NUCLEAR ENERGY - PEACEFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE USE (1955)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges national federations to give full support to the furtherance of scientific work for the peaceful and constructive use of nuclear energy under an effective system of control and promotes consideration of the economic, medical and social developments as result from such use.

NUCLEAR ENERGY - RADIOACTIVITY (1958)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. expresses its deep concern with the imminent dangers for mankind of the effects of increasing radioactivity;
2. hopes that all those directly concerned will pay due regard to the warnings which have been expressed by the scientists.

NUCLEAR WEAPONS (1974-05)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Affirms its support of measures concerning the control of atomic energy; the limiting of nuclear test explosions; the protection against radiation; the control of outer space; and disarmament,
2. Considers that a general treaty among all nuclear and all non-nuclear powers on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons is of the highest priority,
3. Urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to ask their governments as a matter of the greatest urgency to give support to the establishment of international co-operation to seek effective means of controlling, testing and verifying the existence of stockpiles of nuclear weapons in order to create a reliable world-wide surveillance system.

EDUCATION OF WOMEN FOR PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE (1982-14)

RESOLVED that the International Federation calls upon its National Federations and Associate Clubs to envisage the training of BPW members with a view to widening their awareness of today's world problems and their capacity to crate ways and solutions which favour a peaceful co-existence. These capabilities must be attained through an organized programme of education for peace.

DISARMAMENT AND THE PROMOTION OF UNDERSTANDING AND TOLERANCE BETWEEN PEOPLES (1983-08)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Supports measures for mutual reduction of nuclear weapons and conventional weapons by all countries with adequate international systems for inspection and verification of measures agreed upon,
2. Urges affiliates to encourage their governments to seek continued negotiations to reach agreements for lowering the level of all means of mass destruction, and
3. Suggests that each affiliate and local club initiate programmes and projects to strengthen their national economies, take steps to involve women in all segment of the life of the country, improve social conditions especially at the local level, and build the framework of a society in which peace is possible.
UNITED NATIONS AND NATURAL DISASTERS (1991-05)

RESOLVED that the International Federation requests Federations and Associate Clubs to:
1. Urge their governments to support the UN Decade for Natural Disasters;
2. Urge their governments to implement the strategies which are developed by the UN to reduce the impact of Natural Disasters on communities;
3. Support national networks to help people affected by catastrophes;
4. Encourage these networks to ensure that the needs of women and children are taken fully into account;
5. Ensure that women’s NGOs are represented on National Committees considering these issues.

WOMEN AND THE PEACE PROCESS (1993-06)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges every Affiliate to encourage their government to
1. Increase the participation of women in the peace process at the decision making level by including them in national delegations negotiating international agreements relating to Peace and Disarmament;
2. Establish and target for the number of women participating in such delegations and to monitor progress;
3. Demonstrate to the international community its commitment to lasting peace.

NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT (1996-13)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Supports full nuclear disarmament, including
   a) the dismantling of all nuclear weapons;
   b) Strengthening the effectiveness of the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;
   c) Developing a complete and effective Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty; and
   d) An immediate halt to all research, testing and development of nuclear weapons (including research and testing in laboratories and on computers)
2. Promotes this policy through all international and regional meetings at which IFBPW has representation (and at any other opportunity).
3. Urges all Affiliates to:
   a) Educate their members and the public generally about the policy;
   b) Advise their Governments of the policy and lobby their Governments to take action to give effect to the policy;
   c) Support any other organization with a similar policy.

SEX SLAVES – VICTIMS OF WAR CRIMES (1999-03)

RESOLVED that BPW International
1. Strongly urges that such perpetrators issue a clear and unambiguous written apology to each woman who is identified as a victim of sexual slavery
2. Strongly urges the perpetrating governments, as one demonstration of government’s remorse for such crimes to such women, to financially support each victim of sexual slavery monetarily for the remainder of her life.

SANCTIONS AGAINST ZIMBABWE (2002–3)

RESOLVED that BPW International
1. demonstrate the support of the members of BPW world-wide for the women of Zimbabwe by taking every opportunity to ensure that Governments and the United Nations are aware that the imposition of General Sanctions against that country will only cause further hardship to the community and in particular to women.
2. encourages Affiliates to support only Targeted Sanctions against the selected people and companies through representations to governments and through their contacts with financial institutions, companies and airlines etc.
RESOLVED that BPW International and Affiliates should strongly urge the United Nations to establish a machinery to monitor the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and help in the protection of women who are victims of violence caused by wars, conflicts, and disputes wherever they may occur, so that this machinery can contribute to the peace and stability of the world community as follows

1. Provide early warnings to the nations, regions and communities concerned in order to prevent women from serious physical and mental damage
2. Create a network for organisations and agencies concerned with the protection of women in order to facilitate the sharing of information.
3. Strongly urge each government to recognise the situation of women victims and to support the functioning of this monitoring machinery in terms of personnel and/or financial assistance.
4. Support in their own countries the introduction of methods of non-violent resolution in all schools and other educational organisations and the introduction of other prevention programmes to reduce the use of violence in all forms, and
5. Research in their own countries the adequacy of facilities and support available to all victims of torture and other traumas.

EQUAL PARTICIPATION AND FUNDING AFTER CONFLICT (2005–07)

RESOLVED that BPW International, urges BPW International, National Federations and Associate Clubs to work for the implementation of resolution 1325 and “Beijing Platform for Action” (strategic objectives E5) and to

1. Promote the equal participation of women in post-conflict peace-building, recognizing their capacity to solve conflicts by peaceful means and show leadership and stamina in re-building their community including economic development
2. Voice their regret to their national government that women are still underrepresented in negotiations and preparations aimed at rebuilding after armed conflicts, and not fully participating on those levels where important decisions are taken so their priorities and knowledge are taken into account;
3. Call on all donors to make funds available to women to be able to
   a) Make respect for women human rights and full participation of women a precondition of donor funding for development and reconstruction in post conflict areas
   b) Seek redress through the mechanisms of international law in the aftermath of armed conflict
   c) Participate and take leadership in reconstructing community life and access to infrastructure
   d) Set up and/ or rebuild local enterprises
   e) Partake in vocational training
   f) Participate in decision-making at local, regional and national levels.
4. Call on all professional women to exchange knowledge and experience to help rebuild the (local) economy and rebuild local enterprise
5. Call on all women and women’s organisations to build bridges, despite differences in ethnic origin, religion, culture, history and political conviction in working actively for reconciliation and rebuilding, leading to peace, security and prosperity world-wide
LANDMINES (2005–10)

RESOLVED that BPW International calls upon National Federations and Associate Clubs to

1. Urge National Governments
   a) To sign and ratify the Ottawa Land Mine Treaty if they have not already done so and
   b) If they are signatories to enact all its terms by -
      i. Immediately ending the production, transfer and use of anti-personnel mines;
      ii. Destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines within four years of the entry-into-force of the
          Convention for a particular State;
      iii. Clearing mined areas;
      iv. Providing assistance to mine victims;
      v. Delivering risk-reducing mine awareness education;

2. Lobby National Governments to develop “gendered” programs for the rehabilitation and social integration of
   victims of anti-personnel landmines to ensure that issues specifically faced by women and girls are
   addressed.

3. Use their influence to ensure that gender based cultural, social and economic barriers to access to the
   programs by women and girls are removed.

4. Advocate for the involvement of women affected by conflict in the development and implementation of all
   land mine resolution programs.

CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY (1) SEXUAL MISTREATMENT OF WOMEN IN WAR (2005-17)

RESOLVED that BPW International urges all its affiliates worldwide, through their respective representatives to
the United Nations, to demand that the Government of Japan fully meet its obligations as defined by the
Judgment of the Tokyo Tribunal with first priority given specifically to the Reparations and Recommendations
section, articles 143 through 152 inclusive (particularly, Articles 146 – 148, which are as follows), to prevent the
same situation happening to women now or in the future.

CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY (2): SEXUAL MISTREATMENT OF WOMEN IN WAR (2005-18)

RESOLVED that BPW International urges all affiliates to recognise and publicise that sexual mistreatment of
women for any reason in the course of armed conflict constitutes a war crime and should be condemned and
prosecuted as such, whenever and wherever it occurs, including current conflicts.
20 ENVIRONMENT/CONSERVATION

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION (1971-04)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Urges all National Federations and Associate Clubs to support programmes pertaining to conservation; and
2. Recommend that the International Federation be represented at the United Nations Conference on Human Environment in Stockholm in June, 1972; and
3. Asks National Federations and Associate Clubs to forward to International Headquarters by January 1, 1972, pertinent information as available through study of local situations for forwarding to the Conference through the United Nations representatives.

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT (1973-01)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Approves in principle Recommendations for Action and Declaration on Human Environment as accepted by the UN General Assembly, and
2. Recommends that National Federations and Associate Clubs study the Recommendations and the Declaration; implement those recommendations which relate to the situation as it exists in their own country; urge their own governments to support those to be implemented by international action; publicize the provisions of the Declaration in order to create a political will to act; and observe World Environment Day (Earth Day) on June 5th each year as one means of highlighting needs and creating settlements; and
3. Requests affiliates to urge their governments to contribute to the human environment fund and give support to establishment of proposed fund for human settlements to explore constructive planning for future settlements; and
4. Suggests that an effort be made by IFBPW as well as all affiliates to have qualified women appointed by the United Nations and by national governments to policy making posts dealing with environmental problems and to serve on local boards and committees, recognizing the importance of involving more persons from the public sector in seeking solutions to environmental problems; and
5. Asks that programmes, projects and activities related to improving human environment and the quality of life be reported by January 1, 1974, to the UN Chairman for submission to the UN Environment Secretariat and to the 13th International Congress.

NOTE: Only 11 delegations out of 114 included women at the UN Stockholm Conference on Human Environment, and that the Executive Committee elected by the New York and Geneva NGO Conferences on Human Environment is made up of six men to continue the work.

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT (1974-15)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Indicate its interest in the preparation for the Conference by UNEP commission meetings and regional seminars and be represented at the Conference Exposition in Vancouver if possible,
2. Suggests that National Federations and Associate Clubs co-operate with national committees in developing national and regional environmental programmes, especially in the areas of Human Settlements, Education and Information,
3. Proposes that an ad hoc Committee on Environment and Development be established by IFBPW to follow the work of UNEP and UNDP to keep the Executive Committee and affiliates informed, especially on items related to the interest and goals of IFBPW; and to work for the appointment of qualified women in the secretariat of these organizations and as delegates dealing with these subjects.

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. *Asks* that the President of the International Federation of Business and professional Women be authorized to inform the Secretary-General of the Conference and the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme of our concern (few professional women are employed as staff or consultants and none in decision-making positions for the Conference or in most areas of UNEP work), suggesting that qualified women be involved in preparation for the Conference and in the work of the United Nations Environment Programme and that governments, in supplying visual material to demonstrate Human Settlement programmes be asked to stress the participation of women; and
2. *Urges* affiliates to ask their Governments to include women in the Habitat Conference delegations and to work for improvement in their own communities taking into consideration recommendations of the Conference.

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to ask their respective Governments to consider the problems and long term effects of radio-active waste and support any necessary measures to overcome the consequent dangers involved.

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges all affiliates and particularly those in developing countries to give maximum support to activities concerned with the protection and improvement of the environment, and to encourage the involvement of as many citizens as possible in these activities, with special reference to young people.

NOTE: United Nations Environment Programme

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. *Asks* that the issues of potable water, adequate nutritious food and improved measure for community development be subjects of concern to those making International Federation programmes and policy
2. *Suggests* that National Federations and Associate Clubs who may wish to consider these issues, examine the situation within their own countries and take part when appropriate in education and action programmes which may be introduced to meet crucial national and local situations.

NOTE: UN Water Conferee held in Argentina, March 1977, expressed concern about the availability of potable water and the World Food Conference pointed out widespread malnutrition in many areas of the world;

RESOLVED that International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to prevail upon their Governments to take action to halt the discharge of untreated effluent into rivers, lakes, and seas around their coasts and that these should be implemented.

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. *Recommends* all National Federations and Associate Clubs to influence the proper authorities in their own country to reduce the number of nuclear plants and to encourage the research and the use of other possible forms of energy which will preserve the world from pollution, turning to solar energy not only as a source of heat energy but of electric energy as well, and further
2. *Urges* each member to exert every effort to conserve energy in the home and in the business world.

BPWI Policy Resolutions
RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to press their governments:
1. to accept and publish "World Conservation Strategy" as proposed by the appropriate authorities,
2. to support and urge strongly UN agencies to apply the strategy and offer wherever possible - technical and financial assistance.
3. to help to protect forests:
   a) by assisting to teach shifting cultivators to farm their plots for longer periods (thus reducing the need to clear more forests).
   b) by helping create and protect forest reserves.
   c) by offering scientific advice, training and practical assistance on sustained yield forestry and intermediate energy technology, not requiring wood.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES (1989-08)

RESOLVED that the International Federation suggests to National Federations and Associate Clubs that they should:
1. Work together with national organisations towards the conservation of the environment in their countries;
2. Act as multiplying agents disseminating information about existing programmes concerned with this issue;
3. Stimulate more involvement of women on the boards of organisations working towards the conservation of the environment;
4. Promote training, particularly for women in rural areas, in efficient technologies to conserve the environment;
5. Maintain a vigilant attitude to ensure that legal regulations relating to the conservation of the environment are adhered to;
6. Urge governments to include training in environmental conservation in their official programmes/curricula;
7. Urge governments to educate children of primary, secondary and tertiary level to appreciate and protect their environment;
8. Urge governments to evolve comprehensive environmental policies which should include pollution monitoring schemes, effective zoning, stricter guidelines and a system of sanctions and an enforcing authority within their countries;
9. Urge governments to desist from dumping their toxic wastes indiscriminately on other people's territories.

NOTE: Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women urges all women's organisations to involve themselves in the conservation of our environment;

RIO DECLARATION ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (1996-14)

RESOLVED that the International Federation accepts the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and supports the implementation of Agenda 21.

NOTE:
1. The Rio Declaration evolved from the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. It recognises the integral and interdependent nature of the Earth and aims to work towards international agreements which respect the interests of all and protect the integrity of the global environmental and developmental systems. The Rio Declaration sets out 27 principles fundamental to achieving this goal.
2. Agenda 21 is the document adopted by the Plenary Session at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development 1992. It addresses issues relevant to the environment and to development and reflects a global consensus and political commitment on developmental and environmental cooperation.
3. Chapter 24 of Agenda 21 outlines objectives and activities that are specific to women. The objectives endorse the full participation of women in the evaluation and control of environmental degradation as decision-makers, information providers and as workers. They signal the need to encourage increased active involvement of women in environmental decision making and the integration of gender concerns and perspective in policies for sustainable development.
4. Beijing Declaration states a commitment "to build on consensus and progress made at previous United Nations conferences and summits ... on environment and development in Rio de Janeiro in 1992".
5. The Beijing Platform for Action includes the following objectives:
   a) "Involve women actively in environmental decision making at all levels". (Strategic Objective K.1).
   b) "Integrate gender concerns and perspectives in policies and programs for sustainable development".
"Strengthen or establish mechanisms at the national, regional and international levels to assess the impact of development and environmental policies on women". (Strategic Objective K.3).

and states the following as an action for NGOs in the achievement of Strategic Objective K.3.

a) "Promote co-ordination within and among institutions to implement the Platform for Action and Chapter 24 of Agenda 21 ..." (Paragraph 258(d)).

**ESTABLISH GENDER EQUALITY IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT FOR THE MITIGATION OF DISASTERS. (2002 – 6)**

RESOLVED that the International Federation urged from the gender perspective that every Affiliate:

1. Submit any suggestion on natural disaster reduction and/or environment management to the government at all levels;
2. Claim leadership-training of women to prepare for environmental disaster
3. Take the opportunity of participating in related conferences at all levels
4. Follow up the outcome at the Earth Summit (Rio+10)

**GENDER EMPOWERMENT TO REDUCE DAMAGES BY DISASTERS (2014 E-4)**

The BPW International General Assembly 2014 recognises that global warming and plate tectonics will increase natural disasters such as mega earthquakes, tsunamis, mammoth typhoons and tornados and floods; that the number of victims and the damage to people by these disasters are higher for females than males; that the human rights and dignity of women victims at shelters and refugee-places are often neglected; and that gender gaps exist for job opportunities and access to support systems to rebuild women’s lives; and therefore RESOLVED to

- urge BPW Affiliates to demand of their government gender equality in the decision-making process of disasters which means women should be included on planning committees and on administration bodies, including:
  - before the disaster, women should be included on committees to discuss disaster prevention measures, to reflect women’s interests
  - at the disaster, women managers should be assigned in addition to men managers at shelters to ensure women’s human dignity
  - women should be included on committees to discuss support systems for their economic independence, in order to prevent women’s status being neglected.

- urge our representatives to the United Nations in Geneva to request the Special Rapporteur on the Protection of Persons in the Event of Disasters to call on all UN Member States to include gender-sensitive procedures in their disaster preparedness and post-disaster management.

**IN Volvement of women in water resource management (2002 – 8)**

RESOLVED that the Executive Board of BPW International

1. Honour the commitment made by the representatives in Johannesburg to take an active part in the EU Water Initiative, Water for Life and related projects during the triennium 2002-2005.
2. Appoint at a later date a representative of BPW International at appropriate EU level through a mechanism to be defined to act on behalf of BPW International specifically to participate in integrated water resource management, policies and projects.
INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (2002 – 9)

RESOLVED that the International Federation encourage Federations and Associate Clubs to
1. Urge their government to:
   a) Implement the Dublin principles
   b) Create awareness at national / regional and local level about the gender aspect of integrated water resource management
   c) Support initiatives from women’s groups in this respect and actively create structures by which women can be part of the governing body of water resources in their communities
2. Take an active part in these projects in such a way that
   a) Women are partners in the process of integrated water resource management
   b) Local women’s groups are enabled and empowered to participate successfully in any form and at every level.

LEADERSHIP IN WATER AND SANITATION ISSUES (2005-16)

RESOLVED that BPW International,
1. Supports women to be leaders and agents of change in Integrated Water Resource Management, leading to supplying safe, affordable drinking water and gender sensitive sanitation facilities and prevent conflicts about water by peaceful means - so assisting in achieving the Millennium Goals on water, sanitation and habitat world-wide
2. Promotes the principle that access to water must be identified by all stakeholders as a public good and human right and not a commodity to be traded on the open market
3. Requests the creation of national frameworks (e.g. Constitutional, legislative, regulatory) to safeguard accessibility, quality, affordability and good governance regarding water and sanitation
4. Requests that Women’s rights to land, water and other natural resources are incorporated into the provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)
5. Regrets that, despite the number of capable women, they are still underrepresented in negotiations and project teams, and that women do not fully participate in decision-making about water– and sanitation services
6. Promotes involvement and support of relevant actors as participants, not target groups, including the equal participation of women and consideration of diversity and gender
7. Promotes integrated water, sanitation and waste projects, using local capacities
8. Promotes less bureaucratic, more transparent, policies, procedures and processes including monitoring and/ or evaluation of the outcomes
9. Requests - particularly in (post) armed conflicts situations and disaster – that women’s safe access to water, housing and sanitation should be ensured and they participate in decision-making at local, regional and national levels
10. Suggests to the Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD) / ECOSOC, working together with the World Bank and micro-financing institutions, to review the financing structures and methods and explicitly commissions the creation of more opportunities for financing projects on local and regional levels, to be implemented by local government or local groups
11. Requests that contributions made “in kind” by inhabitants or users are also acknowledged by governments in granting subsidies

TAKING INITIATIVE IN ENVIRONMENT CHALLENGES (2008-19)

Recognizing the importance of the emergency challenge to climate change including the global warming, disappearing islands underwater, and so on;
Recognizing the weight of women’s role to challenge the climate change;
Recognizing the influence and management of climate change varies according to countries and areas;

RESOLVED that BPW International immediately engage in the positive challenge in each community, examining the challenge of climate change in detail, from the standpoint of women, who have tendencies in managing their family life, and appealing to the government.

1 based on the Beijing Platform for Action Strategic objective A.3 , the (micro-financing) guidelines of the United Nations, the Equator principles, World Bank EHS guidelines, small business review ICF and the micro credit summit

BPWI Policy Resolutions
RESOLVED that BPW International shares the worldwide concern about the consequences of the rapid climate change, especially causing more problems with flooding, droughts, desertification and influencing the water quantity and quality in a negative way in general all over the world

- Notes that especially women, older people and children carry the burden of these developments, their specific needs often not being recognized
- Supports the willingness and capacity of women working for achieving the Millennium Goals, especially on water, sanitation, emancipation and habitat world-wide
- Shares the concern of women about the water quality, looking e.g. the growing amount of pharmaceuticals in the drinking water

and

- submits that women have proven their capacity to be actors and leaders in Integrated Water Resource Management, supplying safe, affordable drinking water and gender sensitive sanitation facilities and help prevent conflicts about water by peaceful means such as dialogue, reconciliation and negotiations
- regrets that despite the number of knowledgeable and capable women, they are still underrepresented in negotiations and (project)teams and that women do not fully (can) participate on those levels where important decisions about services in this field are taken
- promotes involvement and support of all relevant actors including the equal participation of women, consideration of (cultural) diversity and gender, link up of agreed objectives and programmes with local (financing) structures, using local capacities, set up and implementation of integrated projects (not within separate sectors), policy formulation and implementation procedures and processes become less bureaucratic and more transparent and involve monitoring and/or evaluation of the outcomes
- notes that 2008 is the international UN Year of Sanitation and 2009 of Integrated Water Resource management
- urges and promotes to adapt and take measures to mitigate the consequences of climate change by (integrated) water resource management and river-basin, transboundary cooperation, involving all stakeholders in planning, decision-making and implementation
- promotes that water must be identified by all governments, private sector and all other stakeholders as a public good and human right and not a commodity to be traded on the open market. Water management must be for social needs and environmental sustainability rather than for short-term profit
- believes and supports that implementation of access to all basic services including energy, safe drinking water and appropriate sanitation is a human right, having a positive impact on the lives of women and therefore
- requests the creation of national frameworks (e.g. Constitutional, legislative, regulatory) in such a way that women’s rights to land, water and other natural resources are incorporated into the provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and above all implemented
- requests that particularly in situations of armed conflicts and disaster - women’s safe access to water, housing, sanitation and energy should be ensured e.g. by making funds available to women to participate and take leadership in (re)constructing infrastructure such as water supply, sanitation facilities etc. and to participate in decision-making at local, regional and national levels
- promotes and assists in the strengthening of institutional (local) capacity, stimulating the exchange and development of knowledge, aimed at changing the mindset by education and public information in order to enlarge the support base, problem-solving focussed training and integral process and project support, facilitating and (where needed) creating vocational training / schooling and job-oriented training programmes, particularly for young people and women, including non-traditional professions and strengthening and optimising the use of the local knowledge and practical experience of the local community and local knowledge institutions.
30 VIOLENCE/HARASSMENT/MEDIA PORTRAYAL/PORNOGRAPHY

THE DIGNITY OF WOMEN IN THE MEDIA (1974-07)
RESOLVED that the International Federation urges all National Federations and Associate Clubs to appeal to the publishing authorities in their countries to maintain the dignity of women in the media.

EXPLOITATION OF WOMEN (1976-09)
RESOLVED that the International Federation urges all National Federations and Associate Clubs make representations to the competent authorities in their countries with a view to putting an end to this exploitation of women by this properly so called prostitution or use of women for publicity purposes, for films or publications degrading to human dignity.

RESPONSIBILITY OF THE MEDIA TOWARDS SOCIETY (1977-05)
RESOLVED that the International Federation urges all its National Federations and Associate Clubs to ensure that the media are made aware of their responsibility and use their influence to eliminate prejudice and traditional attitudes.

CONDEMNATION OF VIOLENCE (1980-06)
RESOLVED that the International Federation:
1. Urges the support of the United Nations to endeavour to:
   a) utilize all its powers to eradicate the violence of human rights, and
   b) promote justice by peaceful means,
2. Asks that National Federations and Associate Clubs crusade for world peace through the condemnation of violence by any party for any reason in any country.

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM ABUSE IN EMPLOYMENT (1982-05)
RESOLVED that the International Federation urges all National Federations and Associate Clubs to use their influence to promote long-term action to ensure adequate protection of children against exploitation and abuse in employment and thus encourage the harmonious development of the personality.
NOTE: Principles of the Charter of Children's Rights established by the UN in 1959

VIOLENCE, VIDEO FILMS AND TELEVISION (1983-14)
RESOLVED that the International Federation urges every National Federation and Associate Club to;
1. Recognize video violence as a serious menace to the minds of young people, to equality between women and men and to peace in the world;
2. Work for the monitoring of video films and the prohibition of violent video films being sold to children;
3. Make people aware of the danger of video violence, so that parents should not permit their children to watch such films;
4. Lead campaigns against video violence in all countries, so that film producers and business people should take their full responsibility towards the next generation of young people; and
5. Scrutinize television programmes and to act for the suppression of violence in television programmes.
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (1985-04)
RESOLVED that the International Federation recommends to National Federations and Associate Clubs that they urge the decision makers in their own country to:
1. build shelter homes for victims of family violence, where they can seek refuge in emergencies
2. investigate the extent of violence committed against women
3. intensify information condemning violent behaviour (information should be directed at school children, parents and other educators through mass media and other available channels)
4. aid the person who has committed violent acts by treatment, if necessary.

INCEST - SEXUAL MALTREATMENT OF CHILDREN (1985-07)
RESOLVED that the International Federation recommends every National Federation and Associate Club to urge their Governments to:
- Recognize incest as dangerous violence to children and young people and to discuss it openly
- Find means of discovering incest in time
- Give the injured children and young people proper care and treatment
- Work with and by means of therapy treat all the grown-up people involved
- Abolish such pornography that shows under-age children in sex scenes

ALSO RESOLVED that the International Federation of Business and Professional Women influences the World Health Organization to work along the lines above.

PORNOGRAPHY AND THE MEDIA (1989-05)
RESOLVED that the International Federation asks that all National Federations and Associate Clubs should:
1. Join in a campaign against pornography in all aspects;
2. Put pressure on Governments for a more careful and strict control of the mass media responsible for this, and
3. Encourage not only governments but also non-governmental institutions to take the initiative and pay attention to cultivation of a positive image.

HARASSMENT OF WOMEN IN THE WORK PLACE (1991-06)
RESOLVED that the International Federation asks National Federations and Associate Clubs to:
1. Put pressure on their governments to ensure that legislative action be adopted and implemented to address this form of abuse sexual harassment of women in the work place and further urges other international bodies to pursue this in their programmes.
2. Encourage women victims to report such harassment to the authorities. Privacy of the victims should, however, be protected.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS (1993-05)
RESOLVED that the International Federation urges every Affiliate to
1. Pursue in its respective country with Government and Non-Governmental Organizations:
   a) The reformation of poor human rights practices;
   b) The implementation of policies to prevent and eradicate such violence (ranging from the most subtle and indirect to the most blatant including verbal abuse, psychological abuse, economic deprivation, sexual harassment, prostitution, mutilation, rape and murder) including policies which will change attitudes to women and girls;
   c) Adequate monitoring of action taken by them under points 1 and 2 above; and
2. Demonstrate to the international community its commitment to the advancement and development of women and girls by eradicating such violence within its community.
RESOLVED that the International Federation urges:
1. The United Nations to recognize the illegal detention and rape of women as serious war crimes subject to the same legal rights and restrictions as other war crimes, including timely compensation by those responsible; and
2. All Affiliate Federations to urge their governments to pass (or amend where appropriate) a War Crimes Act to ensure rape, enforce prostitution or any form of indirect assault against women are classified as war crimes.

NOTE: 4th Geneva Convention of 1949 expressly forbids the sexual abuse of women civilians. This provides that women shall be protected "in particular" against "rape, enforcement prostitution or any form of indirect assault" (Paragraph 2, Article 27)

RESOLVED AGAINST WOMEN (1993-EM2/13)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Authorizes its UN Representatives to support the completion and adoption of the Convention on Violence Against Women by the UN bodies;
2. Urges each Affiliate to:
   a) Study the terms of the Convention before the 1993 General Assembly;
   b) Ask their Governments to support adoption of the Convention by the UN General Assembly;
   c) Secure without delay the ratification of the Convention by the Government and the incorporation of its provisions in the laws of their country; and
   d) Carry on a continuing education and monitoring campaign to secure enforcement enacted laws related to eliminating violence against women in their countries.

VIOLENCE ON TELEVISION (1996-15)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges affiliates to increase their campaigns against the film producers, television networks, and Internet to reduce the violence and aggressiveness shown on television and viewed on the Internet as a means of reducing violence and sexual violence among the youth.


EDUCATION OF CHILDREN AGAINST VIOLENCE (1996-16)

RESOLVED that all National Federations and Associate Clubs being members of IFBPW urge their governments, media, kindergarten and school teachers and any other relevant institutions to focus on reducing violence and increasing equality at an early age of the children.

OUTLAWING SEX HOLIDAYS (1999-19)

RESOLVED that BPW International urges all Affiliates to lobby their Government and all relevant agencies to:
1. Introduce, implement and enforce legislation outlawing the sale of 'sex' holidays, especially where this involves sex with children, and all other similar arrangements which involve the trafficking and/or sexual exploitation of women and children.
2. Investigate and promote education and alternative means of employment for the women and children who would otherwise be involved in providing such 'services'.
3. Enter into reciprocal arrangements between governments to make all such arrangements illegal.
SEXUAL SLAVERY AND TRAFFICKING OF WOMEN AND GIRLS (2002 – 5)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urged all Affiliates to lobby their Governments
1. To sign and ratify International Conventions and Protocols on the sale and trafficking of women and children
2. To protect victims of trafficking by incorporating into their domestic legislation measures such as providing social, medical and psychological care; granting victims temporary or permanent Residency Permits and compensation for the damage suffered.

NOTE: Signing of conventions against the sexual exploitation of women and children at SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation) Summit in 2002;

HUMAN TRAFFICKING (2008-14)

Human trafficking is modern-day slave trade. It violates fundamental human rights and exploits innocent people.”
Sheikha Haya Rashed Al Khalifa
President of United Nations General Assembly (From U.S. Trafficking in Persons Report 2007)
Recognising that human trafficking, sex slavery and forced labour have become a global scourge. It is a profitable business worth billions of dollars annually which is affecting thousands of women and children every year. To date efforts made around the world to curb the sex trade and forced labour industry have failed and the industry is growing daily.
Understanding that trafficked victims are primarily women and children who are exploited into the sex trade industry and forced labour, where they suffer continuous physical and emotional violence, compounded by poor living and working conditions. The physical and emotional abuse has a devastating impact on the victims who endure rape and threats of torture and death against their person and their families.
Referencing a resolution passed at XXIVth Congress in Melbourne, Australia titled “Sexual slavery and trafficking of women and girls, submitted by New Zealand which urged affiliates to lobby their governments:
1. To sign and ratify international conventions and protocols against the sale and trafficking of women and children
2. To protect victims of trafficking by incorporating into their domestic legislation measures such as providing social, medical and psychological care; granting victims temporary or permanent residency permits and compensation for the damage suffered.

RESOLVED that BPW International urge all affiliates to lobby their government to strengthen legislation within each country to address the issue of trafficking and sex trade:
1. To provide tough penalties for the users of the sex trade and forced labour in order to curb the market for the victims of trafficking;
2. To make it illegal to have sex with someone forced into the sex trade;
3. To make it illegal to employ victims of any type of forced labour;
4. To work with the United Nations to convict citizens who travel to other countries to participate in sex with children under the age of 18 (i.e. tourist sex).

Further RESOLVED that BPW International encourage all affiliates to lobby their governments to eradicate trafficking of humans around the world by:
1. Systematically collecting sex-disaggregated data on the incidence of exploitation of prostitution and trafficking.
2. Incorporating and implementing legislative measures and comprehensive strategies to prevent trafficking and to prosecute and penalize traffickers.
3. Increasing measures to improve the economic situation of women so as to eliminate their vulnerability to trafficking.
4. Increasing international, regional, and bilateral cooperation with countries of origin, transit and destination for trafficked women and children.
5. Providing comprehensive rehabilitative, social reintegration and victim assistance programs for trafficked women and children.
6. Providing health programs to assist women affected by trafficking.

Further RESOLVED that BPW International urge all affiliates to familiarize themselves with the document ‘A Toolkit to Combat Trafficking in Persons’ which was prepared by the United Nations in 2006 and take steps to support organisations within their country that work to educate the public about this scourge of humankind.
BPW International notes with concern the significant and growing emotional and mental assault occurring in many countries across the globe through the targeting of girls and young women (and boys/young men) through the misuse of modern forms of technology such as mobile phones, social networking sites and other on-line media.

BPW International further notes with grave concern the potential of these technologies being misused to sexually exploit women and girls by people who, for example, share images of these women/girls without their consent and in contexts for which they were not intended. This can amount to sexual abuse and exploitation, and is an assault on the emotional and mental health of the victims, leaving them feeling isolated, shamed, and besieged. This can cause serious long-term damage to the emotional, mental health and personal safety of those affected, including through self-harm and suicide;

BPW International further notes that schools, tertiary education institutions and the workplace are all environments where this abuse occurs and notes the effects of the abuse of increased anxiety and depression, diminished self-esteem and fearfulness due to the intimidation undermining the capacity of victims to achieve their potential in education and careers.

RESOLVED to address this issue as a policy priority by including the misuse of technology for sexual violence against women and girls in the work of the BPW International Health Committee and End Violence against Women and Girls Campaign by:

• advocating for the eradication of sexual abuse and intimidation of women and girls through the abuse of interactive technology as a standard requirement of educational and workplace safety

• working through UN Representatives to promote the inclusion of “sexual violence and modern technology” in UN debates and resolutions on violence against women and girls, and to monitor responses to the problem through the UN system

• empowering affiliates worldwide by providing concise, accurate information on this issue, and a ‘toolkit’ of guidelines and strategies for individual clubs and members to pursue action and advocacy at national levels.
10 GENERAL HEALTH

RITUAL OPERATIONS (1962-10)

RESOLVED that the International Federation supports the request of ECOSOC to the World Health Organization.

NOTE: 32nd Session of ECOSOC in Geneva, July 1961, drew the attention of World Health Organization to the report of the Addis Ababa Conference (Participation of Women in Public Life, 1960) and requested the World Health Organization to inform the Council whether it is possible to undertake a study of the medical aspects of operations based on customs;

TRANSPLANTS (1968-EM2)

RESOLVED that the International Federation requests member federations and clubs to urge their governments and medical bodies to establish and conform to a standard code of ethics regarding transplants, the essential points of which shall include
1. specific and accepted definitions of death
2. the establishment of a central co-ordinating office to select donor recipients.

CARE OF PREGNANT WOMEN AND OF CHILDREN (1979-05)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to ensure that primary attention is paid to the care of mothers and children in connection with pregnancy and delivery, and future to ensure that information on family planning is available to all mothers.

REPORT OF THE BRANDT COMMISSION (1982-12)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to encourage their governments to:
1. Consider in detail, as a matter of urgency, how the Brandt Report (affecting economic relations between the developed nations of the North and the developing nations of the South) can be put into operation;
2. Propose through the United Nations that Member States pay an International Tax by levies as suggested in the Brandt report.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WORKING LIFE (1982-17)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges all National Federations and Associate Clubs to ensure that in order to preserve the mental health of all individuals, to increase their capacity to work and their feeling of pleasure, achievement, tolerance, and to create positive attitudes, as well as to prevent feelings of constant failure, attention is paid in working life to the following factors:
1. In the working environment:
   • to the physical conditions, as well as to the mental and social working climate
2. In the work itself:
   • to the fact that the work should correspond to the individual's education and demands;
   • to the fact that working arrangements should be adapted to the individual.
3. Individuals:
   • should be encouraged to find ways of taking care of their mental and physical health and of improving their life-style, by having sufficient rest, exercise, correct nutrition and stimulating ways of spending their leisure time.
USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN HELPING THE HANDICAPPED (1983-07)

RESOLVED that the International Federation encourages all National Federations and Associate Clubs to investigate the adequacy of research and development in technological aid directed to the needs of handicapped persons in their own countries, also stimulate and promote the availability of information illustrating the opportunities which new technology offers for handicapped persons to participate more fully in their life of the community, in education, employment, recreation and independent living.

EDUCATION FOR HEALTH (1983-18)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges affiliates to:
1. Encourage governments, institutions, voluntary education and health organizations in their efforts in the field of preventive health education,
2. Approach women and to act so as to establish a priority of choice for responsible and wanted pregnancies and the scaling down of the risk factor,
3. Check that an over-protective attitude does not become a weapon of discrimination against women,
4. Bear on the authorities so that every woman will be informed of the general guidelines adopted by each country in the field of education for health.

ENRICHMENT OF THE QUALITY OF YOUNG PEOPLE’S LIVES (1985-08)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to work for:
1. Improvements in young people’s social situation; e.g. unemployment, which is particularly impending for young girls (actions might be taken at national, regional and local levels),
2. Improvements in young people’s social situation by means of giving them better education and social support,
3. Better education of and information to persons working within health services and social services, so that they are well suited to help young people, who run the risk of being addicts,
4. A healthier behaviour among young people in order to make them avoid excessive use of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs; a sound living being the basis of getting good education, a job and a position in a better future society,
RESOLVED that the International Federation influences the World Health Organization to work along the intended lines above.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION PRIMARY HEALTH CARE (1985-14)

RESOLVED that IFBPW urges affiliates to pressurize Governments to translate the theory of primary health care into action by involving local communities in decision-making and evolving the spirit of total economic and social development of that community. Only then will there be an equal chance of health for all people.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION ESSENTIAL DRUGS (1985-15)

RESOLVED that IFBPW urges Governments to restrict pharmaceutical drugs available outside centres of Medical Research, which have been granted a government certificate of pharmaceutical production, to those of proven therapeutic efficiency of acceptable safety and required for the essential health needs of the people.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY (1985-16)

RESOLVED that IFBPW urges all National Federations and Associate Clubs to investigate and report on the following aspects of occupational safety and health:
1. that work takes place in a healthy and safe environment.
2. that conditions of work should be consistent with workers’ well being and human dignity.
3. that occupational health services ought to be provided to implement preventive services in relation to physical and mental health in the work environment.
PREVENTION THROUGH VACCINATION: A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR HUMANITY (1985-17)

RESOLVED that the International Federation decide that an active campaign should be carried out in each country, in agreement with the Ministry for Health and the WHO in order to inform the public of the mortality and morbidity of these diseases and of their after-effects, and to convince the public of the usefulness of vaccination (medical contra-indications being rare), to permit the practical application of these vaccinations by competent medical teams.

EDUCATION ABOUT "AIDS" (1987-12)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to urge their government to promote an accurate and comprehensive campaign of information about the transmission of AIDS in order to counteract distorted beliefs which have caused a division of groups of people, notably children who were thought to be potential sources of infections.

TRADITIONAL PRACTICES (1989-09)

RESOLVED that the International Federation:
1. Calls upon all humanitarian organisations to support the efforts of the Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children;
2. Requests National Federations and Associate Clubs especially in Africa to:
   a) Join hands with the national committees and indigenous groups working for the eradication of harmful traditional practices; and
   b) Appeal to governments of the concerned countries to take action to protect women and children from harmful traditional practices.

GLOBAL STRATEGY ON WOMEN AND AIDS (1991-03)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges
1. The World Health Organization, as leader and co-ordinator of the global AIDS strategy, to ensure that women play a leadership and participatory role in the implementation of the global WHO AIDS strategy;
2. National Federations and Associate Clubs to:
   a) encourage their governments to establish prevention and care programmes, specifically addressing the needs of women;
   b) encourage their governments to ensure full participation of women in the planning, development and implementation of HIV/AIDS programmes;
   c) use Federation programmes and publications to help in the dissemination of information about HIV/AIDS among women in their communities.

TRANSPLANT OF HUMAN ORGANS (1993-07)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges Affiliates to work towards an increased awareness on organ donations and transplants of human organs, not only for the sake of the people in need of a transplant, but also to make it easier for the next of kin who are already in a trying situation.

BREAST-FEEDING (1993-08)

RESOLVED that the International Federation asks that each Affiliate undertake in their own country to:
1. Develop public awareness so that each woman has the option to breast-feed her child to create a supporting environment;
2. Make an effort to teach women to have more confidence in their ability to breast-feed;
3. Eliminate the obstacles to breast-feeding which exist in health services, at the workplace and in general;
4. Take action so that women might be adequately nourished in the interest of their babies; and
5. Ensure that all women have access to information and services relating to family planning.
RESOLVED that the International Federation declares its intention to work for the end of the practice of female genital mutilation; in coalition with survivors, working for passage of legislation banning FGM and providing educational opportunities regarding FGM, the reality and the perils.

RESOLVED that the education include Business and Professional Women members and support sensitivity training for medical personnel towards survivors of FGM and outreach to communities that would otherwise unconsciously continue the practice on their daughters.

RESOLVED that the International Federation of urges all affiliates to lobby their governments to:
1. Enact and enforce legislation prohibiting female genital mutilation; and
2. Provide resources for education regarding the health consequences of this practice for those women most affected.

NOTE: UNESCO Sub-commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities has put forward a Plan of Action for the Elimination of Harmful Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children. The Beijing Platform for Action specifies the following:

a) "set up educational programs and develop teaching materials and textbooks that will sensitize and inform about the harmful effects of certain traditional or customary practices on girl children." (paragraph 277 - Action for governments).

b) "Enact and enforce legislation protecting girls from all forms of violence including ... genital mutilation ..." (paragraph 283(d) - Action by governments and international and non-government organizations).

c) "Condemn violence against women and refrain from invoking any custom, tradition or religious consideration to avoid their obligations with respect to its elimination as set out in the Declaration on Elimination of Violence Against Women". (paragraph 124(a) - Action by governments).

d) "Enact and enforce legislation against the perpetrators of practices and acts of violence against women such as female genital mutilation ..." (paragraph 124(i) - Action for governments).

REDUCING THE RISK FROM HORMONE DISRUPTING CHEMICALS (1999-05)

RESOLVED that BPW International encourages Affiliates to
1. Urge governments to implement policies and programmes which decrease the risk of exposure to such hormone-disruptive chemicals that are discharged into the environment, and
2. Request manufacturers to test potential hormone disrupting chemicals and to demonstrate that their chemicals do not damage human health, and
3. Promote greater participation by each Affiliate in order to protect people from such threats to human health and well-being, eliminate new sources of hormone disruption, and minimize exposure to hormonally active contaminants, and
4. Support the development of research programmes to establish standards to protect human and ecological health from these hormone disrupting chemicals.

GOVERNMENT CRISIS EASING ILL HEALTH IN THE POPULATION ESPECIALLY AMONG WOMEN (2002 – 7)

RESOLVED that BPW International urges every Affiliate to:
1. encourage their governments to manage the ever-changing socio-economic conditions so that they do not trigger health risks in extremely poor families.
2. adopt educational programmes to ensure that women are adequately informed and trained in educational, economic, financial and health policies etc.

promote the existence of special training programmes for women in participative policies, in primary, secondary and university education, to prepare them for decision-taking in their countries at government level.

POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (2005 – 11)

RESOLVED that BPW International calls upon National Federations and Associate Clubs to
1. lobby their Government to provide adequate treatment facilities for those identified as suffering from PTSD
2. work to raise awareness among all health professionals and those working with families to enable them to recognise the symptoms and refer for appropriate treatment including the new psychodynamic therapies
3. raise awareness generally of the causes and symptom's of PTSD, especially among women and in schools
4. encourage development of group support for families of sufferers.

BPWI Policy Resolutions
GENDER DISCRIMINATION AND AIDS (2005-14)

RESOLVED that BPW International urges all National Federations and Associate Clubs to use their influence to bring about:
1. The involvement of women living with HIV and AIDS at governance level when HIV/AIDS programs are being developed, particularly in relation to war and conflict situations.
2. A "gendered" approach to HIV/AIDS programs that accounts for the different effects of the disease on men and women.
4. The social and economic empowerment of women and protection of their property rights to increase their independence and reduce coerced and transactional sexual activity.
5. Recognition that efforts to reduce the burden of HIV/AIDS on women must also engage boys and men.

FOETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDERS (FASD) (2008-15)

Considering the documented harm to unborn children when pregnant women consume alcohol three months prior to pregnancy and during pregnancy, and the fact that prenatal alcohol exposure has been linked to neurological damage, birth defects and disabilities; and
Recognizing that older, affluent women are drinking while pregnant in developed countries around the world, as they have children later in life and have entrenched patterns of alcohol consumption; and
Recognizing that FASD is 100% preventable,

RESOLVED that BPW International urge all affiliates to lobby their government and Health agencies to:
1. educate physicians and other health professionals to screen, diagnose and treat FASD;
2. prevent FASD by providing funding for addiction intervention and rehabilitative programs;
3. increase public awareness designed to change attitudes and behaviours among women towards alcohol abuse during pregnancy among all age groups;
4. legislate for warning labels on alcoholic beverage containers with regard to the dangers to the foetus prior to and during pregnancy;
5. lobby governments to use the tax collected on alcohol to subsidize programs to prevent FASD and develop a co-ordinated comprehensive FASD strategy involving all levels of government, health care providers and substance abuse agencies.

The BPW International Health Chair report back to the International Board on the actions of affiliates within 2 years of this Congress.

ERADICATION OF CERVICAL CANCER ( 2008-16)

Recognising that cervical cancer is the 5th most common cancer in women worldwide with approximately 471,000 new cases diagnosed each year, the majority being younger women, and
Understanding that cervical cancer is a fully preventable disease and can be eradicated and
Being aware that human papilloma virus (HPV) screening helps to identify persistent infections allowing for appropriate treatment to reduce the risk of cervical cancer and
Knowing that vaccines are now available that can prevent infection from human papilloma virus (HPV)
RESOLVED that BPW International urges all National Federations and Associate Clubs to support the campaign to eradicate cervical cancer.

The Chair of Standing Committee on Health to report to the Board on affiliates' actions within 2 years.

OSTEOPOROSIS IN WOMEN (2008-17)

Recognising that Osteoporosis is a major health issue for women and knowing that although osteoporosis can be easily diagnosed and treated, studies have shown that it remains seriously under diagnosed and under treated and
Being aware that osteoporosis has enormous social and economic impact, particularly on women as both sufferers and care givers of those affected by it

RESOLVED that BPW International urges all National Federations and Associate Clubs to educate their members about the problems, prevention and treatment of osteoporosis.
BLOOD DONATION (2011)

RESOLVED to support Millennium Goals 5 and 6 and the policies of the World Health Organization and the Pan-American Health Organization on safe blood donation by increasing awareness in the global community about the importance of blood safety, encouraging each country to establish a national blood program and approve legislation on blood safety to achieve a supply of adequate and safe blood for all citizens.
20 REPRODUCTION

PLANNED PARENTHOOD (1971-06)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to support and sponsor activities to arrange in responsible parenthood through the medium of United Nations agencies and/or government or other accredited bodies.

WORLD POPULATION YEAR (1973-10)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Approves IFBPW representation at the World Population Conference 1974 and the preparation of positions, recommendations and programmes for presentation to the conference,
2. Urges all National Federations and Associate Clubs to call upon their governments to educate people in the ways that they may use to control their own fertility, and the personal, national and international advantages to be gained from a population policy; further to undertake immediate practical steps to ensure the accessibility of family planning services for everyone.
3. Asks that programmes planned, and any activity sponsored for 1974, as well as suggestions for national and international action be reported to the UN Chairman by January 1, 1974, for presentation to the World Population Conference and the IFBPW 13th Congress.

WOMEN - CHILD BEARING (1983-06)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to approach their governments to initiate or strengthen functional, educational and practical programmes for child spacing or its equivalent, thus ensuring an improved pattern of life for all:
1. By assisting in further publicising of programmes through the news media, particularly that of Adult Education Departments, where applicable;
2. In seeking the provision of practical control methods through Health Services;
3. In offering, through incentives, e.g.
   a) Tax rebate
   b) Educational Advantage
   c) Assisted housing, etc. for first and second children


RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to work for:
1. Evaluation of the effects of long time use of the Pill.
2. Stronger influence on the authorities to increase their research concerning other contraceptives.
3. More information to be given to young women about both the positive and negative effects of using the Pill.

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges the World Health Organisation to conduct similar research on the use of the Pill.
ESTABLISHMENT OF POLICY GUIDELINES ON HUMAN REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES (1989-10)

RESOLVED that the International Federation:
1. Urges the World Health Organisation in consultation with the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women to establish policy guidelines to oversee research, experimentation and application of these human reproductive technologies. These guidelines MUST ensure that the new technologies in human reproduction are acceptable to women.
2. Asks the National Federations and Associate Clubs to:
   a) Urge their governments to establish policy guidelines in consultation with women knowledgeable in the multifaceted issues pertinent to new human reproductive technologies to oversee research, experimentation and application of these human reproductive technologies. These guidelines MUST ensure that the new human reproductive technologies are acceptable to women;
   b) Make use of their services and publications to inform their members of the implications with regards to health, law, economics, ethics and science of these new reproductive technologies on human reproduction.

RIGHTS OF CHILDREN BORN THROUGH ASSISTED REPRODUCTIVE METHODS (1999-17)

RESOLVED that BPW International requests Affiliates to pressure policy makers and legislators to enact legislation to ensure that:
1. All children born as a result of assisted reproductive methods involving donor eggs or sperm or their parents if the children are under eighteen, have access to knowledge of their genetic inheritance.
2. Such children have the right of access to genetic counselling services if desired.
3. Parenting responsibility for any children, born through in-vitro fertilization, or other reproductive technology involving donor eggs or sperm, be clearly defined and legally enforceable.
30 WELL-BEING

PRESERVATION OF REGIONAL CULTURES (1973-06)

RESOLVED that IFBPW calls upon its National Federations and Associate Clubs to:
1. Support or sponsor within their respective areas activity any efforts to rediscover, respect and protect cultural and artistic heritage in all forms; national languages and literatures, music, dance, plastic arts and handicrafts; and
2. Take every opportunity of making their own culture known to other Federations and Associate Clubs; and
3. Take part in artistic and cultural exchange programmes which provide the broadest base for international co-operation and understanding.

NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY (1973-14)

RESOLVED that IFBPW urges affiliates to influence public opinion in favour of these rights (right of all peoples to freedom, to the enjoyment of their sovereignty rights and to the inviolability of their national territories) to enable all peoples to achieve social, cultural and economic development and to dispose freely of the riches and national resources of their lands.

EQUAL TREATMENT OF WOMEN (1973-18)

RESOLVED that IFBPW urges the Executive Committee to organize an enquiry among the National Federations of the IFBPW on the;
1. Application of equality of treatment of women in their respective countries.
2. Social services put at the disposal of women and families where parents are professionally active.
3. Efforts taken in favour of accelerated vocational training for women - professional refresher courses - opportunities for professional improvement of women.
4. Position of the ratification and application of the international agreements of the United Nations and of its specialized agencies which concern women in whole and in part.

IMPROVING RURAL LIFE (1974-06)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges, at the International level, that greater attempts be made to utilize, the considerable technical and scientific knowledge in the world for development of inexpensive modern equipment, small machinery, etc, and that educational programmes be set up covering such areas as rotation of crops, proper harvesting and marketing, which could improve the efficiency of small farmers and fishermen and their families.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (1974-17)

RESOLVED that the International Federation suggests that National Federations and Associate Clubs in countries carrying on development programmes contact the UN Resident Representative in their country, and where appropriate, in co-operation with other groups,
1. Present needs of women should be considered in drafting the development plans of the country;
2. Make proposals for new projects which will provide opportunities for women and girls to receive the education and training necessary to equip them to participate in the development of their country;
3. Ask that there be equal access for women and girls to all development programmes planned or under way.
NOTE: UN Development Program
**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF WOMEN IN RURAL AREAS (1977-07)**

RESOLVED that the International Federation:
1. Urges the United Nations to give top priority to improving the economic and social conditions of women in rural areas across the world; and
2. Suggests that with the threatened world food shortage and the ever increasing population this should include special efforts focused on raising agricultural productivity and improved marketing and transport facilities, which would involve the training of women at all levels in situ availability of agricultural input and the provision of services.

**RURAL ECONOMY (1977-09)**

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges all its National Federations and Associate Clubs to employ their influence on their Governments to promote investment in the rural economy and the improvement of the standard of living for their rural populations and that impetus should be given to the training of more women directed towards the knowledge and skills which would enable them to work within their appropriate Government Departments on these projects.

**IMPROVING EXISTING CITIES (1977-10)**

RESOLVED that the International Federation recommends National Federations and Associate Clubs to urge their Governments to take urgent action to see that urban renewal and rehabilitation of existing human settlements must respect the rights and aspirations of the least advantaged and preserve the cultural and social values embodied in the existing fabric by upgrading and preserving wherever possible existing stocks through development and application of low cost techniques and direct involvement of the present residents, and preserving the areas' social and cultural and ethnic qualities.

**SOCIAL SERVICES (1977-11)**

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to work with their governments and appropriate bodies to provide that an acceptable level of health, nutrition, education, general social care and other essential services receive their true priority in national and development planning and to educate men and women in these life preserving and life enhancing skills.

**PROGRAMS FOR WOMEN IN RURAL AREAS (1979-14)**

RESOLVED that the International Federation recommends that National Federations and Associate Clubs in developing their national plans give priority to initiating programs which will train and qualify women in rural areas:
1. Rationalization of economic activities performed in the home, particularly crafts; and to impart basic and technical knowledge concerning commerce, marketing and accounting, and co-operativism;
2. Widen knowledge of hygiene, nutrition, family responsibilities, and better use of national resources for food and a more balances diet.

**NOTE:**
1. *UN Resolution No. 3523* in which it was stressed "that the rural woman performs an essential role not only in her family unit but also in the national development process, working in agriculture and, above all, in food production and distribution";
2. *World Plan of Action* includes
   a) "to recognize the economic value of the work done by women in the home, in the production and marketing of food and in traditional volunteer work without remuneration; and
   b) to develop modern agricultural technology, domestic industries, pre-school day nurseries, and such devices as will enable the saving of time and energy by reducing the heavy work-load of women, particularly women in rural areas..."; and
3. *UN Resolution 3520 - Decade for Women, Equality, development and Peace* urges NGOs to co-operate in the carrying out of the World Plan of Action within the area of their own interest and competence;
TECHNOLOGY AND THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (1983-09)

RESOLVED that the International Federation calls upon National Federations and Associate Clubs to urge their Governments to adopt the type of technology appropriate to the needs of their country and to work closely with other organizations to achieve this aim.

USE OF FUNDS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF LIVING STANDARDS OF NATIVE WOMEN (1987-09)

RESOLVED that the International Federation asks its National Federations and Associate Clubs to promote the creation of Administrative Councils which shall control and monitor the use of such allocated funds in order to ensure that they are used only for their destined purposes without any lessening of the cultural merits and esteem of these indigenous groups, thus assisting them to overcome their difficult situations.

CRITICAL WORLD FOOD SITUATION (1989-01)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to:
1. Further educate women to practice more thrift and avoid the waste of food in the home.
2. Teach women rudimentary methods of preserving food at the domestic level.
3. Encourage women to go into large scale farming and commercial food processing.
4. Urge their respective governments to adopt more positive and flexible policies towards agricultural ventures.
5. Persuade their governments to give special incentives, expertise and financial support to women in agriculture and allied industries.
6. Urge donor agencies to support women in agricultural or agro/industrial businesses.
7. Call further on their governments to liberalise credit facilities to women entrepreneurs.


CREATION OF A "WORLD ETHIC" (1993-01)

RESOLVED that the International Federation help to promote a World Ethic in order to maintain a decent standard of living at national level.

WOMEN IN EXTREME POVERTY (1993-02)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges every Affiliate to encourage their governments to;
1. increase the capacity of women by widespread provisions of primary education, health care and family planning with the object of including women in the formulation of social policies directed to attacking the root causes of poverty at the societal level such as population growth, environmental degradation and lack of access to, and control of, population information; and
2. recognize the significant role played by women in environmental management and to take urgent action to avert ongoing environmental degradation which affects the lives of women including drought, the creation of deserts and deforestation.

ESTABLISHMENT AND PROMOTION OF A UNIVERSAL SIGN LANGUAGE (1993-03)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Advocates the establishment of a universal sign language;
2. Suggests that each National Federation and Associate Club should, through using the media as well as by giving lectures and organizing symposia, heighten public awareness and, consequently, recognition of Sign Language in each region and country;
3. Urges, as an NGO, the UN Committee on the Status of Women to include this issue in its agenda; and
4. Suggests that each National Federation and Associate Club should encourage legislators in their country to discuss the issue before parliament, with the final goal in mind of encouraging the education ministry in each country to incorporate the universal Sign Language into the elementary school curricula.
WOMEN AND POVERTY (2005 – 06)

RESOLVED that BPW International urges its members to request their Governments to:
1. Commit to and implement the Platform for Action and in particular the Area of Concern: (A) Women and Poverty, and the Beijing Declaration signed in September 1995, and in particular Clauses 3,6,13,16,18,26,33,35
2. Enact legislation, or implement legislation already enacted, leading to the development of programmes that provide inclusive and non-discriminatory education and training, health and security systems within the country, to prevent poverty, violence and intra-country conflicts
3. Develop a participatory process to give more voice to, and encourage more participation by those who have in the past been excluded through discrimination by age, gender, income and assets etc. so that women in all spheres of society, have more voice, can participate in decision-making and conflict resolution, gain more education and employment opportunities and better access to the provision of health services
4. Provide women with equitable access to investment and development so that they can develop new dimensions in leadership.

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR STRESS AND POST DISASTER ACTION (2008-13)

Acknowledging that earthquakes, wars, tornados, catastrophes and other disasters, have a devastating effect on women and children.
RESOLVED that BPW International urges affiliates:
1. To encourage their governments and voluntary agencies to give special emphasis to helping and rehabilitating women and children following such major catastrophes.
2. To make urgent representation to their governments and local voluntary agencies to assure that this happens as soon as disasters occur.

And that BPW International makes a difference by promoting this action and by encouraging post traumatic stress counselling as well as physical assistance.
40 DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

WOMEN IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (1964-02)

RESOLVED that the International Federation:
1. Express its appreciation to the Commission on the Status of Women for the initiatives it has taken to draft recommendations for such a programme,
2. Asks that affiliated federations and clubs urge their qualified members to participate in programmes of assistance to women in developing countries
3. Suggests that the International Federation and national federations explore the possibility of assisting in the development of training opportunities of business and professional women in their countries.
NOTE: UN General Assembly in December 1962 asked that assistance be made available to improve the status of women

ASSISTANCE TO WOMEN IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (1965-04)

RESOLVED that the International Federation suggests that each national federation and affiliated club support or initiate programmes to make available trained personnel to assist women in developing countries, so that they may themselves assist in the process of nation building.
NOTE: UN has urged that special consideration be given to programs to assist women in developing countries;

ASSISTANCE TO WOMEN IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (1967-02)

RESOLVED that the International Federation suggests that affiliated federations and clubs, through their local clubs and club members, contact women from developing countries who may be studying, attending conferences, or travelling in their country, and share with them opportunities which may be useful on their return to their country in developing women's organizations and suitable programmes for citizenship training.
NOTE: Commission on the Status of Women put emphasis on assistance to women in developing areas.

IMMIGRANTS (1968-EM1)

RESOLVED that International Federation urges member federations and clubs to appeal to the relevant professional and craft bodies in their countries to work for international harmonisation of training and qualifications.

ILLITERACY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (1970-02)

RESOLVED that the International Federation:
1. Urges member Federations and Associate Clubs in developing countries to investigate the need in their own countries for simple books written for a specific purpose in the language of that country; and
2. Invites any National Federation or Associate Club to submit a project to the International Federation of Business and Professional Women to provide collaboration of experienced persons and/or financial help for the production of educational literature which would be suitable to the needs of and acceptable in an interested developing country.

THIRD WORLD DEBT (1999-18)

RESOLVED that BPW International urges all Affiliates to lobby their government to develop a programme, which will in a given time frame, enable remission of the unpayable debts of the most impoverished nations.
NOTE: The Jubilee 2000 Charter, proposes the remission - by 31 December 2000 - of the unpayable debts owed by highly indebted poor countries to commercial banks, creditor governments and multilateral bodies.
50 HOUSING

WOMEN ON DECISION-MAKING BODIES CONCERNED WITH HOUSING (1977-06)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges all its National Federations and Associate Clubs to make representations to the competent authorities to ensure that women are included at all levels of decision-making bodies concerned with housing.

HOUSING FOR EMPLOYED WOMEN (1979-08)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Ask the United Nations Economic and Social Council and its related bodies to bring the problem of housing for employed women to the attention of Member States with suggestions for action which should be taken,
2. Suggests that National Federations and Associate Clubs:
   a) Survey that situation as it exists in their area in order to determine the extent to which there is need for additional housing units for single employed women,
   b) Bring their findings to the attention of their Governments and interested private agencies, organizations, and individuals, asking that steps be taken where needed to provide housing for single employed women and that standards be set and a system of supervision and enforcement of these standards be established,
   c) Report by January 15, 1980, to the United Nations Committee Chairman all activities related to housing for single employed women so that information can be included in a statement to the Mid-Decade Conference in Copenhagen in 1980, and to the XV Congress of the International Federation in 1980.

SHELTER FOR ALL BY THE YEAR 2000 (1989-13)

RESOLVED that the International Federation suggests that National Federations and Associate Clubs:
1. Urge that governments establish policies and regulations for integrated urban planning and development;
2. Cooperate with groups nationally and locally to deal with "one of the most critical issues of our time", which is affecting economic growth and new opportunities for women;
3. Continue to be aware of the special needs of single employed women to secure safe affordable places to live;
4. Take steps to make available where necessary, housing facilities for single employed women.
ENCOURAGING ACTIVE USE OF POLITICAL RIGHTS OF THE COMMUNITY (1959)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges national federations and clubs to encourage the active use of political rights on the community level by participating in governmental affairs and by promoting women on the community level for elective and appointive office.

MARRIAGE - AGE, CONSENT; REGISTRATION OF (1962-09)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Supports the convention and recommendation transmitted by ECOSOC to the General Assembly;
2. Urges member federations to study the draft convention and draft recommendation and the conditions, which necessitate such requirements.

NOTE:
1. 15th Session of Status of Women Commission 1961 transmitted to ECOSOC a draft convention and a draft recommendation on minimum age of marriage, consent to marriage and registration of marriage
2. 32nd Session of ECOSOC 1961 transmitted to the General Assembly a draft convention and a draft recommendation on such matters, similar with respect to consent and registration, but as to age of marriage the recommendation providing for a minimum age of 15 and the convention that states parties shall take legislative action to specify a minimum age;

PREVENTION OF CHILD MARRIAGE (2014 E-6A)

The BPW International General Assembly 2014
• is mindful that action to stop and prevent all forms of violence against women and girls is a BPW International priority policy; that the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child considers marriage before the age of 18 a human rights violation; and that child marriage, described by UNICEF as "perhaps the most prevalent form of sexual abuse and exploitation of girls", is one of the biggest obstacles to development, destroys the innocence of millions of girls in Africa and worldwide and often condemns them to lives of poverty, ignorance and poor health;
• recognises the loss of opportunity for child brides to reach their potential, the economic impact of child marriage on the woman and her children, and the effect on the economy of the disempowerment of whole communities of women through child marriage;
• shares the global concern on the ills of child marriage;
• and therefore notes with grave concern the rationale for prevention of child marriage and

RESOLVED to address the issue as a top priority policy issue through:

a. advocacy – creating awareness and sensitizing traditional and religious leaders, government officials, women groups, opinion leaders and other stakeholders on the implication of child marriage; and advocating for free and compulsory basic education for the girl child.

b. education – building capacity through training key stakeholders on human rights abuse and rights protection, and alerting them to existing laws and platform they can use to protect their rights or rights of their children; specifically building capacity of mothers through sensitization and knowledge sharing to equip them to serve as agents for the prevention of early marriages; providing platforms for men to advocate for the prevention early/child marriages.

c. conducting community mobilization programmes and evaluating interventions.

d. media campaigns – promoting national discussions on gender violence; increasing public awareness through campaigns designed to change attitudes and behaviours.
e. lobbying and engaging governments and other relevant policy decision makers, through existing platforms, networks and coalitions for the inclusion of human rights in school curriculum and for enactment of policy and law prohibiting child and forced marriage.

f. locally adapting, adopting and distributing all charters, treaties, policies, laws and agreements targeted countries have committed to.

g. identifying and working with agencies that can provide legal support to young girls whose rights are violated through forced marriage.

h. collaborating with credible local and international organizations working on prevention of early/child marriage i.e. FIDA in Nigeria, Tostan in Senegal and other research institutions.

i. conducting research on existing programmes aimed at preventing early/child marriage in developing countries; facilitating cross communication and learning to improve efficiency of intervention.

PREVENTION OF FORCED MARRIAGE (2014 E-6B)

The BPW International General Assembly 2014

• notes the United Nations Committee on CEDAW is concerned about the reports of forced marriages among migrant women in New Zealand, but understands that this is not a localised New Zealand issue;

• knows that General Recommendation 21, made by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women in 1994, stands alongside the Convention and therefore should be included in State Reports;

• and, given that there is a Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages (resolution 1763 A (XVII), annex) which is signed by 16 countries and there are 55 parties to the Convention

RESOLVED that

1. All BPW International Affiliates will strongly urge their Governments or State Parties to sign and/or ratify the Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages (resolution 1763 A (XVII), annex) and to

   • set the legal minimum age of marriage for girls and boys to 18 years with the only exception being cases where the age of sexual consent is 16 years and a girl over 16 years who is pregnant or has given birth may marry with parental consent or the approval of a competent authority

   • introduce legal measures to prohibit underage and forced marriages and

   • promote measures to protect women harmed by polygamy and dowry-related violence.

2. All BPW International Affiliates will strongly urge their Governments or State Parties to include their actions on General Recommendation 21 in their reports to the CEDAW Monitoring Committee

3. BPW International Affiliates will contribute to NGO Alternative or Shadow Reports to reflect the situation of underage girls being forced into marriages.

AMENDMENT OF LAWS PROTECTING WORKING WOMEN (1982-03)

RESOLVED that the International Federation suggests that all National Federations and Associate Clubs investigate the protective laws which exist in their countries and seek their revision, in accordance with the new results of science, and encourage a sense of responsibility amongst women and towards the work carried out by them.

PARENTAL AUTHORITY (1982-15)

RESOLVED that the International Federation recommends all National Federations and Associate Clubs to investigate the Family Laws in their country and if necessary to support and sponsor activities during the amendment of existing legislation or the creation of new Family Laws to ensure that a wife can share parental control of her children on equal terms with her husband.
INDIVIDUAL LIBERTIES (1989-02)

RESOLVED that the International Federation recommends National Federations and Associate Clubs to:
1. Do everything in their power to ensure that Human Rights are protected, and that individual and collective liberties are being defended each time a situation they have knowledge of demands it;
2. Join the campaigns and programmes of peaceful and lawful international organisations, national organisations and individuals who have endeavoured to work for the respect of the fundamental rights of human beings.
3. Urge that the Universal Declaration on Human Rights be implemented and that legislation should be checked.

NOTE: 1988 is 40th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT OF THE WOMEN OF AFGHANISTAN (2005 – 09)

RESOLVED that BPW International urges
1. all countries involved with the NATO Security Force and the UN Peacekeeping Forces in Afghanistan not to withdraw or reduce their relative contingencies until the fighting in the Afghan countryside has ceased, and to actively monitor and ensure the safety of the women in Afghanistan who wish to exercise their rights to participate in democratic elections and otherwise participate in the political life of their country and
2. all affiliates to actively support initiatives to encourage women in Afghanistan to exercise their rights to participate in democratic elections.

BUDGET FOR GENDER EQUALITY (2008-12)

Recognizing the importance of the macro finance to progress gender equality and gender empowerment;
Recognizing the purport of the priority theme of 52nd UNCSW; “Financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women;
Recognizing that the importance of national budgets by the government and other organizations like UNIFEM as the direction of discussion at NGO workshop at 52nd CSW;

RESOLVED that each affiliate should inspect their country’s national budget from the standpoint for gender equality and empowerment, and should ask for their government to annually increase 1% of the amount and/or ratio to total budgets, and appeal and suggest the appropriateness of the gender equality budget.

BPW INTERNATIONAL STATEMENT TO CSW (2014 E-8)

The BPW International General Assembly 2014
• refers to the triennium 2012-2014 main issue to be promoted: the Women’s Empowerment Principles which BPW International endorsed and actively promotes;
• recalls earlier BPW resolutions on water-related issues;
• welcomes BPWI membership of the World Water Council, Women for Water Partnership and the Butterfly Effect, who all actively advocate for a dedicated Sustainable Development Goal on Water and Sanitation;
• acknowledges that the Executive within its mandate has endorsed the statement prepared by BPW International’s CSW and other UN Representatives and submitted to the Bureau of the CSW for the CSW58;

and therefore ENDORSED the following recommendations that BPW International
• urges UN member states to adopt a dedicated goal for equality and non-discrimination that
  o obliges companies and governments in their policies to adopt and implement the Women’s Empowerment Principles
  o includes in those policies equal employment, equal pay, pension, accessible and affordable care, social and health services, maternity leave benefits and child care
  o publicizes these issues through broad media coverage and social networks
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- establishes women entrepreneur networks to provide continuous and independent learning programmes and access to materials with technical information about production, processing, procurement, management and marketing
- raises awareness of the pay equity gap with employers and women and develops strategies to mitigate it
- recognises and compensates (previous) experience and competences acquired in unpaid and volunteer jobs by “scaling” women into the pay scales
- empowers women through training to advocate for themselves
- recognises and affirms women as full participants in the formal economy and formal labour force
- ensures that women, including in rural areas, are included in the formal labour force and their work, including in caring for their children
- rewards women fairly for taking care of the family and the home
- ensures vocational secondary level education (as minimum) especially for women and girls becomes part of the sustainable development goals
- encourages and facilitates women to follow vocational and in-service training programs to increase their employment opportunities
- accepts and implements the recommendations on the above mentioned issues of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Global Education Digest 2011)

- urges UN member states to adopt a dedicated goal for water and sanitation including all areas of concern that
- requires the Sustainable Development Goals to go beyond numbers, consider substance and quality and ensure full integration of the different pillars of sustainable development, avoiding a “silo” approach and connecting the various targets with other goals
- requires universal ratification and implementation of the Convention for the Elimination of All Discrimination Against Women and the Beijing Platform for Action to be part of the Sustainable Development Goals, since they underpin and connect all the different areas of concern
- treats all Sustainable Development Goals as equally important, ensure they are underpinned by a human rights framework, and guarantee a full range of connected services
- requires governments to translate the globally agreed Sustainable Development Goals and targets into national frameworks, investing where resources are most needed
- includes clear language throughout that recognises and affirms women’s equality and economic empowerment

- recommends BPW Affiliates adopt these recommendations and
- advocates actively for these recommendations in the UN system and towards national governments.
20 DISCRIMINATION

DRAFT DECLARATION ON THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (1964-EM2)

RESOLVED that the International Federation asks that:
1. The proposed Declaration include principles already enunciated in United Nations conventions on political rights, nationality and consent to marriage, and ILO conventions on equal pay and discrimination in education concerning equal opportunity and equal status of women;
2. Marital status as a basis for discrimination be added, since it is not included in adopted conventions; and
3. Educational opportunities be the same for women, not "equivalent" as stated in conventions on discrimination in education.

Resolution (XVII - 1921) of UN 18th General Assembly asked the Commission on the Status of Women to prepare a draft declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

DECLARATION ON ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (1967-03)

RESOLVED that the International Federation suggests that affiliated federations and clubs distribute the text of the Draft Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to focus public attention on the need to eliminate discriminations against women and to study the Draft Declaration in order to choose areas of greatest need on which to work in their own country.

THE DECLARATION ON THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (1971-11)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges all Federations and Associate Clubs:
1. To intensify publicity for resolutions of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women;
2. To distribute the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women and publicize its contents through initiating programs to make known its provisions and using it to eliminate discrimination that may exist; and
3. Reporting what has been done to the United Nations Committee through International Headquarters by December 1, 1971.

THE GIRL CHILD (1991-07)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges every affiliate to pursue in its respective country:
1. The adoption of political, legislative and development policies that eliminate gender disparity and discrimination in childhood and counteract the unacceptable negative image of the girl in traditional and non-traditional media, education, religion and culture;
2. The launching of effective information and communication programmes to create an awareness of the greater vulnerability of the girl child and her special development needs;
3. Programmes for the participation of girls at all levels of human activity to enhance their self-confidence, self-worth and self-reliance;
4. Advocacy of equal rights for girls in all national and international forms;
5. Reviews of progress in development efforts for the girl child in the 1990s on a regular basis at the national and international levels;
6. The education of women, particularly in Third World Countries, to abandon and reject cultural attitudes which militate against the girl child and to help evolve new positive values systems.

SUPPORT FOR DRAFTING OF OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO CEDAW (1996-18)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges all affiliates to lobby their Governments to:
1. Take all action required to support the drafting of an Optional Protocol to the Convention for the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) before the end of 1996; and
2. Upon completion, to adopt and ratify the Optional Protocol.

NOTE: Platform for Action issue from Fourth World Conference for Women;
RESOLVED that BPW International:
1. Publicizes all regimes which dehumanize, degrade or stifle the voice of women or treat them as second class citizens, be it through cultural, religious or political means.
2. Establishes a Task Force to monitor breaches of women’s human rights world wide and keep BPW Affiliates informed, encouraging them to actively fight in their own countries for the rights of these women by highlighting the women’s plight, organizing petitions, lobbying their Governments and any other appropriate legal activity.

NOTE: CEDAW Article 2, and Strategic Objectives and Actions proposed in the Beijing Platform for Action, I Human Rights of Women;
30 TAXATION

INCOME TAX SYSTEMS (1968-03)
RESOLVED that the International Federation constantly encourage national federations and associated members to
1. Undertake thorough study of the taxation laws of their own countries;
2. Then urge responsible bodies to have their taxation systems defined in such manner that the taxation laws neither penalise nor favour different civilian status nor different working conditions (such as gainful employment or household work within the home).

DISCRIMINATION OF WOMEN IN TAX LAWS (1982-07)
RESOLVED that the International Federation urges all National Federations and Associate Clubs to scrutinize the tax laws in their countries and start working on suggestions to the authorities or bodies concerned to have any discriminatory legislation altered or amended.

WOMEN AND TAXATION (1993-09)
RESOLVED that the International Federation urges Affiliates to put pressure on their Governments to:
1. abolish the prevalent assumptions in favour of men;
2. adopt a pro rata relief allowance based on the authenticated claims of both parents to avoid duplication;
3. substitute a spouse allowance for the obnoxious and discriminatory wife allowance; and
4. give tax relief to single mothers.
MISCELLANEOUS

LEADING QUESTIONNAIRES (1964-08)

RESOLVED that the International Federation should bring all cases of use of leading questions in questionnaires to the attention of the international authority concerned with the request that such influencing be discontinued.

WOMEN IN SPHERE OF PENAL LAW (1977-20)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges all National Federations and Associate Clubs to
1. Have the prevailing laws amended in each country, where appropriate, in order to eliminate all discrimination in the treatment of women, to set up systems of detention and segregation of the sexes on the basis of respect for their dignity, and to find a solution to their problems concerning physical and mental health, the care of their small children and the care of pregnant women.
2. Ensure that from the beginning of her prison sentence she should receive treatment to enable her to re-occupy her place in society, and that programmes and plans suitable to this purpose are put into operation.

INHERITANCE LAWS (1980-10)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to work to ensure that the laws of inheritance in their respective country ensure the same right of inheritance, irrespective of sex.

USE OF FAMILY NAME (1980-11)

RESOLVED that the International Federation recommend that National Federations and Associate Clubs take appropriate action to initiate changing of laws, so that women may have the option of retaining their own family name when marrying.

MINIMUM MARRYING AGE (1980-12)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges all its National Federations and Associate Clubs wherever appropriate to use their influence to have the attitudes and laws changed to raise the minimum of marrying age to make the marriage a voluntary agreement between two independent grown-up persons.

ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION IN EXISTING LAWS (1980-13)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to initiate in their countries changes in laws to eliminate discriminations (i.e. women must have the opportunity to take a job without asking husband or family for permission, that women must be totally able to dispose of their own income, fortune and possessions and not be deprived of their competence by changing civil status) that still may exist.
WORKING MOTHERS - ADOPTION OF APPROPRIATE LEGISLATION/COMMUNITY SUPPORT (1983-15)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to:
1. Investigate the desirability of establishing BPW related pensions/provident funds and/or medical schemes for those members not covered by their conditions of employment or where such schemes on National or Government levels may appear inadequate.
2. Seek the adoption of appropriate legislation and community support for the needs of the working mother by the provision of facilities such as nurseries, crèches, pre-school centres and after school supervision and
3. Initiate, promote and encourage Plans of Action for the granting by Governments of Tax Relief benefits to employers and organisation who provide such facilities for the children of their women employees.

PRECINCT FOR WOMEN OFFENDERS AND VICTIMS OF CRIME (1987-07)

RESOLVED that the International Federation recommends to its National Federations and Associate Clubs:
1. Undertake social and legal research through multidisciplinary teamwork so as to identify whether or not women are discriminated against by law enforcement authorities and agencies in their own countries, whether there are cultural and social factors that might constrain women's action when seeking legal assistance under stress of law enforcement actions, and
2. Urge their respective governments, at all levels, to repeal or amend outdated laws and practices and to adopt new legislative measures according to their local social realities and, if the case exists, establish a Precinct in local justice and police departments for a more adequate, just and humane enforcement of the law and rehabilitation,
3. Exchange information and materials with other National Federations and Associate Clubs in order to disseminate the results of experiences and findings and so to co-operate in the design and implementation of specific strategies for women in particular socio-legal contexts, and
4. Report their action to the Legislation Committee of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women at least six months prior to the next Congress.

NOTE: 7th UN Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders 1985 requested Member Governments to take actions to improve measures and practices in their respective criminal justice systems by the creation of a legal infrastructure applicable to their own socio-legal system.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (1999-12)

RESOLVED that BPW International urges that
1. All Affiliates annually undertake promotion of awareness of domestic violence in their respective countries to their members and to the wider public through education seminars, and/or publicity and/or lobbying local and national government to provide support services for the abuser and the abused.
2. Available information is correlated from Affiliates whose countries have introduced laws and programmes to reduce domestic violence, to establish international “Best Practices” relating to domestic violence legislation and make these available for Affiliates to lobby for the implementation of changes where required to achieve these benchmarks in their own countries.

BPWI Policy Resolutions
PLEDGING SUPPORT

10 PLEDGING SUPPORT

AN EARLY PLEDGE (1930)

RESOLVED that the International Federation pledges its individual and organized influence to the eradication of the psychological causes of war: fear, ignorance and greed, and to the establishment of World Union based upon the recognition of the oneness of humanity, individual responsibility and the interdependence of nations.

COURTESIES EXTENDED (1934)

RESOLVED that the International Federation hereby expresses its sincere thanks and appreciation to the Secretariat of the League of Nations for the various courtesies extended to the representatives of the organization during the past year, such courtesies having greatly assisted the work the Federation is undertaking.

CONSULTATION AND CO-OPERATION IN ARTICLE 71 (1946)

RESOLVED that we, the members of the International Federation assembled at Brussels for the first Board of Directors Meeting since the war, welcome the provisions made for consultation and co-operation in Article 71 of the United Nations Charter, and have:
1. Applied to be considered as one of the co-operating non-governmental groups provided for in Article 71;
2. Appointed a special liaison officer to represent us at all sessions of the important bodies and created an International United Nations Committee to co-ordinate our work;
3. Adopted as our main work for the future to study, support and contribute towards the general programme of the United Nations, and especially towards the broad and significant programme of the Economic and Social Council, laying special emphasis upon:
   a) Research and consultative activities on the social, economic, human rights and political advancement of women;
   b) The setting up of an international roster of highly qualified women for appointments to committees and commissions of the United Nations;
   c) The preparation of a statement on an International Bill of Human Rights;

ADOPTING & SUPPORTING POLICIES, REMOVING DISCRIMINATION, COMPLETION OF COVENANT ON HUMAN RIGHTS (1950)

RESOLVED that the International Federation:
1. Reaffirm our firm belief that women share equally with men the great responsibility for translating into reality the solemn and explicit commitments of the United Nations Charter; and that the thinking and special competence of trained women in business and profession can make a definite contribution towards that responsibility;
2. Undertake to increase the understanding and knowledge of the purposes and objectives of the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies and in particular to:
   a) Urge constituent federations to take appropriate action with their governments to secure support or ratification of decisions on policies adopted by the United Nations;
   b) Continue its work for the removal of discriminations which impede the contribution of women to the United Nations and to relationships between nations;
PLEDGING SUPPORT

STRENGTHEN AND URGE GOVERNMENTS TO SUPPORT & ADOPT UN POLICIES (1951)

RESOLVED that the International Federation should
1. that we should make every effort to help to create in each of our countries a firm economic and social foundation,
2. Develop a programme of technical assistance to underdeveloped countries, and
3. Strengthen the United Nations to make it a more effective instrument to promote freedom and justice.

RESOLVED that national federations urge their governments:
1. to take such steps as are necessary to implement the above programme.
2. and their delegates to the United Nations to use the services of women in furthering the programme of technical assistance of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies in all areas of their work.

REAFFIRM SUPPORT OF OBJECTIVES (1952)

RESOLVED that the International Federation:
1. Reaffirms its support for the long-range objectives as laid down in the United Nations Charter, and
2. Expresses its conviction that the United Nations offers the best hope of building towards a just and lasting peace.

NATIONAL FEDERATIONS URGING GOVERNMENTS TO SUPPORT POLICIES (1952)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges national federations to secure by every possible means the support of their own governments for implementation of decisions made by the United Nations, which give effect to the aims and purposes of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women.

PROMOTE KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING; ASSIST IN ATTAINING OBJECTIVES (1953)

RESOLVED that the International Federation reaffirms its belief in the objectives and work of the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies and undertakes through its national federations to promote knowledge and understanding of, and to assist in attaining, these objectives.

UNITED NATIONS - REAFFIRMING FAITH AND SUPPORT (1962-05)

RESOLVED that the International Federation:
1. Reaffirms faith in the United Nations and pledges support to the principles on which it was founded;
2. Urges national federations and associate members to include in their programmes study of the structure and work of the United Nations, its organs, specialized agencies and commissions in order that members may be fully informed; and
3. Urges clubs and members to assume a responsibility to inform others and assist in developing a public opinion in their communities favourable to the United Nations.

CO-OPERATION WITH UN REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS (1979-09)

RESOLVED that the International Federation:
1. Recommends that the International Federation of Business and Professional Women establish, where feasible, relationships with the United Nations Regional Economic Commission, and if possible, be represented at the 1979 Conference of the Regional Economic Commissions,
2. Suggests that National Federations and Associate Clubs in each region be aware of the programmes and Plan of Action for their region and co-operate with their Regional Economic Commission and with women's organizations in their own country in national and local committees on the Decade for Women to implement their Regional Plan for Action.
RESOLVED that the International Federation:
1. Urges that the IFBPW Executive and Board take steps to make known the work of the Fund and to encourage all affiliates to ask their governments, national foundations and institutions to help increase the resources of this Fund.
2. Suggests that local affiliates, where appropriate, work with women in their area in designing projects for funding by the Voluntary Fund.
NOTE: UN Voluntary Fund for the Advancement of Women became a unit of the UN Development Programme.
20 PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN UN

PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN WORK OF UN (1952)

RESOLVED that the International Federation recommends that national federations encourage their trained and experienced women to apply for service in these positions and that they urge their governments to include qualified women as delegates to all international meetings.

CONSIDERATION TO WOMEN FOR POSITIONS IN UN (1953)

RESOLVED that the International Federation recommends that favourable consideration be given to qualified women for positions in the United Nations Secretariat, in the offices of the Specialized Agencies, in the Technical Assistance Programme and as recipients of fellowships and internships.

TRAINING AND CONSIDERATION OF WOMEN FOR POSITIONS IN UN (1955)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Asks their national federations to urge members to train for international service, to promote greater participation of women in the public life of their countries in policy-making posts and to urge their governments to give favourable consideration to the appointment of women on delegations to the United Nations, its subsidiary organs and Specialized Agencies, and related committees;
2. Urges the Secretary-General of the United Nations to give equal consideration to qualified women for all vacancies and to request recommendations for women as well as men for top positions from member governments.

INCREASING NUMBER OF WOMEN IN POLICY-MAKING POSTS; SUPPORT OF FEDERATIONS FOR QUALIFIED MEMBERS (1958)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Urges national federations to request their governments to bring to the attention of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and of their representative in Committee 5 of the General Assembly, the small number of women in policy-making posts, and
2. Asks national federations to assist their qualified members to make their services available for appointment to posts in the United Nations.
NOTE: Article 8 of the United Nations Charter states that men and women shall share equally in the work of the United Nations,

EQUALITY OF MEN AND WOMEN - APPOINTING OF WOMEN FROM FEDERATIONS (1959)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Urges national federations to continue to request their governments to appoint women to national delegations to the United Nations and to bring to the attention of the Secretary-General and to their representatives in Committee 5 of the General Assembly the need for making use of women’s abilities,
2. Asks local clubs to submit through their national federations to national governments the names of qualified women for appointment to the United Nations and for the Technical Assistance Programme.
INTERNATIONAL CORPS OF VOLUNTEERS FOR DEVELOPMENT (1970-04)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Approves the establishment of an International Corps of Volunteers for Development and ask that the UN Secretary-General, in conducting the feasibility study, recognize the contribution which can be made by qualified business and professional women and include provisions for their use, and in recommendations propose equal opportunity for the recruitment and training of women, and the participation of specialized non-governmental organizations;
2. Recommend to affiliated Federations and Clubs that they inform the representatives of their governments to the UN of their interest in the establishment of such a Corps and the provisions which it is believed should be included.

GUIDELINES FOR UN SECOND DECADE OF DEVELOPMENT (1970-07)

RESOLVED that the International Federation strives to improve the Second Development Decades by
1. Asking that
   a) The strategy and policies to be proposed by the UN include the principle of full utilization of qualified women,
   b) Their needs and interests be considered in all proposed plans and programmes;
   c) Recruitment of women be expanded with provisions for equal opportunities and conditions of work
2. Suggesting to affiliated Federations and Clubs that they make known to their governments their interest in development and encourage their members to become involved in the development process in their own countries and in other countries through the UN and its agencies.

INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER CORPS (1971-10)

RESOLVED that the International Federation suggests that qualified members who wish to apply be sponsored by their Federation or Associate Club which may wish to assist with travel expenses, as a means of helping with the advancement of women in developing countries.

WOMEN IN POLICY-MAKING POSITIONS (1971-12)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Commends the United Nations General assembly for adopting a resolution at its 25th session which calls for placing more women in high level United Nations Secretarial posts; and
2. Urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to establish and maintain a register of qualified women for use by government officials for United Nations appointments and/or positions at policy making level within the country; and
3. Urges all affiliates to encourage local establish similar registers for local community use, and to encourage women to seek election and/or appointment at all levels of government.

PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN THE WORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS (1982-08)

RESOLVED by the International Federation that affiliates be urged to:
(1) Ask their governments to include qualified women in all their delegations to sessions of various UN Bodies, agencies and conferences;
(2) Inform all delegates to these meetings representing their national governments about the work of business and professional women to build their communities and improve the well-being of employed women as well as their concern for specific issues;
(3) Contact delegates on their return to the country in order to receive information on decisions made which affect opportunities for women and their role in society;
(4) Make known to the community the work of the United Nations in fields of concern to IFBPW;
(5) Inform International Headquarters in London of the names of women delegates to the above meeting so that IFBPW representatives in New York, Paris, Vienna, and Geneva or to the Regional Economic Commissions may work with them on specific issues.
RESOLVED that BPW International calls upon International Federation, National Federations and Associate Clubs to work for the implementation resolution 1325 and “Beijing Platform for Action” (strategic objectives E) and

1. Promote the equal participation of women in conflict prevention, management and conflict resolution and in post-conflict peace-building, recognizing their capacity to solve conflicts by peaceful means such as dialogue, reconciliation and negotiations;

2. Regret that women are still underrepresented in negotiations and diplomacy aimed at ending and preventing armed conflicts, and not fully participate on those levels where important political decisions are taken;

3. Call on the United nations and all it’s member states, to
   a) ensure that all Foreign and Defence Ministers and their staff are aware of the existing instruments to increase the participation of women in all decision-making bodies relating to conflict prevention and resolution
   b) recognize the urgent need to mainstream a gender perspective into peacekeeping operations and instruct the UN agencies to implement this without further delay
   c) implement mechanisms of (inter)national law to ensure that women can seek redress in the aftermath of armed conflict
   d) facilitate women organizations to more widely spread information and training-possibilities, so women are informed and able to participate
   e) build support systems and invest in specialised services for the victims of rape and trauma in the wake of gender-based violence
   f) ensure that respect for women human rights and women’s participation at local, regional and national levels is a precondition of donor funds on the part of the UN and its Member States for development and for reconstruction in post conflict areas
   g) implement the principle of the "responsibility to protect", i.e. that the international community has a right and a responsibility to protect a country's population in the case where a government abdicates its responsibility.

4. Request equal participation of women and men in peace negotiations and in post-conflict peace and reconciliation efforts and post-conflict re-building;
30 COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

FAMILY LAW AND PROPERTY RIGHTS (1951)

RESOLVED that
1. the International Federation, with the co-operation of its national federations, participates in this study being made by the United Nations Commission by answering the new questionnaire on laws affecting women in their countries now being prepared by the Secretary-General of the United Nations,
2. national federations urge their governments to reply to the questionnaire already circulated, and to check government answers submitted, to see that they exist in practice as well as law, and to point out continually to their governments particular laws that should be passed, amended or repealed.

CONTINUATION OF COMMISSION (1951)

RESOLVED that member federations urge their representatives to ECOSOC to support the continuation of the Commission in the light of its outstanding achievements during the past five years in eliminating discriminations against women, and in consideration of the fact that there still remains much work to be done.

REAFFIRM SUPPORT FOR COMMISSION (1952)

RESOLVED that the International Federation reaffirms its confidence in the Status of Women Commission to advance the position of women everywhere and pledges continuing support for its work.

FORWARD INFORMATION ON METHODS, TECHNIQUES AND ACTIVITIES USED TO EXTEND THE VOTE (1955)

RESOLVED that the International Federation requests national federations to forward to the International Federation United Nations Committee Chairman, by October 15th, 1955, articles, reports, pamphlets from their country on how women have gained the vote, activities to extend the franchise, methods to promote greater participation by women in local, state or federal government.
NOTE: Women in all except fifteen countries enjoy full or partial political rights. UN Secretary-General has asked NGOs to forward data on methods, techniques and activities to extend the vote and encourage more widespread use of it,

REGIONAL SEMINARS ON HUMAN RIGHTS (1956)

RESOLVED that the International Federation commends to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the holding of such seminars (regional seminars as a means of promoting the rights of women and the improvement of their status) in the near future and pledges the support of the International Federation to these seminars.

FEDERATIONS FORWARDING INFORMATION REQUESTED BY THE COMMISSION (1958)

RESOLVED that the International Federation endorses annual meetings of the Commission and urges national federations
1. To study the work of the Commission and be concerned with the implementation of resolutions adopted by the Commission at its 12th Session,
2. Heed the request for information on specific questions and forward material to the International Federation as required so that the International Federation may contribute effectively to the work of the Commission
REGIONAL SEMINARS ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE STATUS OF WOMEN (1958)

RESOLVED that the International Federation endorses the organization of similar seminars on various aspects of the status of women under the sponsorship of the United Nations and pledges its support to such meetings.

RIGHT TO VOTE AND HOLD OFFICE (1958)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Requests national federations to transmit to the International Legislation Chairman by December 1st, 1958, such new and supplementary material as pertains to such rights, and the exercise thereof,
2. Urges national federations to influence their respective governments toward full implementation of these principles and particularly in respect of the appointment of women for diplomatic service on the same term as men,
3. Urges national federations to stress the importance of training for governmental service including diplomatic service.

NOTE: 12th Session of Status of Women Commission requested NGOs to transmit new or supplementary material.

REGIONAL SEMINARS ON WOMEN'S RESPONSIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT (1961)

RESOLVED that the International Federation recommends that
1. Member federations and clubs hold national and local seminars to discuss women's responsibility and participation in government,
2. Qualified members make themselves available for national and local seminars, which may be organized with the assistance of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

CIVIC AND POLITICAL EDUCATION OF WOMEN (1961)

RESOLVED that the International Federation commends the action of the Commission on the Status of Women and pledges the support of the International Federation in the distribution and use of such publication.

NOTE: 15th Session of Commission on the Status of Women requested the UN Secretary-General to arrange for a revised draft of UN publication on Political Education of Women to be entitled "Civic and Political Education for Women" and to develop a plan for its publication and distribution,

INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP OF COMMISSION (1961)

RESOLVED that the International Federation supports the resolution of the Status of Women Commission, adopted at its 15th Session requesting ECOSOC to increase the membership of the Commission and confirms the Commission's resolution asking the Council to elect additional new members to the Commission on the Status of Women at its resumed 32nd Session.

MEMBERSHIP IN STATUS OF WOMEN COMMISSION (1962-06)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Commends the action of the Economic and Social Council in increasing the memberships of the Status of Women Commission;
2. Urges the new nations of Asia and Africa to apply for membership and the Economic and Social Council to elect members from all areas of the world in order to ensure a wide representation of cultures and views on the problems of women.
RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Requests the Economic and Social Council to set a meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women each year;
2. Suggests that National Federations located in countries represented on the Economic and Social Council asks that they support annual meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women.
NOTE: Commission on the Status of Women did not meeting in 1964

ESTABLISH NATIONAL STATUS OF WOMEN COMMISSION (1965-03)
Resolved that the International Federation urges affiliated federations and clubs to initiate the establishment of such national commissions, recommend qualified members to serve on such national commissions, and guide and support its work to gain full political, civil, educational and legal status for women.
NOTE: 18th Session of Commission on the Status of Women recommended that in each country commissions be established by national governments including leaders representing all phases of national life, to draft and implement overall plans for improvement of the status of women within the country;

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (1974-03)
RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. COMMENDS the Commission on the Status of Women for its continuing efforts to increase the number of women in policy posts in the Secretariat and assures the Commission of the support of the IFBPW to recruit more qualified women as candidates,
2. ASKS affiliates to bring to the attention of their governments the names of women qualified to be proposed as candidates for positions in the UN Secretariat,
3. ASKS affiliates to ask delegates from their countries to the General Assembly to support changes being proposed in the staff regulations to eliminate discrimination against women in the Secretariat and vote for adoption of expanded recruitment policies.
NOTE: Report (A/9120) on the composition of the UN Secretariat to come before the 29th General Assembly, September 1974, points out that only 9 of the 279 senior posts are filled by women and that only 16% of the staff members in the posts subject to geographic distribution are held by women;

ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (1974-16)
RESOLVED that the International Federation:
1. Recommends that IFBPW support the drafting of the convention to ensure that the text is consistent with International goals and objectives and ratification of a convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women which will be based on the Declaration already adopted,
2. Asks that a questionnaire to be circulated at the request of the Commission on the Status of Women on Discriminations, especially related to economic, social and cultural rights be answered thoughtfully and accurately and returned to IFBPW headquarters by July 1, 1975, so that it may be considered as part of the report before the Commission session early in 1978.
CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (1976-01)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Asks that a statement be circulated to members of the Commission on the Status of Women making known the support of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women for the speedy completion of a Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women and the Federation’s position on the various items to be included on the Convention in keeping with stated policies and objectives; and
2. Recommends that affiliates be asked to inform their Governments of support of the International Federation for the drafting of a Convention, for the implementation of the Declaration and the incorporation of its provisions in a Convention to be signed and ratified by all Member States.

ACTION TOWARDS YEAR 2000 (1985-11)

RESOLVED that the International Federation, in order to ensure full implementation of the recommendations of the UN World Conference of the Decade for Women,
1. Urge that a letter be sent by International President to the UN Secretary General, asking that the UN Commission on the Status of Women and its Secretariat, be made the focal point, with full responsibility, for monitoring activities, programmes and projects of all UN related bodies and agencies directed towards the advancement of women, and with adequate resources for effective action.
2. Ask affiliates to urge their National Governments to support a unit on women’s affairs with a respective regional Economic Commission to implement World conference recommendations in the region and to cooperate with this office to the fullest extent possible.
3. Suggests that each local Club throughout the world should initiate one additional programme to deal with a particular problem affecting women in their community.
40 HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

INFRINGEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS (1950)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Reaffirms its belief in the fundamental human rights of all people everywhere,
2. Believes that everyone should have the right to an effective remedy by the competent national tribunals for acts violating the fundamental rights granted him by the constitution or by law,
3. Authorises the Board of Directors, when requested by a member federation, to investigate, through the United Nations or otherwise, any alleged infringement of the rights guaranteed to the individual by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights or by the Charter of the United Nations, particularly where members of the International Federation are involved, and to take such action as the Board of Directors seems wise.

DRAFT INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON HUMAN RIGHTS - RESPONSIBILITIES INHERENT IN RIGHTS (1951)

RESOLVED that the International Federation request national federations to:
(a) Bring this proposed amendment (to paragraph 3 of the Preamble which would read: "and that it follows that whose acquiring rights assume the responsibilities inherent therein.") to the immediate attention of their respective governments to be incorporated in their comments upon the Draft Covenant,
(b) Press for support for this amendment by their government's delegation to the General Assembly,
RESOLVED that the consultant of the International Federation be instructed to present this amendment to the Committee of NGOs of ECOSOC at its meeting prior to the 13th Session of the ECOSOC on July 31st, 1951.

DRAFT INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON HUMAN RIGHTS - RIGHTS EXTENDED TO INDIVIDUALS AND NGOS (1951)

RESOLVED that since the right of petition thus limited (to states only) would impede the effectiveness of the Covenant, the right of petition be extended to individuals and recognized non-governmental organizations.

DRAFT INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON HUMAN RIGHTS - ANTI-DISCRIMINATORY LEGISLATION (1951)

RESOLVED that the International Federation protests against such legislation and urges that any anti-discriminatory legislation include the word "sex" as well as race, creed and colour.
NOTE: Legislation has been proposed in certain countries purporting to carry out the Universal Declaration of Human Rights but omits the word "sex", thus failing to be pursuant to such Declaration

DRAFT INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON HUMAN RIGHTS - COMPLETION (1952)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges ECOSOC to request the Commission on Human Rights to complete the drafting of the Covenants in an acceptable form with measures of implementation at the next Session.
DRAFT COVENANT ON SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL RIGHTS - USING "EVERYONE" RATHER THAN "WOMEN" (1952)

RESOLVED that the International Federation:
1. Believes any further amplification of former Article 21 is unnecessary, and that the proposed addition "without distinction of any kind, in particular women being guaranteed conditions of work not inferior to those enjoyed by men, with equal pay for equal work" may result in the interpretation of the word "everyone" in other articles to mean men only, rather than men and women, and

2. Requests that the Economic and Social Council recommend to the Commission on Human Rights to omit all references to the specific mention of women, the word "everyone" having been used, which includes men and women.

NOTE: Article 1, paragraph 2, of the Draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights provides that "the States parties hereto undertake to guarantee that the rights enunciated in this Covenant will be exercised without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, etc.", such Article applying in all Articles following. In Articles following, there is a recognition of rights of "everyone", setting forth in each article a specific right, and in former Article 21 the right of everyone to just and favourable conditions of work is further amplified by providing "fair wages and equal remuneration for work of equal value".

COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS - INCLUDE RIGHT OF EVERYONE TO VOTE (1952)

RESOLVED that the International Federation:
1. Requests that the omission be brought to the attention of the Commission on Human Rights when drafting this document in its final form, and
2. Urges that the right of "everyone" to vote and hold public office be included in the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in accordance with Article 11 of the present draft.

COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS - INCLUDE RIGHT OF EVERYONE TO VOTE AND HOLD PUBLIC OFFICE (1953)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Reaffirms its position that the Human Rights Commission should be authorized to receive and consider communications concerning the non-observance on any provision by States parties to the Covenants, from non-governmental organizations in consultative relationship with the ECOSOC, groups of individuals, and individuals,
2. Believes also that the Human Rights Commission should be empowered to adopt its own rules concerning the admissibility of communications,
3. Reaffirms the position of the Board of Directors in 1952 that the new Article adopted at the 9th Session, specifying the equal rights of men and women to the enjoyment of all civil and political rights in the Covenant, is redundant and weakens the force of Article 2, paragraph 2, on non-discrimination, and
4. Expresses its appreciation that, in the Draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, articles have been included concerning equal suffrage, and concerning marriage, which state that the legislation of the States parties to the Covenant shall be directed towards equality of rights and responsibilities of the spouses as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution.

NOTE: Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in Article 2, paragraph 2, provides that "the States parties hereto undertake to guarantee that the rights enunciated in this Covenant will be exercised without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, etc."
VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS BY HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT (1958)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Deplores past violations of individual rights by the USSR and the de facto Hungarian government,
2. Supports the United Nations in its protests and its action to prevent further violation of human rights.

OBSERVANCE OF FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS (1958)

RESOLVED that the International Federation expresses keen satisfaction that the Commission on Human Rights at its 14th Session resolved that a committee be appointed to study the whole question (tremendous accumulation of complaints against governments relating to alleged violations of rights contained in the Universal Declaration) and prepare recommendations for the Commission at its 15th Session, with a view to establishing a procedure better calculated to handle these communications, so as to promote further respect for the observance of fundamental Human Rights.

OBSERVANCE OF 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS (1958)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges national federations and clubs to observe the 10th anniversary in their own countries, and as part of their observance to organize conferences and meetings on human rights, giving wide publicity to the text of the Universal Declaration, to the end that men and women together may achieve fuller enjoyment of basic human rights.

CONTINUATION OF WORK IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS (1970-06)

RESOLVED that International Federation suggests to affiliated Federations and Clubs that they continue their work in the field of human rights by
1. Studying the recommendations made by the two conferences related to the goals of the International Federation
2. Implementing in their own countries those pertaining to the rights of women through club projects through the creation of a public opinion which recognizes the dignity and worth of women and through seeking action by their governments.

NOTE: UN Human Rights Conference held in Teheran and the Human Rights Conference sponsored by the NGOs in Consultative Status held in Paris

UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS (1973-05)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Commends the UN Secretary-General for all the efforts on the part of the United Nations, its commissions and agencies to secure wider recognition for the rights of the individual,
2. Suggests that National Federations and Associate Clubs take note of the 25th anniversary in 1973 of the Declaration by examining to what extent the provisions of the declaration are reflected in the laws of their respective countries and in existing practices, with new efforts made to eliminate discriminations based on sex, race and religion.
3. Asks that all activity on observance of the 25th anniversary and any steps taken to deal with discrimination based on sex, race, or religion be reported to the UN Chairman by January 1, 1974, to be included in the UN report of the anniversary and to be presented to the 13th IFBPW Congress.

HUMAN RIGHTS OF AFGHANI WOMEN (2002-01)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urged all Affiliates to lobby their Governments to call upon the United Nations and other agencies to restore to Afghani women their human rights, to ensure that Afghani women are involved in international discussions on any post-Taliban government and that Afghani women participate fully in the future government of Afghanistan.
50 **EQUAL RIGHTS/DISCRIMINATION/SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

**EQUAL RIGHTS BILL (1932)**

RESOLVED that the International Federation is in favour of equal rights as regards to the constitutional and civic rights of women, but the social implications of the Equal Rights Bill are so involved, and the conditions applicable to the members of the International Federation so diverse, that it is felt impossible at this time to take action on the Equal Rights Treaty as a whole.

And RESOLVED that an observer be appointed to follow the sessions of the League of Nations on this subject with instructions to report back to the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

**COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS (1938)**

RESOLVED that the International Federation

1. Congratulates the League of Nations upon the constructive action taken at its 1937 Assembly in authorizing a comprehensive research into the status of women in the various countries of the world with special reference to the provisions of national law and their application, and in voting money (20,000 Swiss francs) towards this research.

2. Congratulates the League of Nations upon its appointment of a Committee of Experts, comprising both men and women, to supervise this research, and offers the fullest possible co-operation and assistance to the Committee in its work.

3. Trusts that the Final Report of the Committee of Experts will contain information which will provide an effective basis for further concerted action in the direction of improving the status of women in all countries.

**RATIFICATION OF CONVENTION ON POLITICAL RIGHTS OF WOMEN (1953)**

RESOLVED that the International Federation recommends that national federations urge their governments to take the necessary steps for ratification of the Convention on the Political Rights of Women.

**URGE GOVERNMENTS TO CONVENTION ON POLITICAL RIGHTS OF WOMEN RATIFY WITHOUT DELAY (1955)**

RESOLVED that the International Federation requests national federations to urge their respective governments to take the necessary steps to sign and ratify the Convention on the Political Rights of Women without further delay.

NOTE: Convention has been signed by forty countries and ratified or acceded to by twenty-two, but only Sweden, Cuba and Denmark of the member federations have ratified the Convention.

**COMBATING PREJUDICE AND DISCRIMINATION (1955)**

RESOLVED that the International Federation supports the action of the Human Rights Commission and urges national federations to take the initiative in, or support this convening of, such national groups to co-ordinate activities to combat prejudice and discrimination.

**METHODS USED IN ERADICATION OF PREJUDICE AND DISCRIMINATION (1958)**

RESOLVED that national federations be urged to report in detail to the United Nations Chairman of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women by September 30th, 1958, how they have carried out the Resolution of 1955, and what methods and measures they have adopted to create more favourable climate of public opinion towards eradication of prejudice and discrimination.
NGO CONFERENCE ON ERADICATION OF PREJUDICE AND DISCRIMINATION (1959)

RESOLVED by the International Federation that national federations undertake to:
1. Examine and study their own constitutions, principles and practices regarding race, colour, religion, political opinion, national extraction, social origin and social status, as a background for membership,
2. Work within their competence towards eradication of prejudice and discrimination;
3. Co-operate with the United Nations programme of fellowships and technical assistance, and to expand the International Federation's own plans for the United Nations' Study Fellowships;
4. Support the wide and varied programme of UNESCO and the ILO and other specialized agencies and specifically the achievements of equal opportunity of access to vocational training;
5. Press for the completion of the Covenant on Human Rights and measures for its implementation at the next Session of the Commission on Human Rights.

IMPROVING POSITION OF WOMEN (1965-02)

RESOLVED that the International Federation:
1. Recommends that affiliated federations and clubs urge their governments, if they have not already done so, to ratify or take steps necessary to make possible the ratification of the United Nations Conventions on Age of Marriage, Political Rights, Nationality of Married Women, the ILO Conventions on Vocational Training, Equal Pay and Discrimination in Education; and
2. Suggests that federations press for implementation of conventions within countries through adequate legal and financial provisions and programmes of information and education to promote full equality between men and women.

AIR PIRACY (1973-13)

RESOLVED that the International Federation asks National Federations and Associate Clubs to urge their governments to support UN condemnation of air piracy and recommendations to eliminate the barbarous contravention of freedom of movement and security of the individual.

WOMEN AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (1980-21)

RESOLVED that the International Federation:
1. Welcomes the coming into force of the United Nations convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;
2. Supports the principle of equality of all persons regardless of sex, race, religion and national origin;
3. Urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to study the Convention of Elimination of Racial Discrimination and, if approved, urge ratification and implementation by their Governments, and further
4. Suggests that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights be taught in all schools in all countries as part of the normal school curricula, and
5. Asks our Affiliates to make every effort to initiate programmes in the communities in which they live to promote understanding and co-operation between women of differing races and backgrounds.

THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (1980-22)

RESOLVED that the International Federation:
1. Expresses satisfaction with the draft as adopted by the 34th General Assembly 1979;
2. Recommends to National Federations and Associate Clubs that they:
   a) Study the Convention,
   b) Urge signing and acceding to it by their Governments, if after study there is approval,
   c) Seek the adoption of National laws and practices so that the provisions of the Convention will help to eliminate discrimination against women in their societies.
CONVENTION - ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (1983-16)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urged all Affiliates to:
1. Ask their governments to ratify the Convention if they have not already done so,
2. Ask their governments to adopt laws and establish practices which are in conformity with provisions of the Convention,
3. Continue or initiate programmes and projects to increase awareness of the contribution women make in order to gain support for their full participation in the public life of their country,
4. Make contact with women from a less developed country who may be studying at Universities, Technological Colleges, Teaching Hospitals, Schools, etc., and seeking their advice on how we can best
   a) assist basic educational projects for women and girls in their countries;
   b) improve the provision of school library facilities and librarian training;
   c) encourage the establishment of book industries in developing countries and the setting up of provision of simple illustrated pamphlets for those who cannot read or
   d) seeking the establishment of trained radio and possibly T.V. personnel and equipment for assistance in basic educational programmes.

NOTE: Convention has been ratified or acceded to by 45 countries, only 14 of which are countries in which there are IFBPW affiliates,

SATELLITE ACCOUNTS FOR RECORDING UNPAID WORK (1996-19)

RESOLVED that the International Federation would appeal to the United Nations to establish a framework and methodology recording selected categories of unpaid work in satellite accounts for all United Nations countries by December 1997.

NOTE:
1. In 1994, the United Nations declined to include the value of unpaid work in their System of National Accounts, the reasons given were that there is difficulty in establishing a methodology for recording unpaid work due to changes in valuation processes in different countries. When this was announced, the United Nations said that they would provide a framework for the establishment of satellite accounts for the purpose of accepting statistics for unpaid work.
2. The Beijing Platform for Action specifies the following as an action to be taken by governments: "Seek to develop a more comprehensive knowledge of work and employment through inter alia efforts to measure and better understand the type, extent and distribution of unremunerated work, particularly work in caring for dependants and unremunerated work done for family farms or businesses and encourage the sharing and dissemination of information on studies and experience in this field including the development of methods for assessing its value in quantitative terms for possible reflection and accounts that may be produced separately from but consistent with core national accounts" (Paragraph 165(g) - Action to be taken by governments).

EQUAL PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN AND MEN IN POWER AND DECISION-MAKING (2008-1)

RESOLVED that the International Federation agrees:
To support Millennium Development Goal 3 to "Promote Gender Equality and Women Empowerment" and Beijing Platform for Action from the Fourth Women World Conference in Beijing, BPW should strive toward "Equal Participation of Women and Men in Power and Decision Making".

BPW International and BPW Affiliates can support this by either:
1. Making the benefits (or return on investment) when more women become top executives more visible to policy makers in public and private sectors,
2. Empowering women to undertake top executive positions in politics, public and private sectors,
3. Advocating to increase women's participation in governments and company boards of directors, or
4. Taking action to address issues that obstruct women from achieving their full leadership potential.

This resolution will take effect immediately after the XXVI BPW International Congress.
**BPWI Policy Resolutions**

**GENDER BALANCE ON BOARDS (2014 E-5)**

The BPW International General Assembly 2014

- has close regard to Women’s Empowerment Principle 1 (UN Women and Global Compact), which aims to establish high-level corporate leadership for gender equality, and the European Strategy for equality between women and men 2010-2015 and Women on boards – European Commission Factsheet 2 (Gender equality in the Member States) which states that countries with legislative quotas remain the motor of change;
- recognises the Women at Work Initiative of ILO (International Labour Organization) which surveys the place and conditions of women in the world of work and engages constituents in concrete action to realize equality of opportunity and treatment;
- recalls article 11 of CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women - adopted by the United Nations by resolution 34/180 – 18 December 1979) which expects States Parties to take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in the field of employment in order to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women, the same rights, in particular the right to the same employment opportunities, including the application of the same criteria for selection in matters of employment;
- notes CSW57 (2013) agreed conclusion #19 which stresses that the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of women, including women’s economic empowerment and full and equal access to resources, and their full integration into the formal economy, in particular in economic decision-making, as well as their full and equal participation in public and political life, is essential for addressing the structural and underlying causes of violence against women and girls;

and therefore **RESOLVED** to:

1. call on Affiliates to lobby governments and private and public corporations, in order to implement at country or regional level appropriate and binding measures to increase the number of women on boards and in decision-making positions by 2020:
   - These measures should allow a legally-regulated or self-regulated gradual implementation and should be applied to all listed and unlisted companies and all state-owned or participating state companies, excluding companies with less than 50 employees.
   - These measures should be supported by dissuasive and effective sanctions and appropriate to the country or region such as fines, nullity of board decisions and the suspension of benefits of directors

2. propose measures to increase women’s representation on boards and executive committees within both the private and public sector, such as:
   - corporate commitment to fill the pipeline of women leaders by reaching a target [at least 40% women in the top 10 most senior positions for companies over 1000 employees]
   - fostering the publication of gender indicators on the company website, in order to raise awareness of the company’s effort to achieve gender equality at the highest level
   - favouring companies with gender-balanced boards in public procurement
   - introducing accompanying measures to change attitudes and ways of working in companies (supporting “work life fit”, non-linear career)
   - empowering women in order to have them reach the ladder (coaching, mentoring initiatives).
SIGNING AND RATIFYING THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (2014 E-1)
The BPW International General Assembly 2014
• noted that there is only one United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD);
• was aware that not all countries and regional organisations have signed and ratified the UNCRPD since it was open for signature (adopted in 2006);
• understood that women with disabilities face significantly more difficulties - in both public and private spheres – in attaining access to adequate housing, health, education, vocational training and employment, and are more likely to be institutionalised; and experience inequality in hiring, promotion, rates and pay for equal work, access to training and retraining, credit and other productive resources, and rarely participate in economic decision-making;
• knew that the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) does not address the prevention of discrimination against disabled women and girls;
and therefore RESOLVED that:
1. all Affiliates would investigate whether their government or state has signed and ratified UNCRPD
2. if their government or state has not undertaken both signing and ratifying the UNCRPD, the Affiliate would ask why and strongly urge this to be undertaken.

SIGNING AND RATIFYING THE OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (2014 E-2)
The BPW International General Assembly 2014
• noted that an Optional Protocol to the United National Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) has been open for signature and ratifications since 2007;
• was aware that State Parties which have ratified the UNCRPD have the opportunity to sign and ratify the Optional Protocol;
• knew that women with disabilities who are experiencing discrimination because of their disability, who have exhausted all domestic means of preventing this occurring and continuing, and the government or state or its agencies have either been the perpetrator or not provided adequate means of eliminating discrimination;
• understood that women with disabilities, their families or agents acting for them, currently have no other recourse for redress than to communicate with the UN Committee directly;
and therefore RESOLVED that:
1. all Affiliates would investigate if their government or state has signed and ratified the Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD)
2. if their government or state has not both signed and ratified the Optional Protocol, that the Affiliate would ask why and strongly urge this to be undertaken.

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW) AND THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (2014 E-3)
The BPW International General Assembly 2014
• noted that CEDAW does not include an Article of Women and Girls with Disabilities;
• was aware that it would be politically difficult to utilise Article 26 of CEDAW to request a revision of the present Convention to include an Article of Women and Girls with Disabilities; but
• knew that General Recommendations made by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women stand alongside the Convention and should be included within State Reports;
and therefore RESOLVED that:
1. all Affiliates strongly would urge their governments or states to address General Recommendation 18 (10th session 1991) – Disabled Women that “State Parties provide information on disabled women in their (CEDAW) periodic reports, and on measures taken to deal with their particular situation, including special measures to ensure that they have equal access to education and employment, health services and social security, and to ensure that they can participate in all areas of social and cultural life.”
2. Affiliates would contribute to NGO Alternative or Shadow Reports to reflect the situation on women and girls with disabilities

BPWI Policy Resolutions
60 UNESCO/EDUCATION

APPRECIATION OF UNESCO (1947)

RESOLVED that the International Federation desires to express
1. To the Director-General and to the Members of the Council of UNESCO its great appreciation of all the facilities and courtesies extended to their membership by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and
2. Its belief that the interest aroused in the wide and varied programme of UNESCO will result in the increased support and co-operation of business and professional women in many countries.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE - WOMEN EXPERTS (1953)

RESOLVED that the International Federation requests national federations to emphasize in their educational programmes the work being carried on in technical assistance (UN Technical Assistance Programme), and Urges their qualified members to make themselves available for such work.

STUDY INTERNATIONALISM (1953)

CONFIRMED AND SUPPORTED the following resolution and

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges all national federations and clubs to study carefully the substance of the following resolution of the 5th Conference of International non-governmental organizations on United Nations Information and forward the results of their studies to the headquarters of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women, by December 31st, 1953:
1. Recognizing the urgent need for an enlightened and informed public opinion concerning the ideological basis for international co-operation in general and particularly in the field of inter-governmental co-operation between the nations of the world, and
2. Convinced that no positive public support of, or active participation in, any inter-governmental organization is possible without full acceptance by public opinion of internationalism as an idea, the nature and quality of which are progressive and beneficial to mankind,
3. Recommends that the international non-governmental organization undertake to study internationalism in its widest possible context, including its ideological foundation, its place in history, religion, philosophy, sociology, etc., with a view to creating a clearer understanding and appreciation in practical life of this great idea,
4. Recommends that a comprehensive plan for such study with the necessary bibliography and adapted to the intellectual level of the average organization member be worked out as soon as possible, preferably under the auspices of UNESCO as the competent international authority in the field of education and study.

THE APPOINTMENT OF QUALIFIED WOMEN FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME (1955)

RESOLVED that the International Federation requests its member federations to promote the appointment of qualified women for the Technical Assistance Programme, to urge their qualified members to make themselves available and to give full support to the Technical Assistance Programme, and in particular programmes concerned with the status of women.

NOTE: At 8th Session of the UN General Assembly authority was given to use technical assistance for promoting and safeguarding the rights of women. In 1954 the first woman expert was appointed on a mission to Pakistan concerned with the status of women.

GIFT COUPON SCHEME OF UNESCO (1956)

RESOLVED that the International Federation recommends to national federations that their gifts to the Gift Token Scheme of UNESCO be associated with the expansion programme of the Membership Committee of the International Federation.
EXISTENCE OF DISCRIMINATION IN EDUCATION (1956)

RESOLVED that the International Federation asks national federations to forward information regarding discriminations which may exist in their countries against women having opportunities for education for the professions and in vocational training, so that such information may be included in a written statement to be presented to the 11th Session of the Status of Women Commission by the International Federation representative.

SUPPORT NOMINATIONS OF QUALIFIED WOMEN FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME (1956)

RESOLVED that the International Federation recommends to the Technical Assistance Administration that a larger number of qualified women be employed in the United Nations Technical Assistance Programmes, and urges that the International Federation and national federations support the nomination of qualified women for work within the Technical Assistance Programme and that they inform their members of the possibilities within this field.

USING WOMEN EXPERTS FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME (1959)

RESOLVED that the International Federation:

• Urges that the United Nations and the specialized agencies include, as a constant part of all their technical assistance programmes, women experts in citizenship and social science, e.g., to educate and teach women how to enjoy their rights and to fulfill their duties in order that an enlightened and progressive democracy, where men and women are equally active, serve as the basis for life in their countries,
• Recommends that these women experts be given the same status as other experts, and that, wherever possible, when a team of experts under the Technical Assistance Programme is sent, a woman expert in citizenship should be included in the team.

EDUCATION - EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES (1959)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Take steps to facilitate the access of women to education in a spirit of equal opportunity,
2. Recommend that the UNESCO coupons be used by our national federations to help competent institutions to train women for intellectual and technical betterment,
3. Recommend that national federations create fellowships capable of helping the promotion of the International Federation's aims as well as better international understanding.

PROMOTION OF IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION (1961)

RESOLVED that the International Federation recommends national federations and local clubs give prominence to education, stressing its permanent character, granting an essential part to cultural activities (lectures, debates, cinema, theatricals, concerts, etc.) and recommends co-operation between governmental and non-governmental organizations.

UNESCO'S OBJECTIVE IN ASIA AND AFRICA (1961)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urge national federations to develop international understanding as a main factor for peace and advocates the co-operation of the International Federation in the work of UNESCO to carry its objectives in Asian and African countries.

NOTE: UNESCO's 11th General Conference 1960 and the setting by of a study group for "the extension of international collaboration in education, science and culture in the countries of Africa"
SUPPORT FOR UNESCO CO-ACTION PROGRAMME (1980-04)

RESOLVED that the International Federation adopts support for the UNESCO Co-Action Programmes as a third recognised international project.

NOTE: Have provided scholarships for girls at the Ramallah Training Centre and for women social workers at the University of the West Indies. Now need an additional project of a more flexible nature which would allow National Federations and Associate Clubs to support an international project within the region of their own choice.

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE (INSTRAW) (1987-03)

RESOLVED that the International Federation asks National Federations and Associate Clubs to:
1. Urge their governments to contribute to the work of INSTRAW (United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women) since it is supported by contributions, and
2. Make use of its services and publications especially as they relate to training for management and small businesses and for the full participation of women in the economic life of their countries.

UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (UNIDO) (1987-04)

RESOLVED that the International Federation asks National Federations and Associate Clubs to:
1. Secure information about UNIDO’s services available in their country and publications related to the interests of business and professional women.
2. Seek the establishment of seminars or training programmes in co-operation with their governments or other organisations in order to expand their skills and opportunities for employment in new areas.

NOTE: IFBPW granted consultative status by UNIDO, Vienna, Austria,

GENDER MAINSTREAMING AND UNIDO (1999-08)

RESOLVED that BPW International:
1. Urges UNIDO to maintain the role of the Women’s Unit and continue to work in partnership with those organisations with whom the Unit has developed a productive working arrangement to carry on the programmes which they had been conducting to retrain women and enhance their employment skills to make them more economically independent.
2. Encourages all Affiliates to lobby their government to write to UNIDO supporting the reintroduction of these programmes and encouraging UNIDO to recognise the importance of these programmes for women in the “Gender Mainstreaming” process.
**70 INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (ILO)**

**NOTE:**

Two Conventions on Equal Remuneration and Discrimination in Employment have been adopted by the ILO:

1. Convention 100 concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of equal Value, adopted by the International Labour Conference, June 1951; and

In 1919 the ILO adopted a Convention No. 4 concerning the employment of women during the night. This Convention, STRONGLY SUPPORTED in its amended form by IFBPW, was partially revised in June 1934, so as to include in night work women holding positions of supervision or management, and who are not ordinarily engaged on manual work.

**RESEARCH INTO ECONOMIC STATUS OF WOMEN (1936)**

RESOLVED that the International Federation undertakes as a major project during the next two years a research into the Economic Status of Women with special reference to the request for information on definite aspects received from the International Labour Office in connection with specific investigation into this question.

**EQUALITY IN TRAINING AND APPRENTICESHIPS (1939)**

RESOLVED that the International Federation in confirmation of the telegram sent to the President of the ILO states its approval of the affirmative answer to four questions set out in regard to facilities for technical and vocational training and apprenticeship, and further it affirms its belief in the necessity for complete equality of all forms of vocational and technical training and apprenticeship.

**INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (ILO) (1987-05)**

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges those National Federations and Associate Clubs whose governments are affiliated to the International Labour Organisation to encourage them to:

1. Ratify the ILO Convention 156, if they have not already done so.
2. Adopt laws and establish practices which are in conformity with provisions of Convention 156
3. Continue or initiate national policies which include provision for child care; family service; information and education programmes to assist workers with family responsibilities,
4. Reform work practices including daily hours of work and overtime, arrangements of work schedules and leave, as well as part-time and home based employment, and
5. Requests those National Federations and Associate Clubs of IFBPW whose governments are not affiliated with the ILO, to nevertheless encourage the sharing of family responsibilities by the measures outlined in (3) and (4) above.

**NOTE:** *ILO Convention 156* concerning equal opportunity and equal treatment of men and women workers: workers with family responsibilities;

*Convention of the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women 1979*, to the effect that State Parties are “aware that a change in the traditional role of men as well as the role of women in society and in the family is needed to achieve full equality between men and women”

IFBPW holds *International observer status* at the International Labour Organisation,
**80 UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUNDS (UNICEF)**

**NATIONAL CHILDREN'S FUND (1947)**

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Record our deep appreciation of the recognition by Economic and Social Council as one of the consultative non-governmental bodies provided for in Article 71 of the United Nations Charter
2. Agreed that our main programme shall provide for an increased knowledge and understanding of the substantive and organizational work of United Nations bodies and especially of:
   a) The Commissions on Human Rights and the Status of Women;
3. Realise the special and urgent importance of the International Children's Fund of the United Nations, and
   a) Support the world-wide appeal for the contribution to this Fund of one day's pay or some other form of contribution best adapted to each particular country, and further strongly
   b) Urge our member federations to petition their national governments to support their national Children's Fund.
4. Urge the continued efforts of voluntary organizations engaged in international relief work.

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF CONSULTATIVE STATUS IN UNICEF (1952)**

RESOLVED that the International Federation recommends that national federations continue to co-operate with the UNICEF national committee or other approved bodies in their own countries, in order to further the work of this international agency.

NOTE: Board of UNICEF granted consultative status to IFBPW as one of the members of the Advisory Committee

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNICEF BY GOVERNMENTS (1953)**

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Requests that favourable consideration be given to the continuation of UNICEF by the Economic and Social Council and by the 8th Session of the General Assembly,
2. Recommends that national federations co-operate with other national groups to urge that their governments contribute to the funds of UNICEF and that they make use of its services.

**SUPPORTING WORK OF UNICEF (1955)**

RESOLVED that the International Federation requests national federations to support the work of UNICEF and urge their governments, organizations and individuals to give full financial support in order that the work of this organization may be continued and expanded.

**INCREASING SUPPORT OF UNICEF BY FEDERATIONS AND GOVERNMENTS (1956)**

RESOLVED that the International Federation:
1. Commends the Board of UNICEF on the accomplishments of the past year and suggests that every effort be made to expand its programme,
2. Asks national federations
3. To work with the National Committees or other organized bodies on UNICEF in their country in making known the work of UNICEF, and
4. To urge their governments, organizations and individuals to increase their financial support of UNICEF so that its work may be continued and expanded.

BPWI Policy Resolutions
RESOLVED to recommend that the International Federation continues to co-operate with, and to encourage support of, UNICEF.

SUPPORT UNICEF’S TRAINING ACTIVITIES (1959)

RESOLVED that the International Federation should give its whole-hearted support to UNICEF’s training activities designed to ensure that the future citizens are given every opportunity to become good and useful members of their communities.

SUPPORT TO UNICEF (1970-05)

RESOLVED that the International Federation recommends to affiliated Federations and Clubs that they support UNICEF by
1. Participating wherever possible in volunteer assistance to UNICEF-aided projects involving the training of women, and creating public opinion in favour of such projects;
2. Supporting appropriate UNICEF-sponsored projects and programmes, taking part in the sale on UNICEF greeting cards and co-operating with UNICEF national committees wherever they exist,
3. Urging their governments to give full financial support to UNICEF for the expansion of its effective work; and
RESOLVED that the International Federation considers at its 1971 Congress the adoption of a specific UNICEF project for the training of women which might be recommended by the UN Committee in consultation with the Economic and Cultural Committee and the Executive Committee for support during the next triennium.

UNICEF PROJECT TO FURTHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOR WOMEN (1971-03)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to assist the Continuing Education Centre of the Social Welfare Training Centre in the University of the West Indies, this assistance to be in the form of scholarships for women in the region who need training to become community development and social welfare workers, serving the Caribbean and Central America, where the IFBPW have many new affiliates.

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD (1979-12)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges all National Federations and Associate Clubs to
1. Make themselves aware of the many special problems of particularly deprived groups of children - children in slums, children of some migrant groups, abused children, orphaned children, refugee children, children of single parent families, children exposed to drugs and crime, children in poor rural areas, physically and mentally handicapped children, child victims of civil wars - not over-looking young girls where they receive unequal treatment, and taking note of the importance of establishing facilities that benefit the children of working mothers; and
2. become active at local and national levels in using experience, knowledge and technological training to provide relief and lasting benefits to all children, who are the citizens, educationalists, scientists, civic planners and home-makers of the future, and to press for Government action at national level, and
3. Support those areas of UNICEF programmes that increase opportunities for girls and women.
NOTE: 1979 "The International Year of the Child"

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD (1983-19)

RESOLVED that the International Federation be very alert to these facts which should be brought to the attention of the UN to take appropriate action to eliminate these practices (maltreatment, both physical and sexual); and that:
1. All Federations and Associate Clubs ask their governments to see that such practices cease,
2. Governments should be urged to make positive legislation for the protection of the rights of children and make provisions for the care of children who may be victims of any form of maltreatment.
800 - SPECIAL EVENTS

10 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR 1975

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR (1973-03)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Asks National Federations and Associate Clubs to send to the UN Chairman by December 1, 1973, suggestions for proposed international programmes being drafted by the Commission,
2. Recommends in order to take advantage of the world wide publicity for International Women's Year that affiliates take steps soon to initiate projects, programmes and legislative action during 1975 to overcome obstacles which prevent full participation of women in the public life of their own countries.

PRACTICAL ACTION FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR (1973-04)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Suggests that IFBPW sponsors during 1975 a series of round-the-world "Search Parties" to find the obstacles that persist which prevent the full participation of business and professional women in economic and social development and to design "New Patterns for Full Participation",
2. Asks that an ad hoc Committee be established by the Executive Committee for the observance of International Women's Year, to organize the "Search Parties", to assist affiliates in planning observances, and to make a full report in 1976 to forward to the UN and to serve as a guide to strive for the advancement of women during the second half of the second Development Decade.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR (1974-04)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Urges the United Nations General Assembly to take appropriate steps to draw attention to International Women's Year by organizing a TV hook-up of countries presenting men and women talking to and about women,
2. Recommends that there should be an exchange of all documentary films and feature articles prepared by various countries, so that all people everywhere may be aware of the role of women in all countries.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR (1974-14)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Asks that IFBPW be represented at the UN international and regional conferences, if possible, to mark International Women's Year,
2. Suggests that IFBPW co-operate in the planning to the extent feasible, at the International Conference and regional conferences for representatives of non-governmental organizations being proposed by international women's organizations,
3. Recommends that National Federations and Associate Clubs:
   a) co-operate with National IWY committees and observances which may take place in their own countries during 1975;
   b) incorporate in their own national and local meetings held during 1975 and in their on-going programmes for the year, consideration of subjects related to the IWY theme in order to increase in their countries an awareness of the contributions women are making to the well-being and progress of their countries; and to lift up needs that should be met so the full potential of women may be utilized;
   c) take part in the IFBPW special project to find obstacles preventing women from advancing by organizing "Search Parties" to work in as many local communities and countries as possible.
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S YEAR WORLD PLAN OF ACTION (1976-02)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Commends Ms. Helvi Sipila, Secretary-General, and MS. Margaret Bruce, Deputy Secretary-General of the Conference for their dedicated leadership and untiring effort to make possible a successful Conference without adequate financing and with meagre support,
2. Expresses appreciation to the Governments of Iran for their imaginative proposal for the establishment of the research and training Centre in Iran and to the United Kingdom for their assistance in financing projects for rural women in the developing countries,
3. Asks that provisions of the World Plan of Action to be made known to its affiliates, especially those pertaining to the interests of women employed in business and the professions, since the Plan agreed to by the Conference can serve as guidelines for joint action by Governments, the United Nations and Non-Governmental Organizations;
4. Suggests that National Federations and Associate Clubs work with their Governments and other concerned organizations within their countries to secure adoption of legislation and its implementation in practice, the establishment of development projects to meet the needs of women and the holding of seminars and workshops to consider ways to at least bring into being realization of the targets set for 1980, and that they urge their Governments to contribute to the fund to support international action, projects, programmes and seminars.

NOTE: World Plan of action adopted at the World Conference on International Women's Year, Mexico City,

PROGRESS AND ACTION FOLLOWING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S YEAR (1976-03)

RESOLVED that Federations and Associate Clubs report progress and future plans in this field (relating to the resolutions passed in 1973 and 1974 relating to action for IWY), to the IFBPW Headquarters by December 1, 1976, so that the overall situation can be assessed and future policy formulated and to inform all Federations and Associate Clubs of such an assessment and future policy.
20 DECADE FOR WOMEN

AIMS FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DECADE (1977-13)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Urges its affiliates to adopt these as aims for the Decade and plan their own long-range and short-range programmes based on the IWD theme;
2. Asks that by June 30th, 1978, they report their plans and progress to date to IFBPW Headquarters; and
3. Suggests that National Federations and Associate Clubs urge their governments to implement the recommendations for National Action of the IWY Conference passed by the General Assembly in December 1975 and to offer assistance in this regard.

NOTE: Theme of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1976-1985 - Equality, Development and Peace with programme headings:
• Equality - International standards to eliminate discrimination on grounds of sex;
• Development - Integration of women in development;
• Peace - Involvement of women in international co-operation and the maintenance of peace.

ATTENDANCE AT 1980 MID-TERM REVIEW OF THE UN DECADE FOR WOMEN (1977-14)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges:
1. The Secretary-General to continue to remind Governments to appoint women to their delegations to UN Conferences and especially to the Conference on the UN Decade for Women to be convened in 1980;
2. National Federations and Associate Clubs to:
   a) Recommend Members for appointment to government delegations for UN Conferences and especially to the 1980 Conference on the UN Decade for Women; and
   b) Keep a watching brief to see that this is done;
3. National Federations and Associate Clubs to start planning send or assist in sending a member or members to attend the NGO meeting which customarily are held at the same time as such Conferences; and
4. The Executive Committee of the IFBPW to begin now to budget for more than one official representative to attend the 1980 Conference on the review of the progress of the UN Decade for Women so that the responsibility of attending meetings and reporting them does not fall on only one or two persons.

1980 MID-DECADE WORLD CONFERENCE OF UN DECADE FOR WOMEN (1977-16)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to:
1. Join with national and local committees made up of groups interested in the advancement of women or initiate the formation of such a group as part of the world-wide campaign to establish a Decade Committee in every community; and
2. Choose national or local priorities and determine strategy for securing action for their attainment by 1980; and
3. Report progress made and needs still to be met to the International Headquarters by June 1st 1979, for forwarding to the Mid-Decade World Conference and to be reported to the 1980 IFBPW Congress;
RESOLVED that IFBPW participate in regional preparatory meetings being planned in preparation for the 1980 Mid-Decade World Conference to the extent possible, and to stimulate necessary action on the part of governments as well as voluntary organizations to ensure Equality, Development and Peace.

CONCLUSION OF UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN IN 1985 (1982-11)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Recommends that the International Executive through the IFBPW United Nations representatives make representation to the appropriate authorities to ensure that a non-government women's forum will be held in 1985 to coincide or immediately precede the official United Nations Conference, requesting that IFBPW be represented on any world or regional Planning Committees to ensure that National Federations and Associate Clubs are kept fully informed about the date, venue and format of the forum;

2. Recommends that National Federations and Associate Clubs:
   a) Monitor what actions their governments are taking to implement the decisions and recommendations of the Copenhagen Mid-decade Conference of July 1980.
   b) Organise or participate in national, regional or state combined non-government women's seminars in 1984 to ensure that government delegations to the 1985 official conference are fully informed not only of their government's views but of the expressed wishes and needs of a wide cross-section of women from their community.
30 UNITED NATIONS EVENTS

WORLD REFUGEE YEAR (1959)

RESOLVED that national federations give support and help in the widest possible way to the World Refugee Year in collaboration with the National Committee or other appropriate bodies of their country and encourage their Clubs to take an active part in the important work of re-integration of refugees.

NOTIFICATION REGARDING UNITED NATIONS OR SPECIALIZED MEETINGS (1962-03)

RESOLVED that the International Federation:
1. Advise member federations of items on the agenda of United Nations Commissions or specialized meetings in order that member federations may be appraised of the subject matters to be considered at the following year's meetings of such bodies; and
2. Chairmen of standing committees submit requests for information to member federations in sufficient time for member clubs of those federations to be consulted and their opinions obtained.

NOTE: Consultative Status B accorded to IFBPW by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations

DECADE OF DEVELOPMENT (1962-17)

RESOLVED that the International Federation:
1. Recommends that national federations urge the representatives of their governments to the United Nations, to expand community development programmes and all programmes for the advancement of women in developing and newly independent countries; and
2. Suggests that affiliated federations and clubs explore ways to work with women in those areas through scholarships, expert assistance or projects for training local leadership.

NOTE: 60s designated as the United Nations Development Decade;

HUMAN RIGHTS YEAR, 1968 (1965-01)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Supports the steps taken by the United Nations to speed recognition of rights and dignity of all persons, and especially those measures to gain equality between men and women;
2. Asks that the United Nations complete and adopt the Declaration on Discrimination against Women;
3. Suggests that National Federations and local clubs plan special programmes during the next three years to highlight the need for speeding the recognition of the rights and responsibilities of the individual and equality of women;
4. Recommends that copies of Declaration on Human Rights, Rights of the Child, Against Racial Discrimination, be circulated, discussed and implemented by local clubs.

HUMAN RIGHTS YEAR, 1968 (1967-01)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Suggests that affiliated federations and clubs plan programmes during 1968 to direct public opinion towards the need of enhancing the human dignity of all persons and the elimination of discriminations against women,
2. Asks that the International Federation propose projects and programmes for the observance of Human Rights to be held in 1968.

UN 25TH ANNIVERSARY, 1970 (1970-03)
RESOLVED that the International Federation urges business and professional women in all affiliated Federations and Clubs around the world to participate in UN 25th anniversary by
1. Undertaking study, evaluation and interpretation of the UN in order to make themselves and their communities more aware of the need for continuing and strengthening this world organization to be an effective channel for peacemaking and peacekeeping. This should include a deeper understanding of its work to improve conditions affecting women and to eliminate discriminations which prevent their full participation in the work and life of their countries, and
2. Encouraging their governments to implement the actions of the UN by using multilateral channels of action wherever feasible.

RESOLVED that the International Federation fully utilizes its Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council and its Commissions by
1. Conducting studies on questions related to the advancement of women under consideration by United Nations; and
2. Participating in sessions debating subjects related to goals of the International Federation and presenting the views of business and professional women in affiliated Federations and Clubs.

SECOND UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT DECADE (1971-08)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Calls upon the United Nations, its member Nations and related agencies such as UNDP, FAO, WHO, UNESCO and UNICEF to:
   a) Encourage increased involvement of women at the policy planning level and as members of work teams for development projects;
   b) Give greater consideration and a larger measure of support for requests for projects and programmes related to the needs and interests of women;
   c) Provide for equal access for women and girls to all development opportunities especially those in education, vocational training and preparation for the professions which should have identical curricula;
   d) Give the additional means for the organization, in accordance with the important needs which exist, of seminars and study courses related to the status of women.
2. Asks Federations and Associate Clubs to:
   a) Support and participate in National and International efforts to speed the development process;
   b) Draw to the attention of their own governments, specific needs and failures and submit proposals for National development, endorsing and engaging in National plans offering assistance specifically on those programs most pertinent to women
   c) Engage in support efforts such as scholarships, financial assistance, special projects and to launch educational activities to change attitudes and help people develop “will” for change and the acceptance of new ideas and methods.

NOTE: Strategy for the Second UN Development Decade adopted by the General Assembly 1970, stated that “The Full Integration of Women in the total development effort should be encouraged”

SECOND DEVELOPMENT DECADE (1973-02)

RESOLVED that the International Federation asks National Federations and Associate Clubs to:
1. Evaluate their own activities and the progress they have made in attaining the greater participation of women in the development process at all levels; and
2. Assess the extent to which the needs of women in their countries have been met through International Development programmes and projects underway or planned; and
3. Urge their governments to appoint qualified women to development planning boards and to include in their plans, projects and programmes to meet the needs of women; and
4. Report programmes and activities especially as they relate to the full participation of women in the development process and projects supported in their own and other countries including new opportunities offered to women for education and training to the UN Chairman by January 1, 1974.

NOTE: Review and appraisal of the Strategy for Development during 1974
RESOLVED that the International Federation recommends that National Federations and Associate Clubs work with their governments to devise programmes to provide disabled women with access to satisfying education and employment opportunities, so that their integration in community life can be accelerated by the recognition of their special needs, particularly in the following areas:
1. Easy access to public buildings, especially entrances, exits, location and facilities of amenities within;
2. Better designed public transport and parking locations and the availability of specially designed vehicles;
3. Training, re-training and rehabilitation centres to encourage individuals to develop their potential and achieve satisfying personal goals;
4. Adequate welfare assistance and counselling services which will not restrict individuality and independence but merely assistance to compensate for disabilities until community integration has been achieved.

NOTE: 1981 the International Year for Disabled Persons (IYPD)

WORLD ASSEMBLY ON AGING, 1982 (1982-09)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Recommends that IFBPW participates in the World Assembly on Aging;
2. Urges that the Plan of Action to be adopted by the World Assembly on Aging takes note of the needs of retired business and professional women for housing security, health services, and an opportunity to contribute to the social, economic and cultural life of the community in which they live;
3. Suggests that all National Federations and Associate Clubs seek the adoption of appropriate legislation and community assistance where necessary to help meet the needs of aging women in the community.

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR, 1985 (1982-10)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges all National Federations and Associate Clubs to guide young people preparing to enter the labour market towards the areas of work in which their skills will be required, and that they are given the opportunity to prepare for work in areas of the labour market where jobs are available.

INTERNATIONAL PEACE YEAR, 1986 (1983-12)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges all National Federations and Associate Clubs to support International Peace Year throughout the year 1986.

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PEACE 1986 (1985-20)

RESOLVED to urge National Federations and Associate Clubs to mark the year by
(1) Encouraging members to take an active part in the preparation of books and programmes on education for peace;
(2) Collaboration with government officials, peach researcher and other non-government organizations to encourage the participation of women in peace research with appropriate resources being provided for this research;
(3) Providing opportunities for members and other women to develop self-reliance and leadership capabilities in order to promote peace, disarmament all over the world, human rights and international co-operation more effectively;
(4) Encouraging women students to take university courses in government, international relations and diplomacy in order to obtain the necessary professional qualification for careers relating to peace and international security;
(5) Urging their governments to provide women with equal opportunities to join at all levels the civil service, to enter the diplomatic service and to represent their countries as members of delegations to national, regional and international meetings, including conferences on peace, conflict resolution, disarmament, and meetings of the Security Council and other United Nations bodies.

NOTE: World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the UN Decade for Women, recommendations were made for strategies that professional associations and non-government women's organizations might adopt during the International Year of Peace,
10TH ANNIVERSARY OF DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR WOMEN (1987-18)

RESOLVED that the International Federation
1. Agrees to participate in the Tenth Anniversary observance by using all available channels to make known the work of UNIFEM for the advancement of women.
2. Suggests that all National Federations and Associate Clubs cooperate with National UNIFEM Committees where they exist or themselves as part of the world-wide observance make known its activities and urge their governments, individuals and organisations to give financial support to its work.
NOTE: 10th Anniversary of the UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) will be observed by the UN General Assembly on the 22nd October 1987, and will be observed until the 8th March 1988 by UNIFEM National Committees and related International Organisations around the world, IFBPW is member of Advisory Board.

CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (1991-04)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges National Federations and Associate Clubs to:
1. Develop strategies to encourage their own governments to ratify the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the objectives of this Convention;
2. Propose the participation of their National Federations or Associate Clubs in all forums, meetings or debates where decisions are taken at national or local level, or in their communities, to promote children's rights and establish concrete actions to improve the current situation of many children;
3. Participate in the promotion of this Convention, in order to involve a great number of the population in its implementation;
4. Promote the creation of National Committees for Children's Rights which would be responsible for the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN, 1995 (1991-08)

RESOLVED that the International Federation asks each Affiliate to:
1. Take part in the proposed survey organised by the Planning Committee for the Forum to determine progress made since the 1985 World Conference towards reaching the goals set by the Forward-Looking Strategies;
2. Decide remaining obstacles to the advancement of women, based on information secured, and suggest guidelines for eliminating those obstacles;
3. Propose plans for events to publicize the World Conference in order to reach women in each local area not previously involved in efforts to advance the participation of all women in the society in which they live.
NOTE: Theme "ACTION: Equality, Development and Peace"
10 WORLD TRADE/ECONOMIC EXCHANGE

COMMERCIAL ECONOMIC EXCHANGE (1947)

RESOLVED that the International Federation having set up an International Committee for Commercial Exchange to facilitate the fullest interchange of knowledge, skills and achievements between its members supports Section 55 of the United Nations Charter and urges the governments of the world to ensure access on equal terms to raw materials to all nations and that trade be placed on the most equitable and just basis.

STUDYING BASIC ASPECTS OF WORLD TRADE (1958)

RESOLVED that the International Federation requests national federations to include in their programmes of work for the immediate future, a study of the basic aspects of world trade, as they bear upon local, national and international conditions which make for economic well-being.

EXCHANGE OF GOODS AND IDEAS (1964-03)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges its affiliated federations and clubs
1. to study trade problems of their own country,
2. to note recommendations for reduced tariffs and expanded trade, and
3. to support government measures that will build new markets and increase the exchange of goods.

NOTE: UN Trade Conference convenes in Geneva in 1964

WOMEN'S INVOLVEMENT IN TRADE AND COMMERCE (1983-13)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges internationally and through its affiliates to:
1. Establish within their appropriate organisational frameworks, the development of policies and the implementation of plans for furthering women's participation in trade, commerce and financial institutions.
2. Encourage seminars and the development of training methods to increase interest and understanding of related issues.
3. Take the leadership in establishing councils to support or introduce subjects related to trade and commerce in the curricula of their school systems.
4. Work for the coalition of handicraft and trade Associations in order to encourage the production of crafts and other local products, and their integration into local, national and international marketing methods with a view to expand the trade and commerce of their countries and to increase world trade and economic growth.
5. Recommend that the International President appoints an Ad hoc Committee to further investigate this proposal.

ELECTRONIC COMMERCE FOR WOMEN (1999-16)

RESOLVED that the International Federation urges Affiliates to:
1. Actively undertake the promotion of electronic commerce to advance women's business development within their respective countries.
2. To support the widest use of encryption technology to protect electronic transactions of any nature.

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