

ARTICLE 8

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TEXT OF ARTICLE 8

The United Nations shall place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

1. During the period under review, there was no change in the application or the interpretation of Article 8. New material noted in this *Supplement* is to be found in the General Survey. There is no new development to report under the heading "Analytical Summary of Practice".

I. GENERAL SURVEY

2. At its thirty-sixth session, the Economic and Social Council, noting that while States Parties to the Convention on the Political Rights of Women had been requested under Council resolution 504 E (XVI) to submit reports on measures taken by them to implement its provisions, and that no information on similar lines was at that time requested from States Members not parties to that Convention, invited the Government of each State Member to supply the Secretary-General every two years with information it considered appropriate with regard to implementation of the principles stated in the Convention, including, *inter alia*, whether any women had been appointed as members of delegations to sessions of the General Assembly or of corresponding organs of the specialized agencies.¹ The Secretary-General was requested to prepare regular reports on the implementation of the Convention, including tables showing, *inter alia*, States Members where women were appointed to such posts.² In a subsequent resolution adopted at its thirty-ninth session, the Council appealed to all Member States to supply the Secretary-General in due time with full information on the implementation of the Convention.³

3. At the same session, the Council in the light of the need for the contribution which women could make to economic and social progress, drew the

attention of States Members of the regional economic commissions to the desirability of appointing women to serve as delegates, advisers or experts on the various committees of regional commissions.⁴ The Council also drew the attention of States Members to the desirability of ensuring that women had equal opportunities with men of representing their countries as delegates, advisers and experts on international commissions, committees and other similar bodies.⁵

4. In a resolution on the political rights of women, adopted by the Council at its forty-first session, the Council, believing that the memoranda on constitutions, electoral laws and other legal instruments relating to political rights of women, prepared annually by the Secretary-General at the Council's request, had proved helpful to the Commission on the Status of Women, to Governments and to non-governmental organizations, decided that similar information should be circulated biennially to the General Assembly.⁶ Specifically, the Council requested the Secretary-General to prepare for the General Assembly, biennially, a document entitled "Political Rights of Women", which would include in a consolidated form the annual memorandum referred to above and a report on the implementation of the Convention on the Political Rights of Women, referred to in paragraph 2 of this study.⁷

¹ E S C resolution 961 B (XXXVI).

² See, for example, the report of the Secretary-General of 9 January 1967, E/CN. 6/470, which includes tables, based on replies from Governments of States Members received during the latter half of 1966, covering 58 countries where women hold such high posts.

³ E S C resolution 1068 B (XXXIX).

⁴ E S C resolution 961 G (XXXVI).

⁵ E S C resolution 961 I (XXXVI).

⁶ E S C resolution 1132 (XLI).

⁷ See also Commission on the Status of Women, resolution I (XXII).

**II. ANALYTICAL SUMMARY OF PRACTICE