



World Assembly of Youth
Asamblea Mundial de la Juventud
Assemblée Mondiale de la Jeunesse

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Reports & Resolutions

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Introduction

The supreme organ of the World Assembly of Youth, which is the assembly, held its 9th Session at the Kenyatta Conference Centre in Nairobi Kenya, 23 – 28 February 1976 to review WAY's activities in the last three years, formulate new policies and programmes of activities and more especially to map out new strategies for the consolidation and strengthening of WAY as a visible International Youth Organization.

Taking place as it did, at a time when the Conference on the Environment was being held in the same country (Kenya) and when UNCTAD III was in the final stage of preparation, and also when disillusionment, frustration and anxiety had gripped concerned individuals, governments and Young people throughout the world as to whether, the cry for A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, would somehow, bring about the much longed for Peace, Equality, and Social Justice the end of the exploitation of man by man and political oppression, the theme for 9th General assembly of WAY – The New International Economic Order, was naturally logical, not only for its immediate relevance at the time but also that it flowed from the theme of the 8th Assembly in Manchester which was “Development – The Struggle for Justice”.

Most of the conclusions were in tune with the statement by the U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim. Thus:-

“Many new nations, having won political independence, find themselves still bound by economic dependency. For a long time it was thought that the solution to this problem was aid and assistance. It is increasingly clear, however, that a New International Economic Order is essential if the relations between rich and poor nations are to be transformed into a mutually beneficial partnership.

Otherwise, the existing gap between these groups of nations will increasingly represent a potential threat to international peace and security.

“Moreover, the dependence of the developing world upon the developed is changing – indeed in certain cases has been reversed. Many developed nations are also finding themselves in serious economic difficulties. The international system of economic and trade relations which was devised 30 years ago is now manifestly inadequate for the needs of the world community as a whole. The charge against that order in the past was that it worked well for the affluent and against the poor. It cannot now even be said that it works well for the affluent. This is an additional incentive for evolving a new economic order...

“We must work with determination and understanding to resolve constructively what I regard as the major international issue for the future – what is sometimes called the “North-South relationship” between major industrialized nations and the developing world... The problems which we face are so large and so complex that people may well often feel helpless and despair

of the future. But it is because the problems are so large that we can and must meet with a co-operative international response. The United Nations, as the global organization, provides a unique forum and unique machinery for that response.”

The over 250 delegates, representing various shades and tendencies of Youth Organizations in the world, had the opportunity to discuss, debate and argue out this concept of A New International Economic Order, in a whole day’s Session.

As a sequel to this, there was another Session on Liberation Movements, at which Session Mr. Sean Mac Bride, United Nations Commissioner for Namibia was the principal speaker. Heated though the discussions were, there was general consensus that “Political Oppression and Development are totally incompatible”.

Not least, there was a hot session on the “Future of WAY”. Calls for increased and improved communications between the Secretariat and National Committees as well as amongst National Committee themselves were made. Demands for a fair and equal distribution of projects in all member countries were also made. Diversification of WAY programmes and in consequence sources of funding was called for. The need for improving and establishing new relations with Youth Organizations in Europe and North America was stressed. Though opinions differed on a variety of Issues emanating from the discussions the final conclusions were adopted in an atmosphere of understanding, Peace and Tolerance.

There were three main Commissions at the Assembly, The Development, Human Rights and the Administrative.

The development Commission, responsible for discussing the progress of WAY in terms of its programme achievements in the past and proposing new ones and recommending the sustaining of existing ones worth maintaining, did extensively and intensely discussed the “New International Economic Order in relation to the concept of the Liberation of Man, from all the forces that oppress him – Political, Economic, Social and Cultural.

What is considered by some as very controversial, visit the Population problem was discussed very dispassionately and the general outcomes was that whereas, some organizations, Governments and individuals may have their own views on the question of Population Education, Family Welfare, Family Life Education or Family Planning, the fact remain that Human dignity and self-respect can be achieved partly or mostly through a conscious and rational appraisal on the part of the individuals themselves of what each individuals would want for himself and his progeny. In this regard, the issue of Population ought to be viewed as being a vital, component part of the quality of life that each individual seeks. Since decisions should not be taken on the basis of ignorance, the Development Commission recommended a number of actions that ought to be undertaken, at the individual, National and World Levels.

On The role of Women, the Commission recognized the importance of the participation of women in the economic development of a nation and for the establishment of a New Economic Order; and recommended a number of initiatives to be taken by WAY.

The Commission was strong on Rural Development, Environmental programmes and Cultural programmes as the latter largely determine lines of action in the area of adjustments, re-adjustments, and therefore progress.

The Human Rights Commission passed a number of resolutions on violation of this nature. It was strongly felt that if WAY's Charter is based, as it is, on the UN Declaration of Human Rights then as a NGO it should be in line, to condemn not only selective areas but universally all forms of such violations.

The Administrative Commission recommended the establishment of the WAY European Liaison Committee (WELC) to take care of WAY's interests in Europe. The Administrative Commission's report on this, was endorsed by the Assembly.

Other recommendations regarding the establishment of the Board of Trustees and WAY's budget for the next three years, were also endorsed by the Assembly.

In the true spirit of making WAY the Organization that member Committees would wish to see in the future several amendments to the Charter and the Bye Laws were made and they were endorsed by the Assembly.

On the whole the 5-day 9th General Assembly of WAY was peaceful, incident free, and a forum of intelligent and rational exchanges that have characterized WAY Assemblies. Though it would be unrealistic to say that everyone was satisfied, yet the 9th Assembly's decisions, to be carried out in the next three years would be the testing ground and hopefully generate more discussions and debate in the cause of finding common solutions for the problems facing the Youth of the world.

Comoro Islands, Gibraltar, Uruguay and the Seychelles were admitted as full members of WAY. Associate membership was granted to Spain and Hong Kong. In the case of Hong Kong, the proviso was that, if requested, full membership would be accorded.

The application from Portugal was to be reviewed by the Executive Committee one year after the Assembly. This is to ensure that the question of the broad representation of youth tendencies in the country has been resolved. In like manner full membership for Cyprus was deferred until the issue of representation of the Turkish minority has been settled.

Reports of the Commissions

Development Commission Report

Adopted by the 9th General Assembly of WAY:

THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER

CONSCIOUS of the on-going struggle of nations of the world to seek a just and equitable distribution of the world's resources; that struggle being the expression of the deep dissatisfaction with the present state of international relations, characterized by the most severe economic imbalance between states or groups of states, which by its very nature, having the inevitable effect of further perpetuating the already existing gap between rich and poor countries, posing in turn a singular threat to world peace;

FURTHER BEING AWARE that the setting up of a New International Economic Order would have the objectives of creating conditions of relations between states inducing all nations to join/cooperate in the world-wide efforts to abolish world poverty, to improve the standard of living of man, to cope with the problem of unemployment, to prevent the depletion of the earth's limited resources and to sustain the ecological balance in securing the continued existence of human life, those being the basic problems confronting man today and in the future;

MINDFUL of the fact that being of great importance to the future welfare of every nation, the problem of a New International Economic Order should not be the interest of governments alone, acting on behalf of their respective nations/states but should be a matter of concern to every society as a whole and involve all members of the society in its realization;

REALIZING the potential and dynamic role of youth ever manifested in pioneering efforts to realize a better future life, based on those values regarded as essential to the functioning of a human life and society, an ideal that ultimately should be the source of inspiration in constructing a New International Economic Order, which being a means towards an end, constitutes essentially an integral part of wider New International Social Order;

DO HEREBY DECLARE ourselves committed to the aims and realization of the New International Economic Order based on the universal principles of justice and humanity, as formulated in the Resolutions of the 6th and 7th Special Sessions of the United Nations General Assembly, aimed at giving all nations a just and equal opportunity in sharing in development and growth, based on their valid national aspirations;

Further to give concrete expression to our participation and role, a World Programme for Youth Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order shall be the basis and framework of our actions;

RECOMMEND TO THE WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH appropriate action at the International, Regional and National levels in aggressively pursuing a Programme of Action geared towards creating a New International Economic Order.

A WORLD PROGRAMME FOR YOUTH ACTION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH ACTION PROGRAMMES

Aim: I. to inform youth of all countries thoroughly and effectively on the problems of a New International Economic Order, of the basic issues involved and of the implications upon the future life of man and societies.

to mobilize international funds and resources in assisting Regional and National Youth Action Programmes in those countries urgently requiring them.

ACTION:

1. Establish a Commission of young people with expertise in economics and a commitment to a new world economic order to examine critically the proposals made by the United Nations and to suggest more radical courses of action than those presently suggested.
 - a) This commission would also suggest a more specific definition of the New International Economic Order, and vigorously promote the same.
 - b) In particular this Commission should critically examine the role of Transnational Corporations in establishing a more just world.
2. Encourage economic cooperation among developing countries who are the producers of raw materials to help nations to eliminate the competition which exists in seeking prices for similar crops they produce.
3. Publish regular bulletins on all arguments concerning the new International Economic Order to keep member councils abreast with the discussions which are taking place in this direction.
4. Prepare and publish a special booklet that will explain the current proposals for a New International Economic Order in simple terms that can be understood by young people, and that this booklet be distributed widely.
5. Press for a more significant role for youth in International Organizations associated with the United Nations Organization to enable participation in deciding international development programmes more in accordance with youth needs and aspirations.
6. Initiate and promote cooperation between international youth organisations irrespective of their ideological affiliations, with a view to creating and strengthening solidarity among the youth of the world in facing and preparing for a common future. Specially, we suggest collaboration with non-governmental organizations.
7. Recommend to the United Nations Organization the proclamation of an International Youth Year to be designated to focus attention on a New International Economic Order.

REGIONAL YOUTH ACTION PROGRAMMES:

Regional Youth Programmes should be primarily aimed at coordinating and promoting the idea of regionalism among the youth and the respective societies of the nations of the particular region. As a trend towards groupings of nations, regionalism is a recognition of the fact of interdependence between nations which is a basic reason for the setting up of a New International Economic Order. NB – The Assembly observed that 1978 is to be Children's Year, and the Assembly will suggest the scope of this be broadened to include youth.

INTERNAL ECONOMIC ORDER: NATIONAL PROGRAMMES:

It was felt that many of the economic problems in countries are caused by the control and distribution of returns from natural resources within countries. As a result it is also necessary to change the production relationships within many countries so as to allow the total populace to enjoy the fruits of the land. In consequence all countries must strive for self-reliance, must have territorial sovereignty and must own and control its own resources.

Therefore it is proposed that WAY affiliates should:-

1. Encourage agrarian reforms advocating public ownership of productive lands and other resources of the country.
2. Execute programmes which shall have the effect of developing self-reliance among the youth of rural areas thereby assisting them in fulfilling their basic needs through the acquisition of new skills.
3. Undertake specific programmes to wipe out illiteracy, to spread the awareness of elementary hygiene and other appropriate actions to elevate those individuals presently living under subhuman conditions.
4. Influence public opinion on the urgency of national decisions to create the conditions conducive to the equitable distribution of the country's resources.
5. Involve young women at the national and local levels in all discussions and decisions relating to the establishment of a New International Economic Order.

POPULATION

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommendations were made on those aspects of the population problem that were considered to be most closely related to the New Economic Order.

MIGRATION:

Most of the areas where rapid urbanisation is taking place are faced with a flow of migration from the rural areas to the urban centres. Migration can only be arrested by the decentralization of development from the urban centres to the rural areas.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING:

In some countries of the Third World, the type of education provided is not consistent with the needs of the people or the type of employment available. It raises people's aspirations only to be frustrated when they go to towns and are unable to get jobs.

Educational systems should therefore be geared to suit the needs of the people. Education should provide the needed manpower for each individual country without having to use immigrant labour. Young people must have the technical "know-how" to prevent the exploitation of natural resources by the developed countries.

Functional literacy should be promoted – i.e. people should be trained in the areas relevant to their needs.

Specialised institutions should be established where they are needed, thereby eliminating the necessity for young people to go abroad for technical training.

POPULATION EDUCATION WORKSHOP

A workshop for Population Education for Rural Youth was run parallel to the Assembly. They provided a very stimulating experience for the 30 delegates (15 from Kenya). Subjects that were under serious discussions were:-

1. Vasectomy
2. Sex Education and a review of the rationale for Family Planning.

The delegate from Guatemala gave his personal experience on Vasectomy (he has undergone one). The delegate from Guyana gave an account on their approach to Family Planning which they prefer to call Family Life Education. The Ivory Coast delegate who served as an interpreter at the workshop (English-French French-English) also reported on the results of the pilot project that WAY initiated in his country in 1974.

Exposés on WAY's Population Education Programme in Africa covering both the Anglophone and the Francophone Zones were presented. Since the Development Commission was to discuss the Population issue in detail participating delegates were made to join that Commission where they had the opportunity to draw up several conclusions as contained in this report (see Development Commission report) – Population.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – NUTRITION; HEALTH EDUCATION:

We recognize that there is an imbalance of trade between the "more developed" and the Third World countries. While the Third World has got enough raw materials for its own needs, these natural resources are transported to the developed countries where they are processed and subsequently brought back to be sold at much higher prices.

On health education and nutrition we recommended that mothers should be taught improved methods of food preparation to prevent malnutrition. Better nutrition for pregnant women should also be studied, as malnutrition often resulted when an imbalanced diet was taken during pregnancy.

The problem of the Third World is how to make people more comfortable and healthy. How to provide better housing, a better quality of education etc.

UNEMPLOYMENT:

On the relationship between population, unemployment and under-employment, it was noted that – poor living standards, poor education and lack of proper communication was at cause. The population problem is a question of priorities because a country's definition of its population problem is dictated largely by its economic orientation.

It was therefore considered necessary to consider especially the relationship between population, the development of infrastructure as well as social and cultural development.

POPULATION GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT:

1. The developing nations of the Third World, proposed the following points:
 - a) A proper system of soil conservation must be devised, to feed the growing populations in the future.
 - b) Agricultural methods should be up-dated to keep pace with the needs of the people.
 - c) Industries should be developed in rural areas, especially in areas rich in mineral resources and agricultural production. This would have the effect of better balancing the rural population.
 - d) WAY should develop literacy programmes for youth.

EMPLOYMENT:

Common characteristics of a labour force should be as follows:-

- 50-90% of labour forces should remain in agricultural sectors.
- High illiteracy rates should be reduced in a labour force.
- Attention should be paid to proper nutrition of a labour force.
- Response to the labour market should be effective.

Review of Employment Situations

- Invisible underemployment in the urban areas – a phenomenon whereby a worker receives less than the normal wage standard.

- Poor working conditions in industry, lack of employment and social security all of which are to some extent due to inefficiency in the enforcement of the labour force.

POPULATION EDUCATION:

Objectives:

Population education is a relatively new concept and it seems more logical to explain it in terms of objectives rather than by a single definition. These are:

- To create a nation-wide awareness of socio-cultural values and the perception towards the attainment of security and prosperity.
- To understand the basic principle of demography.
- To learn about the causative factor of rapid population growth.
- To understand the close relationship between the people well-being and socio-economic development.
- To understand the close relationship between people's welfare, family size and population growth.
- To understand the government policy in population planning for the betterment of the people's living standard.
- To learn that family size can be planned and is not decided by fate.
- To understand the health risks involved for the mother and the child.
- To understand the significance of the small family and its relation to the quality of living.
- To realize that human behaviour has a direct influence on the social structure and on social change.
- To change attitudes and instil a sense of responsibility towards the welfare of the nation and the world in general.

Effects upon Maternal and Child Health

Reduction of the number of pregnancies, particularly among women over the ages of 35 would be expected to improve maternal health and reduce maternal and infant mortality. The risk of child-bearing becomes greater general as the maternal age extends beyond 30 years, and the risk of infant mortality is most likely in the higher birth areas.

Effects of the large family size upon mental health

A significantly higher proportion of delinquents come from crowded homes than from small ones. This is due to maternal deprivation and lack of parental attention at home.

Problems of induced abortion

The incidence of induced abortion increases with urbanization. Economic pressures, housing problems and family size are the most common reasons for abortion.

Availability of family planning and population education should reduce the incidents of abortion.

Effects upon Medical and Health Services

- Increased demand of medical care and health facilities.
- When the health budget is very limited it is very difficult for the government to improve health facilities and to recruit additional health personnel in order to meet demands of the growing population, particularly in the rural areas.
- A family planning service in itself can contribute to the significant improvement of general health services in developing countries, thus health infrastructure in a country should be significantly supported by WAY including research programmes – e.g. the study of the question of exploitation by multinational corporations.

Population Education

1. WE PROPOSE that WAY should impress upon the UNFPA to increase their assistance to WAY to be used in the furtherance of population education in developing countries, with a view to increasing the ability of young people in these countries to understand and fully appreciate the quality of life of their generation and of the generation to come.

ROLE OF WOMEN

The Development Commission recognises the importance of the participation of women in the economic development of a nation, and for the establishment of a new economic order. Being aware that women comprise over 50% of the total world population they should be granted their rightful positions in society. Mindful of the fact that women have been taking an active part in their countries national development, efforts should be made to ensure that they may also enjoy the benefits of their production.

We reaffirm our belief in the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights as a basis for the harmonious relationships of the human race. Therefore we again call to the attention of the delegates of WAY the discrimination against women which endangers the healthy development of society.

All laws discriminating against women should be abolished. Special attention should be directed by the National Committees of WAY towards the laws regulating marriage, divorce, inheritance and education. We advocate equal salaries for equal work, free choice of marriage, the fixing of a minimum age of marriage, the abolition of all commercial exchange of goods and money in connection with marriage; the right to divorce and the equal sharing of responsibility and property; the responsibility of the more economically strong partner to help in the support of the other partner and children; the equal right to inheritance from relatives; the right to inheritance from the partner in marriage and at least free primary education for everyone.

In addition we recommend special quotas for girls in primary and secondary education; the equal right to income producing vocational training and the right to equal employment

opportunities. We do not consider pregnancy a reason for being expelled from schools, training institutions or jobs.

We advocate the rehabilitation of the Exploited Class of Women. Each national committee of WAY should give emphasis to the identification of traditions discriminating against girls and women. An effort should also be made to bring these traditions to the attention of the community in order to achieve a change. Such traditions could be: Denial of the right for a woman to decide about her own body e.g., bearing children, taking part in family education etc: Seeing women as less valuable and able human beings – thus preventing women from taking part in decision making. Each individual has the right to their own income; women should be encouraged to use their right to vote.

Finally we request that WAY Committees should pay special attention to the implementation of the following points in the next three years:

1. Continuous representation in WAY's policy and decision making groups.
2. It should be ensured that all WAY sponsored projects include activities from which women can benefit.
3. Free and compulsory primary education for everyone, special quotas for girls in primary and secondary education.
4. Right of equal employment opportunities and equal salaries for equal jobs.
5. The right to decide about her own body e.g. bearing children taking part in family education, etc.
6. Committees should press their governments to implement in action and not in words the United Nations Declaration on International Women's Year, and the resolutions of the 1975 International Women's Year Conference.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Commission took note of a number of proposals which in their introductory remarks re-emphasized the need for rural education directed at the development of skills; the need for confidence and reassurance of the possibilities of a full development of the individual in rural areas.

The eradication of illiteracy was seen as a major objective. Therefore the Commission recommended:

- a) Volunteers' projects for work in the rural areas aiming at educating the people. All levels of society should be integrated in this.
- b) A programme based on compulsory assistance in education, with students mostly involved. It was suggested that people engaged in military service should cooperate in literacy education programmes.
- c) Intensifying the number of teachers and considered that a bigger part of national incomes should be dedicated to education.

Political Education and Leadership Training

It was decided that an integration of political education and leadership training should be reached.

- WAY should contribute to a wider development of programmes in political education and leadership training, so that youth can play a bigger role in economic and cultural development.
- WAY should ask the governments of the countries concerned for a wider participation of rural youth in these programmes with total freedom of education, involving no indoctrination.
- WAY should intensify the setting up of regional committees in the rural areas.

PROGRAMME OF ENVIRONMENT

In respect to environment the Commission adopted the following position statement:

The New International Economic de is attempting to adopt measures to expand production of manufactured goods in the developing countries. Recognising that synthetic products have a negative effect on ecology WAY should immediately set up a programme which would help people in developing countries so that there could be no desecration of the environment. WAY should therefore:

- Cooperate with the United Nations Environment Programme and the International Youth Federation for Environmental Studies (IYFES) to circulate information and plan programmes on conservation of the environment.
- Aid Latin American countries to concretize their programme proposals on environment.
- Seek facilities to train volunteers on a regional basis to carry the message of preservation of the environment (a specific proposal will be forwarded to WAY).

PROGRAMME ON CULTURE

The Commission recognised culture as the way of life of a people. All the customs, artefacts, language and other aspects which constitute living. Here, however the concentration was on the aesthetics of culture. Specific recommendations were:

- National youth committees must find ways through literature, seminars and practical programmes to help colonized and former colonized people to recognise the important values of their own culture and to realize their expectations.
- WAY should set up a travelling exhibition containing the works of young artists, which would travel from country to country.
- Culture exchanges. WAY should encourage and help arrange group exchange visits among different member committees. For this purpose the use of people's homes in the host countries should be encouraged for accommodation purposes.

1. TOWARDS A DEFINITION OF DEVELOPMENT

Development is a dynamic process that aims at the enrichment of the quality of life of every individual in any given society. This process is a total one, involving every possible need of man. It includes the removal of hunger, provision of shelter, access to a decent education, preservation of political freedom and the preservation and encouragement of the cultural life of the people concerned.

Yet it is not only the material needs of man which must be met. Development must also strive to encourage man's spiritual nature. It must help people to become aware of themselves and of their position on the world. It's eventual aim is the continual creation of a new person, who is able to control his own destiny, of a society that is both self-reliant yet recognises the interdependent nature of the world in which we live.

2. SOME BARRIERS TO DEVELOPMENT

In today's world, most people do not live in the kind of society described above. To achieve this the following problems will have to be overcome:

- a) The present exploitation of poor people, organisations and countries by rich ones. All structures that oppress people must be destroyed and replaced by systems in which men cooperate with each other equitably for their mutual benefit.
- b) The present unequal distribution of the world's resources, which distributed very little to some people and an excess to others. WAYs must be found to educate the poor so they can develop the resources they have at their disposal, as well as to convince the rich that their consumption is excessive.
- c) The tendency of people not to appreciate their common humanity, but to concern themselves only with their immediate problems. We must learn to appreciate that no one will be able to live in peace until all the problems of the world have been solved.

3. SOME PRACTICAL STEPS

WAY believes that the present struggle for a New International Economic Order will, if successful, help overcome some of these problems and bring a better life to many of the world's poor.

INTERNATIONAL

One of the priorities of WAY, if not the major priority is to seek to strengthen its National Committees, to become more effective within their own countries – greater, appreciable and meaningful involvement in the development process of their societies, at all levels. Nevertheless, it is equally a responsibility of WAY as an International Organization to make it possible for its national affiliates to be exposed to the problems facing the world in general and young people in particular.

The following programmes are adopted:

1. An International Seminar on The New International Economic Order. Dates and venue to be decided by the Executive.

2. An International Conference on Youth and Culture.
3. An International Conference on Peace, Equality and Freedom.
4. An International Workshop for Young Workers and Young Trade Unionists.
5. As and when WAY is invited to any other International Organization, on issues affecting the welfare of young people, WAY shall send delegations. WAY shall seek the support of the UN and its agencies and explore other avenues for support for these programmes.

AFRICA:

In proposing the programme of activities for the African Region for the period 1976-1979. We are happy to note that the period under review saw many activities taking place in the region as mandated by the 8th General Assembly held in Manchester in August, 1972. We also note that due to some reasons and for practical purposes, the seminars on leadership training in West Africa, Thrift and Savings in East and Central Africa, Youth Policy in West Africa and Rural Youth in North Africa, could not be held and that instead, these were substituted with equality important seminars such as “Youth for Progress and Development”, “Education, Population, Employment and Development”, “Young Women’s Seminar on Population and Development”, “African Women’s Participation in Population and Development”.

It is also worthy of note that the WAY Youth and Family Planning Programme which was one of major areas of activities in the region has virtually come to an end, therefore necessitating the need to embark upon other development oriented projects of which, needless to say, to issue of population and family planning ought to form an integral part.

The following regional programmes are therefore adopted for Africa:

1. African Seminar on Youth Policy – Towards discovering a new Sense of Direction for Youth.
2. African Seminar on Community Development and Literacy.
3. African Seminar on Leadership Training – East and Central Africa.
4. East and Central African Seminar on Cooperatives, Thrift and Savings.
5. North African Seminar on Rural Youth – Algeria.
6. Organization of Workcamps amongst West African States.
7. African Regional Seminar on the Protection of Nature and the Environment.
8. Seminar on the Modern Concept of Education.

NATIONAL:

It is proposed that:

1. At the National level a comprehensive programme of Community Development which will embrace nutrition, maternal and child welfare, family planning, literacy, cooperatives, simple home economics and actual constructional work should be evolved for all member countries in the Region. In this regard it is proposed that the support given to national committees’ development programmes be continued. Consideration should be given to similar programmes in other countries.

2. That each WAY National Committee should embark upon an intensive programme of civic education geared towards kindling an awareness of national consciousness, patriotism, self-reliance and the rights and responsibilities of young people.

SPECIALISED PROGRAMMES:

It is proposed that at the national level special programmes for:

- a) Young Workers,
- b) Rural Youth,
- c) Young Women and
- d) Students should be organised.

Facilities for Sports and Cultural activities and Youth Exchange programmes should be made available.

HUMAN RIGHTS:

1. Support both moral and financial, should continue to be given to the Liberation Movements in Namibia (SWAPO) and Zimbabwe (ZAPU).
2. Continuing investigation of and research into violation of human rights in various countries.

GENERAL:

1. FUNDING: Funds for the programmes proposed for the period 1976-79 would have to be sought through appropriate agencies concerned with the particular issue, and all efforts should be made in this direction.
2. Efforts should be made to bring more African countries into WAY and to strengthen existing national committees.

ASIA:

The programme for the Asian Region for the period 1976-79 is proposed as follows. The Region would like to recognise the importance of population education and would recommend the continuity of this programme.

1. Regional Conference on Population Education.
2. Regional Seminar on the Role of Youth and Rural Development.
3. National Population Education Programme in Indonesia, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan, Thailand, Philippines, Singapore and any other nation if the national youth council so desires.
4. Regional Seminar on New Economic Order in Asia.
5. National Programme in the Field of Environment, Nutrition, Child Welfare, Literacy, Cooperatives, Home Economics and Development.
6. 100 Rural Village Development Programme on the model of Sri Lanka, in Indonesia.
7. Youth Training Camps for Agriculture.
8. Vocational Training Programme for "drop-outs" in rural area of Indonesia.

9. Special National and Regional Programmes in following areas:
 - Young Workers
 - Rural Youth
 - School Pupils
 - University Students
 - Young Women
 - Unemployed Youth
 - Urban Youth
10. Regional event of national youth bodies in Asia to promote regional development.
11. Information bulletin for Asia.
12. Regional youth leadership training programme.
13. Inter-country youth exchange programme in Asia.
14. Regional event for young entrepreneurs in Asia.
15. Promotion of Cultural appreciation of other countries among young people of the region.
16. Regional event on the promotion of youth travel, including home stays to promote better understanding about the way of life in the country visited.

CARRIBEAN:

1. REGIONAL OFFICE:
 - a) The establishment of a Regional Office to become the centre for development and coordination of youth work in the Region. The Secretariat to comprise of a programme officer and other necessary staff and to be funded by WAY.
 - b) The Secretariat to be the Centre of activities for CAY.
2. DEVELOPMENT:

Unemployment is the major problem of youth in the Caribbean. In some cases unemployment is as high as 60%. Consequently unemployment must become the major priority area of any youth programme in the Region. In 1976-79 the Caribbean area should concentrate on forming strategies for combating the high unemployment rate.

Proposal

- a) WAY should seek funding support for economic ventures of youth within the Region. Specific proposals for such projects would be submitted as youth identify the areas in which these could be established. Absolute priority should be given to this.
- b) WAY could fund education for development programmes at a regional and member council level. These programmes should aim at encouraging young people to be aware of the social implications of economic development, and thus give them a sense of their social responsibilities.

This programme would cover:

 - Cooperative education.
 - Skill training in agriculture, arts and craft, industries, marketing etc.

- Community education which would aim to mobilise communities for action programmes.
- A workshop on employment strategies for young people.
- Political education seminar on youth.
- Assistance to run vacation camps in the region.

LATIN AMERICA:

1. Regional Conference for Quechua Indian youth in Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia, on regional integration to take place in Cochabamba, Bolivia – June 1976
2. Programmes on population education in Peru, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Mexico, Colombia, Honduras, Bolivia, Nicaragua and Ecuador.
3. Seminar on Economic Integration of Latin America, in Peru.
4. Seminar for Young Workers in Mexico.
5. Regional Seminar for Young Women on Cooperative Organization.
6. Seminars on Environment in Uruguay.
7. Seminar on Literacy Training in Colombia.
8. Seminar on Family Planning in Mexico.
9. Seminars for Indian Youth in Guatemala.
10. Seminar for Youth Leaders in Ecuador/Bolivia.
11. Publication of an information bulletin for Latin America, to be published in Latin America.
12. Technical Assistance for WAY for all the countries who request it.
13. Sending of experts on programmes on youth for Development.
14. Continuation of the Programme of Medical Clinics in Guatemala.
15. Regional Seminar on Human Rights in Peru.
16. Publication of informative material on Environment for Pilot project in Uruguay.
17. In the field of the New International Economic Order it would be positive to organise seminars on sub-regional economic integration for example:
 - a) ‘Cuenca Del Plata’ (Silver Basin), in Uruguay
 - b) ‘Pacto Andino’ – Andes’ zone in Peru
 - c) ‘Mercado Comun Centro Americano’ (Central American Common Market), in Nicaragua.
18. National Seminar on Economic Problems of Latin America and Human Rights, Ecuador.
19. National Seminar for young teachers on rural development in Ecuador.
20. National Seminar on Political Education for Women in Ecuador.

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That whenever WAY attends an international conference a full report on the conference be circulated to all WAY member countries. The Commission believes it is important that member countries be kept fully informed of developments at an international level.

2. When translation is to be done WAY take cognisance of the fact that Latin American countries have difficulties in understanding Spanish as spoken in Spain. Therefore it is proposed that WAY employs translators of Latin American origin.
3. A) That WAY aim to establish more regional offices where possible. In particular we recommend the establishment of a regional office in the Caribbean as soon as funds are available.
B) The Commission recognises the financial implications in the implementation of these recommendations. To help overcome these we recommend:
 - that all member countries endeavour to bring their payment of membership dues up to date.
 - that Governments of countries where WAY Regional Offices are set up be strongly urged to give financial support to the office.
4. That more programmes aimed at training young leaders in Community Development be organised by WAY over the next three years. The Commission views this programme as a priority.
5. The Commission adopted the report on Programmes carried out over the last three years.

Human rights

RESOLUTION ON CHILE

The 9th General Assembly of WAY,

NOTING that since the overthrow of the constitutional government of Dr. Salvador Allende the military junta has consistently violated human rights; and

NOTING that torture, persecution and abuse have become permanent feature of the repression against the people of Chile;

CONDEMNS vehemently the military junta of Chile for their repeated crimes against human dignity; and

DEMANDS that the international community studies the blockade of Chile as a sign of protest.

(Original : Spanish)

RESOLUTION OF ANGOLA

The 9th General Assembly of WAY,

CONGRATULATES the heroic struggles of the people of Angola and

WELCOMES the coming of national independence under MPLA,

DEPLORES the intervention of foreign forces particularly the attack by South African forces, and

URGES the people to unite under the leadership of MPLA, and to begin the reconstruction and development of their homeland.

(Original : English)

RESOLUTION ON THE MILITARY IN AFRICAN POLITICS

The 9th General Assembly of WAY,

REGRETTING that at this stage of African political development, the greater part of the continent is under military rule;

NOTING that after the military take-overs, governments engage in massive military modernisation to increase their armaments and war material, which their national budget cannot sustain,

NOTING that much needed advice and other expertise which would have been useful for national development are not utilised,

and that almost invariably the powerful minority dictates to the powerless majority,

RESOLVES as follows:

That military governments should study the strategy of early return to civilian rule,

That the rate of conscription into the army be reduced forthwith,

That there should be less expenditure on the army during the period of military rule,

That the conditions which lead to military intervention be eliminated.

(Original : English)

RESOLUTION ON THE RIGHT OF STUDENT REFUGEES TO WORK AND STUDY IN COUNTRIES OF REFUGE

The 9th General Assembly of WAY,

REALIZING that in view of the circumstances of colonialism in particular, young people have to seek refuge and work in foreign lands;

RESOLVES that nations initiate schemes to promote the well-being of such refugees, and guarantee such refugees ample opportunities for work and study;

and that nations provide adequate protection for student refugees.

(Original : English)

RESOLUTION ON THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS IN THE CARIBBEAN

The 9th General Assembly of WAY,

CONCERNED about the continuing deterioration of press freedom in some Caribbean countries, particularly Dominica, Antigua and Grenada;

CALLS for a relaxation of the laws and other measures contributing to this poor state of affairs;

CALLS upon the International Press Federation as a matter of urgency to institute an enquiry into the question of press freedom in the Caribbean.

(Original : English)

RESOLUTION ON SELF-DETERMINATION FOR CARIBBEAN ISLANDS

The 9th General Assembly of WAY,

REAFFIRMS its support and solidarity for the right to self-determination for the people of the Caribbean, particularly the English-speaking countries of St. Lucia, Dominica, St. Kitts-Nevis, Montserrat and Antigua;

CALLS on the British Government to comply with the demand made by the CARICOM Heads of State for full independence in their joint communiqué issued on 25 December 1975 at St. Lucia.

(Original : English)

RESOLUTION ON CYPRUS

The 9th General Assembly of WAY,

NOTING that after eighteen months of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus and the partition of the island, the Turkish armed forces continue their occupation and no political solution has been achieved;

REAFFIRMS its support for the UN resolution which calls for the withdrawal of all foreign armed forces from Cyprus and the return of the 200,000 refugees to their homes, and

ASKS for the immediate compliance with the UN Resolution for Self-determination of the Cypriots and condemning foreign armed forces for their non-compliance with the UN Resolution.

(Original : English)

RESOLUTION ON RACISM

THE WAY 9TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY MANDATES THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO COOPERATE WITH THE UNITED NATIONS, IN THE FIGHT AGAINST RACISM, AS AGREED IN THE RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS IN THIS RECORD.

- - - -

LA 9NA ASAMBLEA SOLICITA AL COMITE EJECUTIVO QUE COOPERE CON LA ONU EN SU LUCHA CONTRA EL RACISMO COMO SE HA ACORDADO EN RELEVANTES RESOLUCIONES PRESENTADES AL RESPECTO.

(Original : Espanol)

RESOLUTION ON PALESTINE

In the light of the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

The 9th General Assembly of WAY,

CALLS upon all the conflicting parties in the Middle East to allow all the Palestinians to determine by themselves their future and their truly representative leadership through a democratic process;

CALLS upon the leadership of Israel and the Palestinians to resume direct negotiation in order to bring about a peaceful end to the conflict.

(Original : English)

RESOLUTION ON WAR IN THE LEBANON

The 9th General Assembly of WAY,

NOTING with deep concern the civilian war which is taking place in Lebanon between the Moslem and Christian citizens of this community;

STRONGLY OPPOSE the military intervention of foreign forces in the conflict and their attempt to impose a forced settlement in the Lebanon;

DEMANDS an immediate withdrawal and evacuation of all foreign forces from Lebanon;

CALLS upon the United Nations to take active steps to bring about peace in Lebanon and enable its citizens to decide independently on their future.

(Original : English)

RESOLUTION ON NATIONAL RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE SAHARA

The 9th General Assembly of WAY,

HAVING STUDIES The human and political situation in which the Sahara people find themselves, compelled either into exile outside their native land or to an armed struggle to affirm their right to existence and self-determination;

REQUEST the concrete implementation of UN resolutions and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in order to allow the Saharan people to exercise their right to self-determination;

REQUEST the withdrawal of Moroccan and Mauritanian troops of occupation;

CONDEMN the Madrid agreement which split the Western Saharan territory without previous consultation with the inhabitants and against their legitimate wishes expressed in the GUELTA Declaration;

EXPRESS the sincere greetings to the students and youth of the Sahara in their struggle with the people to obtain the confirmation of their political, social and economic rights under the leadership of the POLISARIO.

(Original : French)

RESOLUTION ON PROTECTION FOR IMMIGRANT WORKERS AND STUDENTS IN EUROPE

The 9th General Assembly of WAY,

HAVING STUDIED the deplorable socio-economic and cultural conditions in which the youth of the Third World live in Europe;

REQUEST the application of concrete measures for the improvement of the conditions of work of young immigrants with a view to obtaining professional qualification and a real economic integration within the employment market;

PROTESTS against the housing conditions that are offered to them and requests improvement of these conditions, the construction of adequate hostels and centres, and these conforming to the basic requirements of hygiene, laid down by the ILO and the United Nations.

EXPRESSES solidarity with the immigrant youth who refuse cultural alienation and undertakes to help them safeguard their cultural and traditional values (language, religion folklore, arts), through the assistance of UN specialised agencies – namely UNESCO, UNICEF etc.

(Original : French)

RESOLUTION ON THE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN WAY PROGRAMMES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The 9th General Assembly of WAY,

RECOGNISING the greater involvement of women in the affairs and programmes of WAY;

RESOLVES that where possible, opportunities should be given to women to participate in youth affairs.

(Original : English)

RESOLUTION ON DISCRIMINATION IN THE WORLD

The 9th General Assembly of WAY,

CONCERNED that in spite of the United Nations Charter on Human Rights, discrimination on grounds of race, creed, colour and caste has not abated;

REAFFIRMS its support for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the numerous UN resolutions on discrimination.

(Original : English)

RESOLUTION ON THE GREATER INVOLVEMENT OF YOUTH IN DECISION MAKING

The 9th General Assembly of WAY,

RECOGNISING that more than half of the world's population are young people;

RECOGNISING that youth among decision-makers in governments and international organisations are in the minority;

RECOGNISING that in almost every nation of the world youth groups, students and youth movements are the source of vigour;

RECOGNISING that youth represents change;

REGRETS that they are neither involved nor permitted free expression even on matters directly affecting them or in which they should be involved;

REGRETS that governments are unaware of the valuable contributions that young people can make towards development;

RESOLVES that more avenues be created and opened for the greater involvement of youth and for a balanced realisation of youth proposals and recommendations.

(Original : English)

RESOLUTION OF INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR

The 9th General Assembly of WAY,

NOTING that the United Nations periodically declares International Years; and

NOTING the remarkable success enjoyed by previous International Years;

NOTING that present day youth are eager to, and even more than ever, prepared to participate in national and international affairs;

CALLS on the United Nations to declare 1979 as International Youth Year, to highlight the problems of and the opportunities for promoting the aspirations of universal youth.

(Original : English)

RESOLUTION ON FREE EXPRESSION FOR STUDENTS IN AFRICA

The 9th General Assembly of WAY,

CONCERNED by student revolts in Zaire and Zambia in particular;

RECOGNISING that such events are an indication of the eagerness of youth to be involved in decision-making and to take an active part in national development;

CALLS on national governments in Africa to refrain from conscription as a means of liquidating student revolts;

CALLS on national governments to guarantee the right to free expression by students.

RESOLUTION ON AZANIA, ZIMBABWE AND NAMIBIA

The 9th General Assembly of WAY,

HAVING STUDIED the perpetually deplorable political, administrative and human situation imposed on the people of Southern Africa in their struggle against troops of occupation and the apartheid regime;

CONDEMNS the administrative measures, the political repression, social injustices being perpetrated by the racist minority of the Republic of South Africa;

GREETES the heroic struggle of African militants and others who are fighting for the restoration of human rights which have been abused in this part of the world;

DEMANDS the immediate release of all freedom fighters imprisoned in the colonial gaols of Namibia, Zimbabwe and Azania.

INVITES nations of the world to give total support to S.W.A.P.O.

(Original : English)

RESOLUTION ON THE RIGHT OF YOUTH TO BASIC NECESSITIES OF LIFE

The 9th General Assembly of WAY,

NOTING the right of youth to the basic necessities of life,

RESOLVES that:

- Governments guarantee a free minimum education which will equip their youth with employable skills;
- Governments guarantee an adequate and nutritious diet, adequate clothing, adequate medical attention and shelter;

CALLS on member organisations to work tirelessly towards the early implementation of these goals.

(Original : English)

RESOLUTION ON WOMEN

The 9th General Assembly of WAY,

GRATEFUL to the United Nations for declaring 1975 as International Women's Year;

APPRECIATIVE of the problems and opportunities of women, which were highlighted during 1975;

NOTING that this was only the beginning of greater emancipation, participation and better opportunities for women;

RESOLVES that there must be an active programme to eliminate all the social, economic and political problems facing women;

and that all institutions that have been identified to promote the aspirations of women be institutionalised on a permanent basis.

(Original : English)

RESOLUTION ON THE RIGHTS OF STUDENTS

The 9th General Assembly of WAY,

CALLS upon all countries of the world to respect the rights granted to overseas students by host countries, and

DEMANDS that foreign governments refrain from interfering with these rights in any way.

(Original : English)

RESOLUTION ON BASIC RIGHTS FOR SHUDDERS OF INDIA

The 9th General Assembly of WAY,

CONCERNED with the ill treatment of the untouchable class (the Shudders) of India,

RESOLVES that the Shudders be granted basic human rights and be integrated into the mainstream of Indian society.

(Original : English)

RESOLUTION ON SELF-DETERMINATION FOR GIBRALTAR

The 9th General Assembly of WAY,

RECOGNISING the clear expression of the people of Gibraltar on their self-determination;

REAFFIRMING out support for such decision;

CALLS on Spain to refrain from acts that would tend to undermine the sovereignty of the people of Gibraltar, and

CALLS on Spain to respect the right to self-determination of the people of Gibraltar.

(Original : English)

RESOLUTION ON BOLIVIA

The 9th General Assembly of WAY,

CONSIDERING that development in the Republic of Bolivia is hindered by lack of access to the Pacific Ocean, owing to an armed conflict which occurred in 1879,

and with a view to adjusting to a New International Economic Order under the same conditions as other countries,

RESOLVE:

to support the Bolivian people in their struggle for a free and sovereign access to the Pacific Ocean, by asking the people of Chile and Peru to seek a solution to this dispute in order to preserve peace in the Latin American continent

(Original : Spanish)

Administrative Commission

adopted by the 9th General Assembly of WAY

Main items dealt with by the Administrative Commission:

1. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report was duly studied and subsequently approved for the years 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975.

2. MEMBERSHIP DUES

The following proposal was accepted:

“It is hereby proposed that membership dues of all members be raised from the present minimum of US\$120 to a minimum of US\$200.

This proposal is based upon the increase in the cost of living around the world, the need to increase activities and the need to rely more on membership support and less on gifts and grants from outside agencies.”

3. SECRETARIAT – COPENHAGEN

The procedures on the purchase of a house in Copenhagen were discussed and possible sites reviewed. Detailed steps in the acquisition of same and the eventual move from Brussels to Copenhagen were discussed and approved.

4. AMENDMENTS TO CHARTER OF WAY

Amendments to the Charter and Bye-Laws were approved for submission to the Plenary Session, which subsequently endorsed same. (New Charter and Bye-Laws attached to this report.)

As adopted by the 9th General Assembly of WAY

PROTOCOL BETWEEN THE WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH (WAY) AND THE WAY EUROPEAN LIAISON COMMITTEE (WELC)

1. WELC is the regional organisation of WAY in Europe. Its aims are:
 - a) to promote the cause of WAY in Europe and to stimulate European interest and participation in the different activities of WAY,
 - b) to promote cooperation between those European organisations that are members or associate members of WAY in matters related to WAY or to relations between youth in Europe and youth in the developing countries in general, and
 - c) to work for increased contacts and better understanding between European youth organisations and youth organisations of the developing countries.

2. National youth bodies and national WAY committees in Europe that are members of WAY as well as European non-governmental youth organisations that are associate members of WAY are members of WELC. WELC has the right to grant organisations provisional membership, pending ratification by the relevant WAY bodies.
3. The structure and internal functioning of WELC is set down in the WELC Rules of Procedure and are consistent with the spirit of the Protocol.
4. This protocol is valid until the 10th General Assembly of WAY. Unless notice to the contrary is given by either of the two parties at least two months before the 10th Assembly, it is automatically prolonged. The same should then apply to periods between the coming WAY General Assemblies.

February 1976

Excerpts from major Speeches

HON. D.T. ARAP MOI – VICE PRESIDENT AND MINISTER

FOR HOME AFFAIRS, KENYA

“..... Your role in society has far reaching effects, and I am sure that with so many years of existence, and being a global organisation, the problems before you should not be difficult to solve in the course of time. The achievements that have been made in the past are true testimony of this hope.

..... As an International Organization with determination to impart values on Youth who are the leaders of tomorrow you are in a supreme position to inculcate the values that will enhance unity and peace throughout the world. Experience has taught us that violence and crime will, even when they pay for a limited period, eventually result in the destruction of their instigators It is so much easier to criticize and destroy than to build and improve. Youth must work for International understanding, cooperation, peace and unity. They must reject all forms of racialism and must fight incessantly against prejudices”.

MR. TARZIE VITTACHI – CHIEF PUBLIC INFORMATION

AND NGO OFFICE UNFPA

“There should be a humane economic order and this is only possible if we revolutionise current unhuman relations to the extent of understanding that development must be for all mankind, and that nobody has right to better living than the other.....

Our own life system must be re-oriented so as to enable us to dictate, firstly, the national and then the International economic orders..... If it is necessary to use the traditional life system adapted only for the betterment of viable economic well-being, then we should do.

MR. SEAN MAC BRIDE – UN COMMISSIONER FOR NAMIBIA

“..... There is the need now to call for a world disarmament conference, which has unsuccessfully been articulated for, since 1961 by non-aligned countries. Disarmament is important for the survival of humanity and there fore you the youth should urge such a

Conference now. There is possibility of a third world War not with the consent of people, but by secret societies behind close door.

I can see the cynicism and lack of credibility the youth have an UN and governments in general..... there is preaching around the world about liberty, justice, but nevertheless the powers are ready to accept a situation of slavery in Namibia, Zimbabwe and refusing to take action to rectify it”.

MR. BRUCE STEDMAN – UNEP ACTING DEPUTY EXECUTIVE

DIRECTOR

“..... I believe, deeply and sincerely, that the World Assembly of Youth has concerns of vital importance and relevance to UNEP, and that UNEP is, in a real sense, your organization..... I have never agreed with the idea that Youth are people who are simply preparing for the future. Youth are very active shapers of the present. By your attitudes and your activities you contribute to the world’s behaviour patterns which either protect and enhance or degrade the global environment.....

Unquestionably the World Assembly of Youth, along with other non-governmental organizations helped immensely to create the Public awareness of the environmental dangers facing our planet which led to the holding of the UN Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm in 1972.

At that Conference, you were represented by an outstanding delegation which assisted in developing recommendations which later became the basis for the creation of the United Nations Environmental Programme. It was your delegate who presented the statement on behalf of all the Youth to plenary session.

..... You have been struggling with the realities of the need for a new economic order as an integral part of your understanding of your common calling to work for the survival and betterment of humanity. In these and many other ways, we in the United Nations Environmental Programme find common cause with you.....”.

HON. TAAITTA TOWEETT, M.P.,

MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND SOCIAL SERVICES

“The Assembly could not have chosen a more appropriate theme at this point in time, for the world is experiencing a most disturbing economic crisis, with the developing countries suffering the consequences. This crisis did not come all of a sudden. It has been building up

over the years as a result of lop-sided economic development in the world. Attempts to bringing about social justice and fair distribution of the world's resources were made at U.N.C.T.A.D. II and again at U.N.C.T.A.D. III, but the results were not encouraging. The developing countries made every effort at these conferences to make the other side see the gravity of the matter, but the developed countries, determined to maintain the status quo, disregarded in effect nearly every argument. They were evidently not yet ready to share their affluence more equitably with the third world. The crucial question now is how much longer this state of affairs will continue, with the rich getting richer and the poorer even poorer.

The cause of the plight of the developing world is not, as is often argued, lack of will, foresight, planning and technical know-how, but simply, I think, the continuing refusal of the industrialized countries to agree that the problems of developing nations are as much their own in the final analysis. Or is the reason perhaps sheer hypocrisy or foolhardiness? They prefer to see the gap between the poor and the rich constantly widening instead of narrowing. They prefer to indulge in political intrigues to keep exploiting our natural resources to feed their industries and, above all, they prefer talking in terms of poor and rich nations instead of equality of nations. They can go on doing this only at their peril. The widening gap between the "Haves" and "Have Nots" is perhaps the greatest single threat to peace and security the world is facing to-day."

Messages

- U.N. Secretary General, Kurt Waldheim
- Director General of UNESCO
- Commissioner of the EEC, Mr. M. Cheysson
- Director of Youth, Belgium, Marcel Hicter
- President of the European Communities and Prime Minister of Luxembourg, Gaston Thorn
- Acting Youth Officer, Sri Lanka, Anura Bandaranaike
- Union of Communist youth, Rumania.
- Union of Socialist Youth, Yugoslavia
- Shah of Iran
- Head of State of Ghana, Gen. Acheampong
- President of Liberia, William Tolbert
- Prime Minister of Mauritius, Sir Ramgoolan
- Prime Minister of Israel
- Prime Minister of Surinam
- President of the Republic of Colombia

Way Charter

(as amended by the Ninth General Assembly)

Article I: NAME

The name of the organization is “World Assembly of Youth” (WAY).

Article II: AIMS

- A. WAY is established in order that youth itself may study and focus attention on its needs and responsibilities. WAY is dedicated to the service of youth everywhere, and as a democratic organization, to work through national voluntary youth organizations for the true satisfaction of youth’s needs and for the fulfilment of youth’s responsibilities.
- B. WAY recognises the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as the basis of its action and of its services.
- C. In the achievement of its aims, WAY shall seek:
 - 1. To increase inter-racial respect and to foster international understanding and cooperation
 - 2. To facilitate the collection of information about the needs and problems of youth.
 - 3. To disseminate information about the methods, techniques and activities of youth organizations.
 - 4. To promote the interchange of ideas between youth of all countries.
 - 5. To assist in the development of youth activities and to promote, by mutual aid, the extension of the work of the voluntary youth organizations.
 - 6. To cooperate in the development of National Consultative Committees of voluntary youth organizations.
 - 7. To promote the democratic participation of young people both in their own organizations and in the life of society as a whole.
 - 8. To establish and maintain relations with the international organizations, both voluntary and governmental.
 - 9. To support and encourage the national youth movements of non-self-governing countries in their struggle for national liberation.

Article III: HEADQUARTERS

The location of the headquarters shall be determined by the Assembly.

Article IV: MEMBERSHIP

There will be two categories of full members:

- National youth bodies
 - National WAY Committees
- A. Full members of WAY are the organizations which have ratified the Charter and are admitted by the Assembly by a vote of the majority of its members. The Executive Committee shall have the power to grant by two-thirds majority provisional membership to organisations which apply for membership between Assemblies, and meet the requirements of the WAY charter. Such provisional membership shall be subject to ratification by the next Assembly.
- B. Every member shall pay an annual membership fee which shall be fixed by the Assembly.
- C. Membership of WAY shall be terminated:
1. If a member gives notice in writing to the Assembly of its intention to resign.
 2. The Assembly shall have the power by a majority of the members to terminate the membership of any national committee which in the opinion of the Assembly has failed to carry out the Charter or any rules or regulations made under its provision, provided that any member shall have the right to be heard by the Assembly before any decision is made. Ninety days' notice must be given to any such resolution of termination of membership.
- D. All WAY's activities in connection with a member country shall be carried out in consultation and collaboration with the national committee concerned. Any contacts established with organization in these countries shall be communicated to the national committee concerned.

Article V: ASSOCIATED MEMBERS, ASSOCIATED ORGANIZATIONS AND OBSERVERS

- A. The Assembly has the power to admit international voluntary youth organizations as associated organizations of WAY if they so desire.
- B. The Assembly may also admit international organizations as observers.
- C. The Assembly has the power to admit national youth councils or national youth organizations which are interested in regular cooperation with WAY as associated members of WAY, provided that a member committee of WAY does not already exist in the country in question. Such status shall cease when not renewed at the subsequent Assembly.
- D. The Assembly may admit as observers national youth councils or national youth organizations which do not fulfil the condition of membership provided that a member

committee of WAY does not already exist in the country in question. Such observer status shall cease when not renewed at such subsequent Assembly meeting.

- E. Associated members, associated organizations and observers shall have the right to attend meetings of the Assembly and to speak at the Chairman's discretion but not to vote.

Article VI: THE ASSEMBLY

- A. The Assembly is the supreme organ of WAY. It shall determine the main lines of policy and assume responsibility for the direction and administration of WAY.
- B.
 - 1. The Assembly shall receive from the Executive Committee a report on the implementation of WAY policy and the activities carried out by WAY since the previous assembly.
 - 2. The Assembly shall receive from the Treasurer of WAY a report on the finances of WAY which shall include audited accounts of income and expenditure and balance sheets for the period since the previous Assembly. It shall approve the accounts and financial statement of WAY and decide upon the budget of WAY for the ensuing three-year period.
 - 3. The Assembly shall decide the programme of WAY.
 - 4. The Assembly shall elect the Executive Committee and the Secretary General.
 - 5. The Assembly shall give the necessary authorisation to the Executive Committee to take action in case where the power attributed to it by the Charter shall be insufficient.
- C. Each member of WAY shall appoint up to six delegates to the Assembly. Members from countries whose population exceeds 10 millions may appoint one delegate for each additional 10 million or a fraction of 10 million, up to a maximum of 16 delegates. Delegates shall be elected representatives of youth organizations. At least half of the members of each delegation shall be under the age of 30 while other delegates shall be under the age of 35. Where a delegation comprises of only one member, he or she shall be under the age of 35 years.
- D. The Assembly shall meet every three years and shall be convened by the Executive Committee.
- E. An extraordinary meeting of Assembly may be called:
 - 1. By the Executive Committee, or
 - 2. By the Secretary General within thirty days of the receipt of the request in writing of not less than one half of the members of WAY.
- F. The Chairman of the Assembly is the President of WAY assisted by the four Vice-Presidents. The agenda proposed by the Executive, is decided upon in its final form by the Assembly itself
- G. Except when the Charter provides otherwise, the procedure for the Assembly is as fixed by the Rules of Procedure, unless a contrary decision is taken at the first session of the Assembly.

- H. The Assembly's decisions are taken by a majority vote of the members present except where a different procedure is indicated in the Charter. Each member with full rights shall have a vote in the Assembly.

Article VII: THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- A. The Assembly, at each normal session, shall elect an Executive Committee, to be composed of a President, four Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, and ten other members. The President shall be elected in their individual capacities and as representatives of their national committees. The condition for the termination of membership and the designation of proxies shall be set out in the Bye-laws.
- B. Subject to the direction and control of the Assembly, the Executive Committee is responsible for the management and administration of WAY; it shall formulate the details of policy, call conferences and initiate activities.
- C. The Executive Committee meets at least once a year when called by the President, or at the request of at least half of its members.
- D. The travel costs of the members of the Executive Committee shall be estimated in the budget. The total amount shall be covered by all national committees when paying their annual membership dues. National committees shall pay in proportion to their contributions.
- E. No decisions shall take place nor any vote be taken unless one half of the members of the Executive Committee's decisions are made by a two-thirds majority of the members present. Its rules of procedure are fixed by the Standing Orders.
- F. At each of the meeting, the Executive Committee shall receive a report from the President on behalf of the Bureau, and shall ratify the minutes of the meetings of the bureau.
- G. The Executive Committee and the Treasurer of WAY shall ensure that annual audited accounts of WAY are circulated to all member national committees.

Article VIII: THE BUREAU

- A. The President, the four Vice-Presidents and the Treasurer constitute the Bureau of WAY. The Secretary General attends all meetings of the Bureau.
- B. The Bureau shall meet as often as necessary and, in any case, once every six months.
- C. The Executive Committee, between its meetings, empowers the Bureau to take action as it considers essential for the effective operation of the organisation.

Article IX: THE SECRETARIST

- A. The Secretariat is headed by the Secretary General elected by the Assembly for a term ending at the following ordinary session of the Assembly. One or more Programme

Directors may be appointed by the Executive Committee for a term determined by the Committee, but such terms shall not exceed three years. Members of the Secretariat must be under 35 years of age on election or appointment.

- B. The Secretary General is the executive agent of WAY. He reports to the Assembly, to the Executive Committee and to the Bureau. He directs, inspires and controls all the staff of the Secretariat. He represents WAY in all civil business. The Executive Committee shall delegate to him the power necessary for the effect. The Secretary General shall initiate action in urgent cases only after consultation with the President. Such action shall be submitted for review to the Executive Committee.
- C. The Secretary General is responsible under common law towards WAY and third parties either for violation of the statutory provisions or for acts of misconduct committed in his administration. The Secretary General contracts no personal obligation, by reason of his functions, in respect to engagements entered into in due order in the name of WAY.
- D. The members of Secretariat shall be entitled to attend meetings of all the organs of WAY. They shall have speaking but no voting rights.

Article X: BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- 1. The Board of Trustees of the World Assembly of Youth is the legal body entitled to recommend to the Executive major matters of policy concerning the guardianship or disposal of WAY property and other assets.
- 2. The Board of Trustees will cooperate with the Bureau and the Executive in the smooth implementation of the Charter, concerning WAY assets and fund raising procedures.
- 3. The Board of Trustees will also assist the Bureau and Secretary General on fund-raising endeavours to guarantee the continuation of WAY programmes.
- 4. At the invitation of the Bureau or the Executive representatives of the Board of Trustees may attend their meetings as observers.
- 5. Members of the Board of Trustees will be selected by the Bureau at its first meeting after every General Assembly. Such members are to be broadly representative of all the regions of the world.
- 6. The Board shall meet at least once a year. WAY shall have no financial obligation towards the cost of travel expenses for such meetings.
- 7. The Board of Trustees, at its first meeting, will approve its own internal regulations and submit them to the Executive for approval. Any alteration to these regulation must also be submitted to the Executive for approval.
- 8. The Board of Trustees will comprise at least six members.

Article XI: FINANCE

- A. 1. The receipts of WAY shall normally consist of:
 - a) Membership subscriptions

- b) Revenue from its properties
 - c) Revenue from its activities and publication
2. Other receipts of WAY may include:
- a) Grants which may be made to it
 - b) Gifts and legacies which may receive
 - c) Income from unexpected sources provided that in opinion of the Executive Committee acceptance of such revenue does not conflict with the aims of WAY.
- B. The Assembly fixes the annual subscription of its members.
- C. A careful account of all receipts and expenditures of WAY shall be kept by the Secretary General, according to the law and practice in the country where the headquarters is situated. The Treasurer shall periodically examine the accounts and report to the Executive Committee.
- D. At each session of the Assembly, the Treasurer shall present a report on the financial situation of WAY, together with an audited statement of accounts and auditors' report to accordance with Article VI.
- E. Each member of WAY and each member of the Executive Committee has the right to examine and verify the books and accounts of WAY during the 90 days preceding a meeting of the Assembly, either in person or through a duly accredited deputy.

Article XII: REGIONAL COOPERATION

- A. The Executive Committee may determine regional cooperation of WAY with any established regional youth organisation, providing mutual respect and interdependence is assured.
- B. Cooperation may include formulation and implementation of programmes for the region in member countries of WAY. WAY activities carried out in non-member countries should have the concurrence of the Bureau.
- C. A WAY Regional Consultant shall be appointed by the bureau from among candidates proposed by member countries from the region concerned.
- D. Way member organisations shall retain their right to maintain direct contact with Way headquarters, their membership of a regional organisation notwithstanding.

Article XIII: AMENDMENTS

The Charter, Bye laws and Rules of Procedures may be amended by the Assembly by a two-thirds majority of members present, provided that notice of the proposed amendments has been submitted in writing to the Secretary General 90 days in advance. The Secretary General shall notify all member committees of WAY of all such amendments not less than 60 days in advance.

Article XIV: DISSOLUTION

- A. The Assembly may, by a two-thirds majority of the members, decide to dissolve the organisation, provided that notice of the proposed dissolution is given, in writing, 90 days in advance of the balloting.
- B. In case of dissolution, the Assembly shall name one or several persons charged with the liquidation of the property of WAY. The Assembly shall take all necessary measures of the assets.
- C. Dissolution shall become effective 90 days after the vote of the Assembly.

Schedule I: DEFINITIONS

1. A NATIONAL YOUTH BODY is a coordinating body of voluntary youth organisations representing a cross-section of youth tendencies in the country or territory. Usually it is recognised as a main channel of communication with youth.

WAY shall recognise only one national body as full member in any country or territory.

2. NATIONAL WAY COMMITTEES shall consist of national voluntary youth organisations representing the major youth tendencies of the country concerned. Any such committee, shall when making the request to represent WAY, and to be accepted as full member, present a report giving proof of its regular activities as well as its faith in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, indicating their concurrence with the WAY objectives and programmes according to its Charter In any country where a national youth body is affiliated to WAY, no other WAY committee will be recognised. WAY shall recognise only one national committee or national youth body in any one country.
3. A NATIONAL VOLUNTARY YOUT ORGANISATION is one which organises young people for broad education purposes. Its request for recognition by WAY should be subject to the following prerequisites:
 - a) Its faith in the Universal Declaration of Human rights.
 - b) A willingness to cooperate in WAY programme and activities.
 - c) Its desire to promote the formation of a national youth body, or if it is not possible, a national WAY Committee.
 - d) Membership is voluntary.
 - e) The organization is free to affiliate to other organizations.
 - f) The organization is self-governing and affords full opportunity to all its members to exercise initiative and to take part in the leadership of the organization.
 - g) The majority of its members are under 30 years of age.
4. REGIONAL YOUTH ORGANISATION is the coordinating body of national youth bodies from the same geographical area.

Association of youth organisation on the basis of common interest (e.g. as students, through religion or other affinity), should also be considered as Regional Youth Organisations, except where their constituent youth organisations are represented in WAY elsewhere.

5. ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES of youth organisations are members or officers of those organisations composing a national youth body or WAY Committee and elected by that national youth body or WAY Committee to represent it at each meeting of the Assembly in accordance with Article VI C. of this Charter.

The World Assembly of Youth is a coordination body of National Youth Councils. These councils are composed of the principal, voluntary, democratic national youth organizations in their countries. WAY's services, based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the United Nations, extend to youth throughout the world, and include seminars, conferences, training courses, practical development projects, technical assistance programmes and action in the field of human rights. Emphasis is also given to the problems of rural youth, young workers and young women. WAY is closely associated with the United Nations through its consultative status No. with the Economic and Social Council UNESCO, UNICEF, and the Food and Agriculture Organization. WAY also works closely with the International Labour Organization, the Council of Europe, and other inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations.