

FORTY-FOURTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

WHA44.42

Agenda item 20

16 May 1991

## WOMEN, HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT

The Forty-fourth World Health Assembly,

Recalling resolution WHA39.18 relating to the United Nations Decade for Women and resolution WHA42.42 on women's health, which emphasized the crucial role of women in health and development;

Having considered the Director-General's report (in document A44/15) on women, health and development, and commending him for the excellence of his report;

Recognizing that effective socioeconomic development cannot be realized without improvements in the health and economic and social status of women;

Concerned at the continued high mortality and morbidity of women at all ages in their life cycle especially in developing countries;

Concerned at the lack of demonstrable progress in many parts of the world in implementing resolutions and programmes for the improvement of women's health, education, socioeconomic and political status, for equal recognition and remuneration of women for work of equal value, and for their full participation in health and development;

Recognizing the urgency of the need to accelerate progress and strengthen action for the promotion of the status of women throughout the world, and to ensure their full and equal participation in all aspects of national and international health and development programmes;

Recognizing that women make an essential contribution to the socioeconomic development of countries while not always enjoying the full benefits of this process;

Noting that Technical Discussions on "Women, health and development" will be held during the Forty-fifth World Health Assembly in 1992, and in preparation for these discussions;

1. URGES Member States:

(1) to accelerate the implementation of measures for the improvement of the health status of women, their economic and social status, and their quality of life and for their full and equal participation in all aspects of national health and development activities;

(2) to ensure that programmes on women, health and development include action to:

(a) improve female literacy;

