

similar action in other instances where women's human rights and fundamental freedoms are flagrantly abused.

Supporting statement:

Since the Taliban took control of two-thirds of Afghanistan, Afghan women and girls have been subjected by law to extreme conditions of exclusion. They have been denied their basic human rights, are barred from access to education and to health care for themselves and their children.

In November 1997 a UN Gender Mission was sent to Afghanistan including representatives from a number of UN bodies. Its objectives included to reach agreement on a concrete set of programmatic, field-oriented guidelines to addressing gender concerns in programme implementation by all UN agencies and the donor and NGO community working in Afghanistan.

Concerted international support from the UN, from governments and from NGOs will be required if Afghan women are to regain the rights we take for granted.

Action plan:

- 1. Immediate action will be taken by the IFUW Board of Officers and NFAs in writing as indicated in the resolution.*
- 2. Follow-up will be required at regular intervals if the situation does not improve.*
- 3. IFUW representatives also have a role to play in promoting the Federation's concern in appropriate UN meetings.*

POPULATION AND HEALTH

10) RESOLUTION ON HUMAN CLONING
Proposed by Australian Federation of University Women

The 26th Conference resolves:

that NFAs campaign in their own countries for legislation to prohibit human cloning.

Supporting statement:

This resolution is submitted as a development of the 1989 Resolution on Human Fertilization. With advances in transplant technology there is and will be an increasing demand for body parts. As the supply from deceased donors does not meet the demand, there has already resulted in underdeveloped countries the practice of living persons donating their organs, e.g. corneas and kidneys, for financial reward. There have also been instances, where a compatible donor cannot be found, that parents have borne another child expressly for the purpose of providing a source of bone marrow for transplantation to a sibling. It follows that a more readily available source of body parts would be eagerly sought. Human cloning is one such way, and could be developed now that successful cloning has been achieved with large animals such as sheep and cattle.

Human cloning raises enormous ethical problems and immediate banning of human cloning is essential, as is the establishment of national advisory committees to prevent the application of unethical techniques associated with human reproduction.