



## **IFHE World Congress 1968**

### **Resolution**

#### **Home Economics in the Service of International Cooperation**

One Thousand members plus, present and voting.

1. The International Federation for Home Economics in Congress assembled recommends the immediate formation of a small Action Committee of Home Economists representing all parts of the world to investigate the possibility of obtaining funds from International Educational Trusts, Industry and other appropriate sources to set up an International Institute of Home Economics. The Institute's functions would include the collection, evaluation and dissemination of information on all aspects of Home Economics, the initiation of research projects and the administration of international exchange schemes for Home Economists. Passed: twenty-six votes against.
2. The International Federation for Home Economics in Congress assembled urges UNESCO to obtain the co-operation of Member Nations in preparing and securing the acceptance of a code of practice for exchange visits of students and young people and in initiating a system of approved agencies for arranging such exchanges. Passed: unanimously.
3. The International Federation for Home Economics in Congress assembled urges the United Nations through its specialised Agencies of UNESCO and FAO to support all attempts to ensure that Home Economics teaching in each country is consistent with the philosophy, culture and practical resources of that country, and that the practices of more highly developed areas are not imposed on countries in process of development. It follows that international qualifying examinations must be adapted to conform. Passed: unanimously.

4. The International Federation for Home Economics in Congress assembled requests the United Nations to urge Member Governments to establish and enforce international standards: A. the nutrient content of foods; B. food hygiene; C. safety and performance of industrial products. These standards to be applied whether the goods are for home use or export. Passed: unanimously.

After the Congress, the Executive Committee published the following statement in the March, 1969, issue of the *Bulletin* (p. 27):

Re: Resolution I. The Executive Committee agrees with the expression of the need for the development and extension of the tasks of “collection, evaluation and dissemination of information on all aspects of Home Economics” including the promotion of international exchange schemes and the encouragement of research projects, through the establishment of an Action Committee of IFHE. This Action Committee would investigate the possible sources of funds to develop the areas of work outlined. If funds become available the Committee would consider the implementation of further aspects of the resolution.

In addition, numerous points of Action arising from the Discussion Groups were offered as guide lines for action during the years between Bristol and the next Congress in Helsinki. It included the suggestions that the next Congress might provide the opportunity of review how members have implemented the Points of Action most relevant to their work. Those directed specifically toward the International Federation included the following:

- 1) Mass Media. (a) It is strongly recommended that the International Federation set up a working party to collect and collate information about the availability of all types of audio-visual material concerned with Home Economics and make this information available to its member organisations, so that there can be proper exchange of information about this important educational aid. (b) It is further recommended that the existing glossary produced by the International Federation for Home Economics should be extended to cover large-scale catering equipment, including the metric system as soon as this is appropriate. (c) It is finally recommended that a universal system of symbols be devised which would be used as a means of communication in connection with such things as basic nutrients, foods in common use, domestic equipment, etc.



- 2) Social Services and Studies. (a) All groups were concerned about family life and realised the importance of maintaining comprehensive records. Could not the FIEM establish a link with international organisations, such as Associated Countrywomen of the World, and others, to undertake a joint project in this field. This would be a help towards mutual understanding of the national basis of family life and towards a better education which helps to strengthen responsible citizenship. (b) The Federation should seriously consider the need for stimulating a pioneer project in a developed and developing area, where the new science teaching methods are already in operation, with the object of assessing the association between this new concept of science and that necessary to the understanding of the science background of Home Economics. This should be a both primary and secondary level. The results of this project would be available for study.
  
- 3) Home Economists working with the International Agencies. There appears to be concern that the Home Economics services offered by international agencies is neither sufficient nor always understood by the agencies concerned. Might we ask that there should be a re-assessment of the role of Home Economics in the international agencies, such as FAO, WHO, UNESCO, and UNICEF to ensure that the bridging role of the Home Economists in all fields, social, nutritional and agricultural, is fully appreciated and understood so that Home Economics meets the needs of the countries who are requesting assistance

Bristol, United Kingdom, 1968

(IFHE History Book "100 Years of the International Federation for Home Economics" 2008, pp. 400 - 401)