# NATIONAL WOMEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL

## MEETING OF 1/2 MAY 1980

#### AGENDA

#### I. Administrative Matters

- . Confirmation of Previous Minutes.
- . Business arising from previous minutes.
- . Report on Finances.

#### II. Annual Report

- . Comments on proposed outline.
- Suggested priority areas from National Conference recommendations.

# III. 'Response'

. Consideration of draft.

# IV. Pre-Budget Advice to Government.

. Discussion.

# V. National Conference for Mothers of Disabled Children

- Report on administrative arrangements, program and participation.
- Media arrangements.

# VI. National Plan of Action

- . Rapporteurs reports and response from delegates.
- . Finalisation of report to Government.

## VII. Progress Reports

- . Migrant Women.
- . Domestic Violence.
- . Aboriginal Women Report.
- . Knox Survey
- . Mards and Jenet Donald.

#### Country Visits VIII.

Discussion of itineraries.

#### Other Business IX.

### NATIONAL WOMEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL

## NOTES OF MEETING 7/8 FEBRUARY 1980

PRESENT: Beryl Beaurepairs

Dee Boss-Walker

Sue Broad

Quentin Bryce

Connie Bush

Val Fisher

Lena Gustin

Wendy McCarthy

Joyce McConnell

Jan Marsh

Judy Roberts

Margaret Rosenthal

ALSO PRESENT: Kath Taperell

Sue Taylor

Lado Sybaczynskyj Carolyn Wiltshire

#### ITEM 1 - ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

The minutes of the meeting of 22-24 August 1979 were confirmed.

# ITEM 2 - NATIONAL CONFERENCE TO MARK THE MID-POINT OF THE U.N. DECADE FOR WOMEN

Discussion in this item centred on reports of state activities, administrative arrangements and publicity for the Conference, the Conference program, and selection of delegates-at-large and observers.

(v) The draft agenda was endorsed.

- (vi) The titles for group leaders at the Conference should be Conference Convenor, Session Convenors and Rapporteurs. The names of Convenors and Rapporteurs to be passed, when decided, to the Minister.
- (vii) There should be no press conference following the Conference, but Council members should make themselves available for interviews during the following week. The Press should be able to talk to selected delegates at the Conference.
- (viii) The criteria for selection of delegates-st-large should be based on the person's individual expertise, and not on the basis of organisational representation. The exception was an invitation to the President of the YWCA, which is hosting the N.G.O. Forum at the time of the Conference. A list of names of delegates-at-large was agreed to by Council members present.
- (ix) Observers should be chosen by each State/Territory Steering Committee on the same numerical basis as the number of delegates selected from each State.

# ITEM 3 - CONFERENCE ON THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF MOTHERS OF DISABLED CHILDREN

The format and participation of delegates to the Conference was discussed. It was agreed that:

- (i) the Conference should be held on 15/16 May and should be only for mothers who had given birth to disabled children.
- (ii) the results of the Conference should be widely publicised.
- (iii) child care should be provided if required.

- (iv) Places should be set aside to ensure that special groups were represented e.g. women from remote areas, migrant women, Aboriginal women, as well as the broadest possible range of disabilities.
- (v) The participation of press in the Conference should be restricted to preserve the privacy of the mothers present. Lynsday Connors should be asked to prepare a feature article on the Conference.

#### ITEM 4 - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

It was agreed that the Council should continue to press for legislative changes relating to domestic violence.

#### ITEM 5 - MIGRANT WOMEN

It was agreed that the Sub-Committee on migrant women should meet on 21 February to follow-up those recommendations of Migrant Women Speak which had been implemented, and to discuss further action required.

# ITEM 6 - A.C.T. SEX DISCRIMINATION ORDINANCE

Kath Taperell outlined for Council members the decision relating to the introduction of the A.C.T. Ordinance. It was agreed that the Council should write to the Minister applauding the decision but regretting that the Government had decided not to proceed with Commonwealth legislation at this stage.

#### ITEM 7 - CORRESPONDENCE

It was agreed that the Council should write to the Minister supporting the establishment of the Sports Institute, but adding that it hoped that women will be equally encouraged to participate in its activities.

Margaret Rosenthal would prepare a reply to the Schools Commission on its draft report on the education of girls.

The Secretariat would follow-up the letter from the President of the Council for the Single Mother and Her Child.

#### ITEM 8 - REVISED DRAFT PLAN OF ACTION

The revised draft Plan of Action, rewritten on the basis of the weight of opinion expressed at State/regional Conferences and from written submissions, was finalised by the Council for presentation to delegates to the National Conference.

### ITEM 9 - OTHER BUSINESS

The Council's submission to the Remuneration Tribunal for 1980/81 was discussed. It was agreed that the submission should again raise the cost of child care involved when Council members are on Council business. The point should be made that Council members are taxed on their sitting fees from which they must pay child care. If an allowance for child care is not agreed (an item which is not tax deductible) to by the Tribunal, Council would like to know the reason for the rejection. An increase in sitting fees comparable to that of similar advisory bodies was to be sought together with an increase in travelling allowance consistent with increases in the cost of living.

# ITEM 10 - DATES OF NEXT MEETING

1/2 May - Canberra 11/12/13 June - Canberra

The meeting closed at 4.40p.m. on Friday, 8 February.