



ACC Task Force Meets in Geneva

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Well over a dozen United Nations organizations, agencies and departments took part in a 13 JULY meeting in Geneva of the Administrative Committee on Coordination's Ad hoc Task Force for ICPD. The Task Force was formed in October 1991 to ensure interagency coordination and collaboration in the 1994 Conference. Participating along with senior members of the ICPD Secretariat were representatives from the United Nations Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development (DPCSD), UNDP, UNFPA, UNIFEM, UNEP, UNICEF, UNCHS (Habitat), ECA, ECE, ESCAP, IFAD, ILO, FAO, UNESCO and WHO.

Dr. Nafis Sadik, ICPD Secretary-General, chaired the meeting. Dr Sadik reviewed Conference preparations and praised participants of PrepCom 11 for its successful outcome. She noted that PrepCom 11 reached consensus on the proposal to adopt a new programme of action at the 1994 Conference, on the structure of the final Conference document and the issues it will address, and on the inclusion of quantitative and qualitative goals for the next 20 years.

Task Force members were invited to contribute, no later than 30 November 1993, specific paragraphs, recommendations or examples of successful activities to the proposed action programme for Cairo.

Conference Deputy Secretary-General Joseph Chamie, who is also Officer-in-Charge of the United Nations Population Division, informed the group about the ongoing review and appraisal of the 1974 World Population

Plan of Action, the report of which will be available at PrepCom 111 in April 1994 and at the Conference. He asked those organizations that had not yet contributed to the review and appraisal report to do so.

Most United Nations agencies participating in the Task Force are organizing special activities and initiatives linked to the 1994 Conference, and are disseminating information in their agencies about the Conference and the events leading up to it. Organizations are urged to keep the ICPD Secretariat informed of their on-going activities in relation to the 1994 Conference.

The next meeting of the Task Force will take place in 1994, during the Economic and Social Council's next substantive session

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

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1993

24 August I September 22nd IUSSP General Conference Montreal, Canada

26-27 August Round Table on Women s Perspectives on Family Planning,
Reproductive Health and Reproductive Rights.

Ottawa, Canada

6- 10 September Ministerial Meeting on Population and Sustainable

Development in the Pacific. Port Vila Vanuatu

11 - 15 September Regional Conference on Family Planning. Teheran Islamic
Republic of Iran

21 Septembermid December 48th session of the UN General Assembly. UN

Headquarters, New York. Consideration of agenda item "International

Conference on Population and Development"

28 September I October Round Table on Population Policies, Programmes and

HIV/AIDS Berlin, Germany

17- 19 November Round Table on Population and Development Strategies.

Bangkok, Thailand

24-26 November Third session of the Preparatory Committee for the

International Conference on Population and Development, 1994. UN

Headquarters, New York

2-3 December Round Table on Population, Environment and Sustainable

Development in the Post-UNCED Period. Geneva, Switzerland

1994

4-22 April Round Table on Population and Communications. Vienna, Austria
JULY ECOSOC substantive session. UN Headquarters, New York
3-4 September Pre-Conference Consultations. Cairo, Egypt
5~ 13 September International Conference on Population and Development,
1994. Cairo, Egypt

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Dr. Sadik Addresses Economic Council

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Achieving an equitable and sustainable future for present and future generations is the greatest challenge facing the international community and all people," ICPD Secretary-General Dr. Nafis Sadik told ECOSOC's Economic Committee on 14 July. The remarks were made during the Council's 1993 substantive session, under the agenda item on "Development and international economic cooperation—population questions". Dr. Sadik drew delegates' attention to three documents: the report on the status of ICPD preparatory activities; the report of the recent session of the UNDP/UNFPA Governing Council; and especially the report of PrepCom 11, including the Chairman's Summary.

During the debate, 21 Governments made statements on population and the 1994 Conference. Recurring themes were the need to treat population concerns in an integrated manner with economic development and the environment; the centrality of individual rights and needs; the rights of indigenous people; the increasing impact of ageing; the empowerment of women; migration; and NGO involvement and participation.

Dr. Sadik expressed hope that the spirit of collaboration, dialogue and enthusiasm from Governments, UN agencies and organizations and NGOs" would continue to prevail during the 12 months remaining before the Cairo Conference.

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ECOSOC Extends Prepcom III

ECOSOC Extends PrepCom III and Recommends New Status

PrepCom III, the third and final session of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994, has been extended by one week, and will run from 4-22 April 1994, following the adoption of a resolution by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) at its recently concluded 1993 session in Geneva. (The full text of the resolution appears on page 2.) PrepCom 111 will be held at United Nations headquarters in New York.

The Preparatory Committee's official status is also likely to change as a result of ECOSOC resolution 1993/76, adopted 30 July 1993. The Council resolution recommends that the ICPD Preparatory Committee be made a subsidiary body of the United Nations General Assembly, a change from its present status as a subsidiary of ECOSOC. The General Assembly will make a final decision on the ECOSOC proposal at its 48th session this fall. The anticipated change in status will not affect NGO accreditation to the Conference.

At the Geneva session, ECOSOC also adopted without change three draft decisions taken by PrepCom 11, held in New York 10-21 May 1993. The Council requested the Conference Secretary-General, in preparing the draft recommendations of the Conference, to be guided by the views expressed by delegates and participants at PrepCom 11, and to take into account the Chairman's summary of the debate on this topic. It also agreed that associate members of the regional commissions may take part, as observers, in the Conference and its preparatory process; as a result, fifteen

associate members of the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) will be able to participate. Finally, the Council adopted the report of PrepCom 11 and the provisional agenda for PrepCom 111.

Annotated Outline and Final Draft Requested

Included in the ECOSOC resolution is a request that the ICPD Secretary-General, Dr. Nafis Sadik, provide an annotated outline of the final Conference document for consideration at this year's General Assembly session. This will be annexed to the ICPD progress report and is expected to be available by early October. Present indications are that the General Assembly's Second Committee will take up the ICPD item by the second half of October. During the debate, delegations are expected to further elaborate their perspectives on the final document.

Recognizing that PrepCom 111 participants will need to prepare for that meeting well in advance, the ECOSOC resolution also requests the ICPD Secretary-General to have the first draft of the final Conference document ready by February 1994. The ICPD Secretariat is hard at work to ensure that this deadline is met.

Pre-Conference Consultations Approved

While the Cairo Conference will open officially on 5 September 1994, ECOSOC has approved two days of pre-conference consultations on 3 and 4 September 1994, to allow for the election of the Conference Bureau and to finalize the agenda and work procedures. Such consultations before formal sessions are now usual, and often provide useful opportunities to tie down some of the inevitable loose ends in the Conference document.

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ECOSOC Resolution 1993-76

Economic and Social Council Resolution 1993/76

Preparations for the International Conference
on Population and Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolutions 45/216 of 21 December 1990 and
47/176 of 22 December 1992 and Council resolutions 1989/91 of 26 July 1989,
1991/93 of 26 July 1991 and 1993/4 of 12 February 1993,

Reaffirming Council resolution 1992/37 of 30 July 1992, in which the Council
accepted the offer of the Government of Egypt to host the International
Conference on Population and Development and decided to convene the
Conference in Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994,

Reaffirming also General Assembly resolutions S-18/3 of 1 May 1990,
containing the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in
particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the
Developing Countries, 45/199 of 21 December 1990 on the International
Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade,
45/206 of 21 December 1990 on the implementation of the Programme of Action
for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, 45/217 of 21 December 1990
on the World Summit for Children, 46/151 of 18 December 1991 on the United
Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, the Rio
Declaration on Environment and Development and Agenda 21, adopted by the

United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992,

Recognizing the particular importance of population issues in the context of sustained economic growth and sustainable development processes and conscious of the need to give priority to the issues related to population and development,

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Aware of the political impetus given to the population issue on the international agenda since the decision of the United Nations to hold a meeting on population,

Taking note of the appointment of the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund as Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population and Development and of the Director of the Population Division of the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis of the Secretariat as the Deputy Secretary-General of the Conference,

Stressing the need for the intergovernmental preparatory process for the International Conference on Population and Development to be able to accomplish its work before the Conference itself,

1. Recommends that the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population and Development become a subsidiary body of the General Assembly, without prejudice to current arrangements for participation in the International Conference on Population and Development and its preparatory process, and in that context, decides that the report of

the Preparatory Committee on its second session will be submitted, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, to be considered under the item entitled "International Conference on Population and Development", stipulated in General Assembly resolution 47/176;

2. Requests the Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population and Development to prepare by February 1994, for the information of delegations, the first draft of the final substantive document of the Conference, taking into account the views expressed by participants during the second session of the Preparatory Committee and the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly;

3. Decides to extend the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference by one week, starting on 4 April 1994, and to ensure that adequate facilities are available for it, all within the approved budget limit set by the General Assembly for the biennium 1994-1995;

4. Decides also to convene two-day pre-Conference consultations at the venue of the Conference;

5. Expresses its appreciation for the extra budgetary contributions which have been made to the trust funds established to assist developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, in preparing for and participating fully and effectively in the Conference and its preparatory process, and invites all Member States and organizations in a position to do so to support these trust funds further;

6. Reaffirms the significance of the media, and requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to promote the objectives and activities of the Conference;

7. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in collaboration with the Secretary-General of the Conference, to include in the report referred to in paragraph 20 of General Assembly resolution 47/176, an annotated outline of the final document of the Conference, as well as information on the implementation of the present resolution.

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Jane Fonda to Speak

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Actress/activist Jane Fonda is scheduled to speak on population and development issues at United Nations headquarters on 20 September. The lecture is sponsored by UNFPA and the Eminent Citizens Committee for Cairo '94, a group organized by Theodore W Kheel, founder and publisher of the Earth Times.

Jane Fonda has long been a citizen activist She has spoken widely on the environment, the role of women in society, and human rights issues. Ms.

Fonda is a Goodwill Ambassador of UNFPA.

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Meeting to Highlight Pacific Islands' Perspectives

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Ministers and senior officials from Pacific Island countries and territories will meet in Port Vila, Vanuatu, from 6-10 September to prepare a South Pacific perspective on the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), 1994. The Ministerial Meeting on Population and Sustainable Development in the Pacific will draw ministers and high-level officials from 13 Pacific Island countries.

At the August 1992 Asian and Pacific Population Conference in Bali, Indonesia, Pacific Island countries emphasized the need for a follow-up meeting which would highlight the distinct perspective of their sub region in the preparations for the Cairo Conference.

The islands of the Pacific are sparsely populated by global standards: Papua New Guinea is the largest, with a population of almost 4 million; Fiji is a distant second with one million; and several Pacific Island countries count their total populations in the tens not hundreds of thousands.

Nevertheless, most of the countries and territories are experiencing either very high population growth rates or major migration within and outside the region. Severe pressure on agricultural land and water resources, as well as the growing demand for health care, education and jobs, places most Pacific Island nations in a situation similar to that of larger Asian, African and Latin American countries in regard to population, the environment and

development.

With population growth rates among the highest of any countries, several Pacific Island countries will double their populations in the next 20 years. Most have very young populations, with under- 15 year olds totaling between 30 and 45 per cent; in one country more than 50 per cent of the population is under 15.

Pacific countries will be working closely with their regional organizations, the South Pacific Forum and the South Pacific Commission, to prepare a common position for the 1994 Conference.

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National Committees Growing in Number

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More than 100 Governments have established national committees and working groups or have designated existing interdepartmental units to coordinate national-level activities for the 1994 Conference.

The committees serve two purposes: (1) to increase public awareness of the 1994 Conference by organizing population and development activities; and (2) to coordinate the preparation of the country s National Report on Population ..

The National Reports on Population will serve as important signposts for future population strategies. The ICPD Secretariat will undertake a comprehensive analysis of the reports, which are due to the ICPD Secretariat by 30 September 1993.

Limited funding is available to assist Governments in preparing the national reports and in organizing other ICPD related activities Seventy countriesÑ 29 in Africa, 20 in Latin America and the Caribbean, 18 in Asia and the Pacific and 3 in other regionsÑhave received a total of \$587 030 in assistance to date



News from the NGOs

News from the NGOs

The NGO Steering Committee for ICPD recently completed a very busy and productive trip to Cairo, to make plans for the NGO Forum which will run concurrently with the 1994 Conference.

The NGO Forum will be held in the Indoor Sports Stadium, a ten-minute walk from the Conference site, the Cairo International Conference Centre. Ample space will be available for meetings, exhibitions, and information and handicraft booths. The stadium has several halls which can accommodate upwards to 20,000 people; all halls are centrally air-conditioned and equipped with booths for simultaneous interpretation.

The NGO Steering Committee, which is tasked with guiding the NGO Planning Committee, is working closely with its Egyptian counterpart. Regional meetings of NGOs are planned, and preparations are under way to welcome thousands of NGO representatives to Cairo.

Accommodations are being arranged by EMECO Travel, which has been designated by the Egyptian Government to handle local travel arrangements. The NGO Planning Committee will soon issue a report on the Cairo mission and provide more information on transport, accommodation, visas and other issues.

The NGO Planning Committee headquarters are at:

777 United Nations Plaza, 8th floor

New York, New York 10017, USA

Tel . (212) 986-0849

Fax (2] 21 986-0821.

The ICPD Secretariat is still accepting applications for NGO accreditation to the Conference. NGOs that have not yet applied for accreditation should submit their applications by 14 January 1994 to the NGO Accreditation Section of the ICPD Secretariat:

220 E 42nd Street, 22nd floor New York, New York 10017

USA

Tel. (212) 297-5249/5260 Fax (212) 297-5250

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Round Table Addresses Issues

Round Tables Address Critical Issues

In the aftermath of the six expert group meetings and five regional conferences, a number of Governments have raised the need for further dialogue on the most critical issues to be discussed at the 1994 Conference. In response to this request, ICPD Secretary-General Dr. Nafis Sadik has organized a number of round table meetings:

Women's Perspectives on Reproductive Issues

NFPA is organizing a Round Table on Women's Perspectives on Family Planning, Reproductive Health and Reproductive Rights in Ottawa, Canada, 26-27 August 1993. The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is funding the meeting, and the Canadian Federation of University Women is providing on site administrative support.

Reproductive freedom is a basic human right. The right of all individuals and couples to decide freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children was amplified in the Teheran Proclamation on Human Rights (1968), the World Population Plan of Action (1974), the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (1979) and the recommendations adopted at the International Conference on Population (1984).

As part of the preparations for ICPD, this meeting will expand the dialogue initiated at such forums as the WHO/IWHC meeting on Women's Perspectives on the Selection and Introduction of Fertility Regulation Technologies (1991),

the Expert Group Meeting on Population and Women (June 1992) and the Expert Group Meeting on Family Planning, Health and Family Well-being (October 1992).

It will bring together experts in contraceptive technology and delivery of health services, women's health advocates, policy makers, those involved in technical cooperation activities, representatives of United Nations agencies and organizations, and the NGO community. Participants will come from developing and developed countries.

Improving women's status is essential to the achievement of other development objectives. If women are to realize their full potential in the multiplicity of roles they have in every society, it is essential that they have equality of opportunity. With equal opportunity, women will be able to make choices regarding the critical aspects of their lives—decisions regarding marriage, childbearing, employment, and household and environmental management—and will be able to participate as full partners in the development process. Investments in women's education and health are a prerequisite for a country's development. Progress in these areas enhances the return from investments in other sectors.

Background papers have been prepared on "Women, Human Rights and Reproductive Rights"; "Contraceptive Research, Development and Introduction"; "Family Planning Service Delivery"; and "Men and Family Planning Roles, Responsibilities, Concerns".

Population and HIV/AIDS

The rise in the numbers of people afflicted with HIV/AIDS presents strong challenges to population and family planning programmes in all parts of the

world. At least 13 million persons are now infected and the numbers are growing. To address the devastating impact of the disease on the lives of these people and those around them, UNFPA and the German Foundation for International Development will organize a Round Table on Population Policies, Programmes and HIV/AIDS. The meeting will bring together policy makers and maternal and child health/family planning (MCH/FH) programme managers to take stock of the present situation and plan for the future.

The purpose of the meeting is twofold. It will examine the short- and medium-term demographic impact of the AIDS epidemic, and the implications of AIDS on population and development policies and on MCH/FP programmes. The report will concentrate on findings, policy statements and conclusions which will be used as inputs for ICPD.

Forty participants will attend the four-day meeting, which will be held in Berlin, 28 September-1 October 1993. Participants are technical experts and representatives from developing countries and selected developed countries, non-governmental organizations and United Nations organizations.

Reproductive health programmes have two roles to play in the epidemic: the first is to provide services, counseling and support to those infected and to those closest to the infected persons. The second, and larger, task is to prevent the spread of the infection through knowledge and healthy sexual practices which give women and men the ability to protect themselves against possible infection and slow the spread of the disease.

The needs for maternal and child health and family planning services are intensified by the epidemic. Providers of reproductive health services are uniquely qualified to respond to community needs through their experience in counseling and in providing sensitive information and services.

The report of the meeting will be a principal source of information about population and HIV/AIDS and will be used as an input for the 1994 Conference document.

Rethinking Population and Development

In recent years important changes have taken place in the conceptualization of development, as well as in the role of policy in development. The collapse of the centrally planned economies, the opening of many national economies to the international market and the application of structural adjustment programmes have thrown traditional development planning into a major crisis. At the same time, new approaches are emerging in policy making and development planning which emphasize the political dimensions of development

UNFPA, in cooperation with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), will, convene a Round Table on Population and Development Strategies in Bangkok, Thailand, from 17-19 November 1993, to discuss new approaches to population and development planning. The round table's findings and recommendations will be important in planning future assistance in this field and will also be used in preparing for the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994.

The main objectives of the round table are to examine the extraordinary political and institutional changes which are taking place in policy making and development planning, and to recommend how best to integrate population concerns into emerging development strategies.

Discussion papers will focus on a number of topics (1) current trends in policy making and development planning; (2) global overview of trends in population policies; and (3) assessment of operational and institutional

aspects of activities in the area of population and development planning.

Three regional case studies on region-specific approaches used to integrate population into development planning will also be presented.

Participants will include experts from the industrialized and developing countries and officials from both bilateral and multilateral development agencies.

Beyond Agenda 21

The Round Table on Population, Environment and Sustainable Development in the Post-UNCED Period will be held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 24-26 November 1993. It will be organized by the International Academy of the Environment (IAE) in Geneva, in close collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Swiss Government.

Agenda 21, the action programme of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), offers a comprehensive diagnosis of the problems facing the world in the fields of environment and sustainable development. It is the most inclusive and ambitious programme of action and cooperation ever to be endorsed by the international community.

Some of the policy prescriptions of Agenda 21, however, are couched in terms which may require further clarification. This is true, in particular, of a number of the aims and intentions listed in Chapter 5 on "Demographic Dynamics and Sustainability", which stresses the need for relevant policy research into the relationships among demographic factors, environmental degradation and sustainable development.

The round table will examine these complex relationships, focusing on

specific areas of the world where population pressures and poverty appear to be important factors contributing to serious environmental degradation. The following areas and issues have been selected for attention (I)

Deforestation in Central America; (2) Desertification in Africa; (3) Coastal and Marine Degradation in the Bay of Bengal; (4) Forested Upland Areas of Nepal, the Philippines, Thailand and Indonesia; and (5) Problems of Small Island States in the South Pacific

A background paper, which will serve as the point of departure for the discussion, will) review the current state of knowledge of the relationships among population, poverty, environment and sustainable development in these five areas

Participants will endeavour to determine (I) whether existing knowledge of the relationships among population, poverty, environment and sustainable development in the selected areas is sufficient for policy formulation and subsequent implementation; (2) additional research needs, 13) what other obstacles exist to the formulation and implementation of policies in the countries concerned; and 14) which problems, if any, should receive priority in terms of policy implementation.

Thirty policy makers and experts on population and environment issues from both developed and developing countries will participate in the round table. Their conclusions will be made available to ICPD and its preparatory process



We've Moved

We've Moved

The ICPD Secretariat has moved upstairs to a larger office on the 22nd floor of New York's Daily News Building, which also houses UNFPA. Our mailing address and telephone numbers have not changed. Please note our new fax number- (212) 297-5250.

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