



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

"ICPD 94"

November-December 1993

Number 10

Newsletter of the International Conference on Population and
Development, Cairo, Egypt, 5-13 September 1994

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

1993

1-3 December

Lima, Peru

Andean Meeting on Population and Development. Organized by UNFPA,
the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, and
the Government of Peru.

2-3 December

Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

Caribbean Meeting of Experts for a Plan of Action on Population and
Development in Preparation for ICPD 1994. Organized by UNFPA and
the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.

2-3 December

Vienna, Austria

Round Table on Population and Communication. Hosted by the Vienna Institute for Development and Cooperation.

1994

26-27 January

Tokyo, Japan

Meeting of Eminent Persons in Population and Development. Organized by the Government of Japan and UNFPA, in cooperation with the United Nations University.

14-16 February

Washington, D.C.

Round Table on Population and Food in the Early 21st Century: Meeting Future Food Needs of an Increasing World Population. Sponsored by the International Food Policy Research Institute, with support from the Rockefeller Foundation.

4-22 April

United Nations Headquarters,

New York

Third session of the Preparatory Committee for the International
Conference on Population and Development, 1994.

July

United Nations Headquarters,

New York

Substantive session of the United Nations Economic and Social
Council.

3-4 September

Cairo, Egypt

Pre-Conference consultations.

5-13 September

Cairo, Egypt

International Conference on Population and Development, 1994.

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Dr. Sadik reports on ICPD preparatory process

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DR. SADIK REPORTS ON ICPD PREPARATORY PROCESS

Following are abridged excerpts from ICPD Secretary-General Dr.
Nafis Sadik's statement to the Second Committee of the United
Nations General Assembly, 4 November 1993:

The Annotated Outline document before you offers a first look
at the totality of the challenge before us. Now we need your
assessment to prepare the first draft of the final substantive
document of the Conference, a task we have been given by the ICPD
Preparatory Committee and ECOSOC.

We should not succumb to the temptation of trying to "reinvent
the wheel". Nor should we be seeking to open up and renegotiate
agreements and understandings reached at recent international
conferences.

We must keep firmly in our minds the centrality of population

issues as we prepare for Cairo. I would encourage you, as you address each chapter and sub-chapter, to keep asking how each issue and challenge ties into population and vice versa.

As you will see, we have gone well past the PrepCom II debate on chapter titles. In doing so I hope we will have allayed some of the concerns expressed about the intentions which may have existed behind some of the chapter headings.

At PrepCom II, I set out my preliminary views on the incorporation of a series of 20-year goals into the Cairo Conference's outcome. These relate to reduction of mortality levels for infants, children and mothers; universal access to family planning information and services, with emphasis on meeting all unmet demand; and universal access to and completion of primary-level education by all school-age children and, for countries that achieve primary education goals sooner, extension to secondary-school levels. It is my intention to have specific time-framed proposals ready for incorporation in the draft of the final document.

While it is not necessary to cost out every area and activity covered by the Conference, in some areas, such as those most directly focused on family planning and population data, it will not only be possible to spell out the expected costs, it will be most important to do so.

Are our present institutional arrangements, with a certain amount of fine tuning, equal to the new tasks that will inevitably flow from the Cairo Conference? I am reminded of the adage, "If it

isn't broken, don't fix it." Or is some basic reordering necessary?

NATIONAL ACTIVITIES ASSISTED

As countries get ready to participate in the Cairo Conference, we are already receiving encouraging reports of substantial interaction within the governmental sector, with the involvement of economic, social and planning agencies and in many cases of NGOs, academics, parliamentarians and others.

With a range of extrabudgetary contributions, we have been able to assist developing countries to undertake ICPD-related national-level activities. While preparation of national population reports has been the primary focus of such funding, in many instances it is also being used for wider awareness-creation activities. To date 92 countries have been assisted in this way, at a total outlay of over \$760,000.

As of today, 50 national population reports have been received by the ICPD Secretariat and at least an equal number are on their way. Work is under way to analyse these reports so that an overview of national experiences can be available for PrepCom III and the Conference itself. We encourage you to make your full national reports as widely available as possible in your countries, at PrepCom III and at the Conference in Cairo.

This Committee has before it, within the report of the Economic and Social Council, resolution 1993/76 (extending the third session of the Preparatory Committee by one week, and convening two days of pre- Conference consultations in Cairo). We hope it will be fully endorsed by the General Assembly.

We intend to circulate a final unedited version of the draft final Conference document in early January. Thereafter the Conference Secretariat will be available for discussions with delegates and other interested groups.

I would also see benefit in holding several informal one-day briefing meetings during this three-month period. These should in no way be seen as negotiating occasions. Rather, they would be opportunities for the Secretariat to provide background on sections of the text and for delegates to exchange preliminary views, for example, on the proposed goals and other aspects of the Conference's mandate.

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Four Internationals address migration issue

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FOUR INTERNATIONALS ADDRESS MIGRATION ISSUE

More resources are needed for family planning and education in developing nations, declared the Second Round Table of the Four Internationals on Population, held in Vienna, Austria, 9-10 November. Parliamentarians from over 200 political parties world-wide took part. Dr. Nafis Sadik, Secretary-General of ICPD and Executive Director of UNFPA, was a featured speaker.

Hosted by the Government of Austria and UNFPA, the round table brought together parliamentarians from parties belonging to the Christian Democratic, Conservative, Liberal and Socialist internationals. Participants discussed strategies for addressing such issues as migration and the impact of population growth on the environment. Austria also hosted the first such gathering in 1986.

The Vienna Manifesto issued at the end of the conference asserted that supporting developing countries' efforts to develop

would "narrow the [socioeconomic] differences" between North and South that constitute a major cause of international migration.

In her remarks, Dr. Sadik said that the occurrence of 95 per cent of the world's population growth in the developing countries is an important factor in international migration.

"Among the most effective means to reduce migration pressure over the long term are to slow population growth, to stimulate economic growth and job creation at home, and to promote the development of the individual and the family....

"Four areas require our immediate attention if we are to bring about an integrated, people-centred, environmentally sound and sustainable development," she concluded. "First, we must change development priorities towards the social sectors, in particular to efforts to encourage slower population growth and to improve women's reproductive health. Second, we must mount an all-out attack on poverty. Third, we must shift to cleaner technologies, energy efficiency and resource conservation. Fourth, we must improve the status of girls and women."

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ICPD now on Computer Networks

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ICPD NOW ON COMPUTER NETWORKS

This newsletter and other information about the International
Conference on Population and Development are now available on
several electronic communications networks.

A population information "gopher" on the Internet computer
network has been organized by the Population Information Network
(POPIN) of the United Nations Population Division, Department for
Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis (DESIPA), in
collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
and with financial support from UNFPA. This is located within the
UNDP gopher (server address: gopher.undp.org); access is free to
Internet users world-wide.

The POPIN gopher will soon include Conference documents;
newsletters and press releases of the ICPD Secretariat; and other
electronic journals, software, press releases and directories

contributed by international organizations, Governments and NGOs. Resources cover topics in population and development, including family planning. POPIN welcomes additional relevant postings. For information, contact: POPIN, Population Division, DESIPA, 2 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017 (e-mail: popin@undp.org).

Within the Association of Progressive Networks system -- EcoNet (U.S.), Web (Canada), GreenNet (U.K.), Pegasus (Australia) and Alternex (Brazil) -- an electronic conference called "icpd.general" contains ICPD documents and a variety of information posted by NGOs, and provides a forum for Conference-related dialogue. For information, contact: Institute for Global Communications, 18 De Boom St., San Francisco, CA 94107 (e-mail queries: igcoffice@igc.apc.org).

TogetherNet (The Together Foundation for Global Unity, 130 South Willard St., Burlington, VT 05401) also maintains an electronic conference on ICPD which is accessible to TogetherNet users and through an Internet gopher (e-mail queries: martha_vargas@together.org).

E-mail queries regarding the ICPD 94 newsletter may be sent to the ICPD Secretariat (ryanw@unfpa.org or billryan@igc.apc.org).

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News in brief

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NEWS IN BRIEF

The International Food Policy Research Institute, with support from the Rockefeller Foundation, is sponsoring a round table on "Population and Food in the Early 21st Century: Meeting Future Food Needs of an Increasing World Population". This meeting, organized in close collaboration with UNFPA, will be in Washington, D.C., from 14-16 February 1994. ICPD Secretary-General Dr. Nafis Sadik will address the meeting on 14 February.

The round table will take stock of current projections of food and population trends for the next two decades, and will examine factors affecting food supply such as availability of land and water, technological breakthroughs and global warming. Organizers of the round table propose to bring its conclusions to the attention of ICPD PrepCom III.

Egypt's Minister for Population and Family Welfare, Dr. Maher Mahran, held a press conference at UN headquarters on 4 November to answer questions relating to ICPD. The United Nations chose Egypt as the Conference venue, he suggested, because it is a developing, African and Islamic country that has achieved considerable success in its population efforts.

With regard to the relationship of population and development, he spoke of the evolution of international thinking since the Bucharest and Mexico City conferences in 1974 and 1984. "Now we realize it is all one problem," he said.

Non-governmental organizations will be welcome in Cairo, Dr. Mahran stated. He noted that the covered stadium that will house the NGO forum holds 22,200 people and is within walking distance of the Conference site. Inexpensive accommodation will be made available to NGO participants.

"Population Growth and Economic Development", the report of a September 1992 Consultative Meeting of Economists held at UNFPA headquarters, was recently published by the United Nations Population Fund. The book summarizes a series of discussions on the population-development connection, including a review of the "demographic rationale" for interventions via population programmes.

Two background papers prepared for the meeting are also

included: a review of economic research into population-development linkages which assesses the importance of population growth in specific economic contexts as well as the adequacy of the knowledge base upon which such judgements are founded; and an examination of developing countries' changing policies in relation to the effects of population growth on development.

"Strong family planning programmes have a significant effect at any stage of a country's development," concluded the Fourth Conference of the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development.

Meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 26-28 October, the parliamentarians from 24 Asian countries declared that family planning must have the full support and commitment of each Government and be part of a national strategy.

The conference adopted a Kuala Lumpur Declaration that called for action to achieve a sustainable balance between the number of people in Asia and the resources they consume; more efforts to encourage slower population growth and improve women's reproductive health; a direct and all-out attack on poverty; balanced rural and urban development; and a decisive improvement in the status of women with particular attention to education.

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Non-Aligned Movement defines position on population

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NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT DEFINES POSITION ON POPULATION

In preparation for the 1994 Cairo Conference, members of the 108-member Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) have set out their collective perspective on population issues. Meeting in Bali, Indonesia, for the Ministerial Meeting on Population of the Non-Aligned Movement, ministers and senior representatives of over 50 developing countries agreed on three key contributions to the ICPD process.

From 9-13 November, first senior officials and then ministers discussed and negotiated:

- * the Denpasar Declaration on Population;
- * a statement of issues and recommendations for ICPD; and
- * a statement of NAM support for South-South collaboration in population and family planning.

Together, these expressions of members' perspectives are

expected to be used by NAM countries during the remainder of the ICPD preparatory process. Indonesia, in its capacity as chair of NAM, proposes to submit these documents to the ICPD Secretary-General to ensure that NAM perspectives on population are fully considered during the preparation of the draft final conference document.

Indonesia's President Soeharto officially opened the NAM Population Meeting on 11 November. He is well known for promoting population policies and programmes as a central theme in his country's development strategies, and he reiterated this strong commitment in his remarks. Dr. Nafis Sadik, ICPD Secretary-General and Executive Director of UNFPA, also addressed the opening session.

Following the format of the ICPD final document annotated outline, the NAM issues and recommendations document addresses each of the 17 chapters in the annotated outline.

Strong emphasis on cooperation among developing countries was an important theme of the Bali meeting. Indonesia is one of a relatively small group of developing countries that are actively promoting South-South cooperation on population and family planning issues. Many speakers stressed the relevance of such cooperation, while emphasizing the difficulty often experienced in meeting related travel costs.

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Population-Planning Link requires fresh approach

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POPULATION-PLANNING LINK REQUIRES A FRESH APPROACH, ROUND TABLE
PARTICIPANTS AGREE

Seeking to better define the phrase "integration of population into development", the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) jointly convened a round-table meeting in Bangkok, Thailand, from 17-19 November. The round table was one of several organized prior to ICPD to enrich the dialogue on critical issues to be discussed in Cairo.

The Round Table on Population and Development Strategies was opened by Mr. Rafeeuddin Ahmed, Executive Secretary of ESCAP, and Mr. Jyoti Shankar Singh, ICPD Executive Coordinator and Director of UNFPA's Technical and Evaluation Division. In his remarks, Mr. Singh argued that the changed context of development planning in the past decade urgently demands a fresh approach.

As several contributions to the round table pointed out, many of the ways in which population was linked to planning in the past presupposed an approach to planning that has been superseded by some very different thinking about how to best achieve development.

Over 40 experts with broad experience in developing countries and officials from bilateral and multilateral international assistance agencies vigorously debated the consequences for population policy formulation of the new planning "paradigm", the topic of the round table's first session. Other sessions focused on the implications of structural adjustment policies for human resources, policy research challenges, divergent experiences from countries and regions, and future directions for population and sustainable development.

The operational and institutional means of integrating population into development also came under scrutiny, as participants suggested several innovative ways to better achieve this.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The round table adopted a set of recommendations directed at Governments, international organizations and NGOs. Governments were urged to recognize the growing need for strategic thinking about population and development, particularly in the context of the increasing emphasis on private, market-based initiatives for productive growth. There was agreement that policies and programmes need to be more participatory, involve local communities and ensure the empowerment of women; and that planning and policy making

should be decentralized as much as possible. Policy-relevant topics requiring analysis were enumerated.

Highlighting the success of several countries -- notably the Republic of Korea and Thailand -- in applying population policy and planning, the round table recommended that other countries in early stages of the demographic transition avail themselves of this experience, and encouraged greater technical cooperation between developing countries.

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Round Table assesses impact of HIV/AIDS ON Population

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ROUND TABLE ASSESSES IMPACT OF HIV/AIDS ON POPULATION AND
DEVELOPMENT

The demographic impact of acquired immune deficiency syndrome, its impact on social and health development, and its implications for family planning programmes were appraised at a Round Table on Population Policies and Programmes: The Impact of HIV/AIDS, held in Berlin from 28 September to 1 October. The meeting, part of the ICPD preparatory process, was organized by the Development Policy Forum of the German Foundation for International Development in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

AIDS will not have a significant impact on population growth, at global, regional or national levels, participants concluded. In some African cities, however, rates of natural population increase may be markedly reduced (although this may be offset by migration).

The consensus was that a more urgent issue is the negative

impact on social and economic development caused by growing rates of premature death among the most productive segments of the population -- young and middle-aged adults. In addition, within some countries' health systems, resources needed for disease prevention are being diverted to treat diseases that accompany AIDS.

Another principal conclusion was that family planning programmes have a major role to play in HIV/AIDS prevention, particularly in helping women and young people to better protect themselves from infection. Substantial additional resources are needed for both family planning and AIDS prevention.

Forty participants -- representing developing country programmes, international agencies, major donors to population programmes, and non-governmental organizations -- and five observers took part. Dr. M. Bohnet, Director-General of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, and Mr. Jyoti Shankar Singh, Executive Coordinator of ICPD, gave opening addresses.

In a keynote address, Dr. Nafis Sadik, UNFPA Executive Director and Secretary-General of ICPD, emphasized that the impact of the AIDS epidemic falls disproportionately on women. She pointed out that population programmes are intended to improve the quality of life for individual women and men, and that HIV/AIDS is doing precisely the opposite. It is therefore essential to help women and young people to protect themselves from HIV/AIDS, she noted; family planning can make a major contribution to this effort.

Dr. Michael Merson, Executive Director of the WHO Global Programme on AIDS, also addressed the meeting.

The round table issued a set of 15 recommendations related to family planning and HIV/AIDS prevention. A full report on the meeting will be issued by the sponsor in a special publication. The report will concentrate on findings, policy statements and conclusions to be used as inputs in the preparation of the main conference document for ICPD.

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Science Academies urge 'Incisive Action' on population

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SCIENCE ACADEMIES URGE 'INCISIVE ACTION' ON POPULATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

"Zero population growth within the lifetime of our children" should be the goal of national and international policies and actions if irreversible environmental degradation and continued poverty for much of the world are to be prevented. That was the conclusion of 58 national academies of science from developed and developing countries, participants in an unprecedented summit on population held in New Delhi from 24-27 October to provide scientific input into preparations for ICPD.

In a joint statement, the academies called upon "Governments and international decision-makers, especially those at the 1994 UN International Conference on Population and Development, to take incisive action now and adopt an integrated policy on population and sustainable development on a global scale."

"Humanity is approaching a crisis point with respect to the interlocking issues of population, environment and development," the statement declares. It cites world-wide population growth scenarios and the recent decline in food production relative to population growth, and describes threats to the global ecosystem linked to population size and resource use -- including greenhouse gas emissions, ozone depletion, acid rain, loss of biodiversity, deforestation and loss of topsoil, and shortages of water food and fuel.

As major recommendations, the statement declares, "We need:

- * equal opportunities for women and men in sexual, social and economic life so they can make individual choices about family size;

- * universal access to convenient family planning and health services, and a wide variety of safe and affordable contraceptive options;

- * encouragement of voluntary approaches to family planning, and elimination of unsafe and coercive practices...."

Other priorities listed are to meet basic needs, such as clean water, sanitation, primary health care and education, and to develop governmental policies that recognize longer-term environmental responsibilities.

Natural and social scientists, engineers and health professionals are called upon to help develop better understanding of the problems and alternative options and solutions.

The African Academy of Sciences, one of the summit's organizers, declined to endorse the joint statement. While agreeing to many of the recommendations, the Academy's representatives said the goal of zero population growth is not appropriate for all African countries. However, national academies from Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria and Uganda were among the 26 developing country academies that did endorse the statement.

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UN Delegations comment on document outline

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UN DELEGATIONS COMMENT ON DOCUMENT OUTLINE, CONFERENCE PRIORITIES

Statements by more than 40 delegates at a United Nations
debate on the International Conference on Population and
Development have provided the ICPD Secretariat with important
guidance for preparing a full version of the draft final Conference
document.

The delegates' comments on the annotated outline of the
document came during three sessions of the General Assembly's
Second Committee (Economic and Financial) on 4 and 5 November.
Meanwhile, more than 40 non-governmental organizations have sent in
their observations so far.

ICPD Secretary-General Dr. Nafis Sadik, in her opening
remarks, said, "We need your assessment to fulfil a ... task we
have been given by the Preparatory Committee and ECOSOC -- to
prepare by February 1994 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 48th session of the General Assembly.

"To meet that deadline, we must finalize our work on the draft by 1 January"

The conference must stress the interrelationships between population and sustainable development, she reminded the committee.

POPULATION MUST BE CENTRAL

But she added: "We must keep firmly in our minds the centrality of population issues as we prepare for Cairo. I would encourage you, as you address each chapter and sub-chapter, to keep asking how each issue and challenge ties into population and vice versa."

Many delegates, some of whom spoke on behalf of regional groups, stressed that the 1994 document should highlight methods of implementing policies, taking into account different regional characteristics. Nepal said the link between population and development had already been identified at the 1974 Bucharest Conference but had not been adequately treated.

The Group of 77 called on the international community to support the efforts of the developing countries to incorporate population issues into their development policies. Colombia, speaking for the group, said this support should be based on a full understanding of the changing economics, politics and cultures of

the developing world.

The document should recommend ways to improve knowledge of the relationships among population, environment and development, the European Community said. It also should ensure that the choice of the number of children remains a basic human right for the couple and the individual.

Chile, speaking for several countries in Central and South America, pointed out the need to reaffirm political support for population policies and to address the questions raised by international migration.

Tunisia, representing the Maghreb countries -- Algeria, Libya, Mauritania and Morocco and itself -- suggested strengthening the outline's references to technology transfer. It also recommended protecting the rights of those who migrate from their countries, as well as the rights of victims of "barbaric practices", such as the people of Bosnia.

The annotated outline said the preamble would include "linkages between population, resource use, consumption, environmental impact and repercussions on the quality of life for present and future generations." China recommended making these relationships more explicit by referring to "alleviating" population pressure, "eliminating" poverty, "developing" the economy and "protecting" the environment. The right to social and economic development should also be included, it said.

UN members of the South Pacific Forum had drawn up positions in regional meetings that were summed up in the Communiqu_ of the

South Pacific Forum and the Port Vila Declaration on Population and Sustainable Development, New Zealand said. The Port Vila Declaration said population issues cannot be separated from the issue of improving the social, economic, political and legal status of women.

UN members of the Forum are Australia, Micronesia, Fiji, Marshall Islands, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu.

The 12 members of the Caribbean Community _ Barbados, Bahamas, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago _ also said empowering women was essential in achieving population objectives, sustained economic growth and sustainable development.

The Nordic countries said the empowerment of women must be championed in its own right. Sweden said the Nordic countries also wanted to see more strength and clarity in the document's chapters on adolescents.

The Nordic countries -- Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden -- also recommended that where national population goals were adopted they should be linked to the availability of educational, child care, reproductive health and other social services.

The United States said the document should state clearly that stabilizing the world's population underlies and mutually reinforces all other goals, and that women's control over

child-bearing is fundamental to achieving full gender equality. The section on family planning should be expanded to encompass currently available methods of contraception, AIDS prevention, the needs of adolescents, safe abortion and other pregnancy-related services.

ICPD host country Egypt recommended elaborating the impact of consumption patterns on population, sustained economic growth and sustainable development. Giving an example of what might be taken into account, Egypt said the overall consumption of a hypothetical developed country of 28 million people would be "a little more than or the same as over 650 million people on the entire continent of Africa."

Other linkages, such as those between poverty reduction and structural adjustment programmes, should also be examined, Egypt said.

Russia, Poland and Ukraine each said that countries in transition had special problems that ICPD should address. Russia cited not only overall depopulation because of low birth rates but also a significant "brain drain."

UNESCO announced that in collaboration with UNFPA and UNICEF, it was convening a meeting of nine very populous developing countries to discuss providing universal primary education, combating high population growth and formulating strategies for development. The countries are Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria and Pakistan.

Official discussions were suspended to hear from the head of the NGO Planning Committee for the ICPD, former Barbadian Health Minister Billie Miller. She said the committee had distributed copies of the draft outline to 1,500 organizations world-wide.

The committee is coordinating the NGO Forum in Cairo, which Ms. Miller said could attract as many as 10,000 participants.

After summing up the discussion, Dr. Sadik welcomed suggestions that the March 1995 Social Summit and the September 1995 Women's Conference take the recommendations of the ICPD document into account.

SUMMARY OF MAIN POINTS

In her concluding remarks to the Second Committee, Dr. Sadik summed up the main points made in the two-day debate:

The final document should:

- * stress the interrelationships between population, sustained economic growth and sustainable development, but centre on population;

- * emphasize that the interests and rights of individuals must be central in all population and development efforts; that women's needs and freedom of choice must be extended in all population programmes; and that the empowerment of women in society

must be championed in its own right;

- * give more attention to youth and adolescents;

- * stress the mutual responsibilities of developed and developing countries in population and environment, and give more attention to issue of consumption patterns and lifestyles;

- * spell out the role of NGOs;

- * reflect the perspective and needs of countries

in-transition; and

- * pay further attention to the issue of indigenous peoples.

In addition, Dr. Sadik stated, parts II and III should be more in line with each other. Recommendations should be clear, concise, practical and action-oriented. Various proposals for costing the recommended activities will be considered.

The proposed goals are not demographic targets or quotas, she said. Rather, they focus on the needs of individuals and society's responsibility to protect them. Experts believe that attaining these goals will result in a decline in population growth rates.

Dr. Sadik said that informal consultations before PrepCom III "will not be for the purpose of negotiating the final draft. That is the job of PrepCom III."

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