



Calendar of Upcoming Events

"ICPD 94", No. 15

May 1994

Newsletter of the International Conference on Population and
Development

Cairo, Egypt, 5-13 September 1994

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

7-14 June 1994

Jakarta, Indonesia

Asia and Pacific Regional Preparatory Conference for the Fourth
World Conference on Women.

27 June-29 July

United Nations Headquarters, New York

Substantive session of the United Nations Economic and Social
Council.

22 August-2 September

United Nations Headquarters, New York

Second session of the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit
for Social Development.

3-4 September

Cairo, Egypt

Pre-Conference intergovernmental consultations.

5-13 September

Cairo, Egypt

International Conference on Population and Development, 1994.

Mid-September-mid-December

United Nations Headquarters, New York

49th session of the United Nations General Assembly.

Consideration of the Report of the International Conference on
Population and Development.

26-30 September

Mar del Plata, Argentina

Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Preparatory Conference
for the Fourth World Conference on Women.

17-21 October

Vienna, Austria

European Regional Preparatory Conference for the Fourth World
Conference on Women.

6-10 November

Amman, Jordan

Western Asia Regional Preparatory Conference for the Fourth World
Conference on Women.

14-17 November

Dakar, Senegal

African Regional Preparatory Conference for the Fourth World
Conference on Women.

16-17 January, 1995

United Nations Headquarters, New York

Third session of the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit
for Social Development.

6-12 March

Copenhagen, Denmark

World Summit for Social Development.

4-15 September

Beijing, China

Fourth World Conference on Women.

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Development Committee

"ICPD 94", No. 15

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Development

Cairo, Egypt, 5-13 September 1994

IMF/WORLD BANK GOVERNING BOARDS TAKE UP POPULATION ISSUES

On 26 April, Dr. Nafis Sadik, UNFPA Executive Director and Secretary-General of ICPD, spoke before the 48th Meeting of the International Monetary Fund/World Bank Development Committee in Washington, D.C. It was the first time the head of a UN agency had addressed the joint ministerial committee, comprised of the Boards of Governors of the Bank and the Fund.

Finance ministers from 24 countries attended the meeting, which focused on resource flows to developing countries, population, international migration and trade. Rudolf Holmes, Colombia's Minister of Finance and Public Credit, chaired the meeting. World Bank President Lewis Preston and IMF Managing Director Michael Camdessus spoke briefly about the world economic situation and the transfer of resources to developing countries. Mr. Camdessus emphasized the need for international assistance for effective population and family planning programmes.

Dr. Sadik's statement emphasized two themes: family planning programmes make an overall improvement in people's quality of life, and are therefore a good investment; and fertility decline usually precedes sustained economic growth. She cited the success of family planning programmes in a number of developing countries.

"Quite often these programmes have as much to do with intangibles such as education and raising the status of women as with family planning per se", she noted. "Their end result is to give all people, women and men, choice in one very important area of their lives; the decision to have or not have children. One consequence has invariably been smaller, healthier families."

Emphasizing the need for increased international support to implement the 20-year Programme of Action which had just been discussed at the third session of the ICPD Preparatory Committee, Dr. Sadik appealed to the assembled finance ministers to redouble their countries' support for population programmes.

"The 20-year Programme of Action which I hope will be adopted in Cairo will require substantially increased investments in the near term, but the increases pale into insignificance compared with their certain benefits. The resources needed are not very large. Currently over U.S. \$5 billion is used for national population programmes world-wide. It is estimated that this needs to be increased to \$17 billion by the year 2000 and \$21.7 billion by 2015 to meet future requirements of population programmes. Two thirds of this total will come from developing countries and one third of the resources will be from the international community.

"Benefits can be measured in terms of longer life expectancy, lower demand for health and education services, reduced pressure on the job market, reduced economic hardship and greater social stability. Demand for housing, energy and utilities will rise, as will demands for food; but they will rise with the growth of prosperity, not with the growth of numbers. With slower and more balanced population growth, the ability of each country to meet these additional demands will also improve, and the world as a whole will have time to adapt to the needs of larger numbers."

Statements by a number of the ministers (those of Botswana, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Morocco, the Netherlands, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States) emphasized the need for international support to developing countries' efforts to strengthen population programmes and eradicate poverty.

In a communiqué, the ministers stated that "an integrated population policy in developing countries must recognize the links between economic growth, population, poverty reduction, health, investment in human resources, and environmental degradation." They cited three objectives as deserving special attention at ICPD: improvements in primary school enrolment in low-income countries; improved access to family planning and related health services; and reductions in maternal and child mortality in developing countries.

The ministers expressed the hope that many bilateral donors would be able to increase the share of aid budgets allocated to population programmes from the current average of 1.25 per cent. They welcomed the World Bank's "readiness to respond rapidly to

requests for more assistance" in the population field.

Regarding international migration, the statement called for more policy-oriented research into its social, political and financial consequences for countries of both origin and destination.

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Media Accreditation Forms Available

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Cairo, Egypt, 5-13 September 1994

MEDIA ACCREDITATION FORMS AVAILABLE

Representatives of the mass media (press, photo, radio, television and film) seeking accreditation to the Cairo Conference must complete an application form and submit it, together with a letter of assignment on official letterhead from an editor or bureau chief, to: Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit, ICPD, UN Department of Public Information, Room S-20, United Nations, NY 10017, before 8 August 1994. Forms can be obtained from the Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit, local UN Information Centres, UN Development Programme offices or UN regional offices. After 8 August, forms should be sent to Media Accreditation Officer, ICPD, c/o UNIC, Director, P.O. Box 262, Cairo, Egypt.

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News for NGOs

ICPD 94"

January 1994

Number 11

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

NEWS FOR THE NGOS

FROM THE ICPD SECRETARIAT...

The ICPD Secretariat continues to process accreditation applications from NGOs in all regions of the world. We expect that in April 1994, the Secretary-General of the Conference will be in a position to recommend to the Preparatory Committee a substantial number of additional NGOs for accreditation (332 were accredited at PrepCom II in May 1993).

It is not too late for NGOs to apply for accreditation, but time is short. Interested NGOs should promptly submit completed application forms, attaching all required documents. These include copies of the organization's most recent annual report and audited financial report, and a list of board members (if not contained in the annual report). If a recent annual or financial report is not available, please include a copy of the legal registration document indicating that the NGO is recognized as non-profit and non-governmental by the Government of the country of headquarters.

There is no fee for this application. NGOs that have consultative status with ECOSOC are automatically accredited to the ICPD and need only to inform the ICPD Secretariat in writing of their intention to participate at the PrepCom and the Conference itself.

The Secretariat has encountered some confusion among NGOs as to where completed applications should be sent, especially as the NGO Planning Committee for the ICPD has sent out forms for its purposes. We have received forms that should have been directed to the Planning Committee and vice versa. Our two offices are in close contact, and incorrectly addressed forms have been forwarded to the appropriate office. To facilitate the registration process at PrepCom III, accredited NGOs (and those in the process of gaining accreditation) should inform the Secretariat in writing once they have determined who their representative(s) will be.

FROM THE NGO PLANNING COMMITTEE FOR THE ICPD...

Even if an NGO has received accreditation to the ICPD proceedings, the NGO Planning Committee would appreciate being informed that the organization is planning to come to PrepCom III and/or Cairo.

In addition, the Planning Committee is already collecting programme suggestions for PrepCom III and for the NGO Forum that will be held concurrently with ICPD in Cairo. Organizations not on the NGO Planning Committee mailing list (to receive the NGO Forum '94 News) that have never received forms to register their events

planned for PrepCom III and Cairo should write or fax the Committee at:

NGO Planning Committee for the ICPD
777 UN Plaza, 8th Floor
New York, NY, 10017 USA
Tel: (212) 545-7344, Fax: (212) 545-7581

Pre-registration for Cairo will begin in early 1994, with forms being sent to the NGO Planning Committee database of over 1,500 organizations world-wide. It is important for planning purposes that the Planning Committee develop an estimate of attendance early. It is recommended that NGOs book their reservations early for low-cost rooms that will be made available through EMECO Travel in Cairo.

Preparations for the NGO Forum are progressing well. An NGO Planning Committee delegation recently returned from Cairo, where it held discussions regarding preparation of the Forum site, the National Sports Complex (adjacent to the venue for ICPD itself). The Planning Committee stressed the need to set aside a large number of affordable hotel rooms for NGO participants.

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News in Brief

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NEWS IN BRIEF

"Population is a complex phenomenon that affects every country, developed or developing. It touches economics, politics, the environment; it underlies and drives many of the stories that you cover in the course of a working day. Women are at its centre and their empowerment is its key," UNFPA Executive Director and ICPD Secretary-General Dr. Nafis Sadik told an international gathering of television journalists last month.

Introduced by Jane Fonda, Dr. Sadik delivered the keynote address, "Understanding Population", at a 4 May breakfast meeting of the CNN World Report Contributors Conference in Atlanta, Georgia.

The Conference, on the theme "Global Communications: Confronting the Future", addressed the power of television and how it joins nations and people of diverse cultures. Attending the

week-long meeting were television producers and reporters from throughout the world whose programmes are aired on the CNN World Report.

Among the other featured speakers were: U.S. President Bill Clinton; South African President Nelson Mandela and Executive Deputy President F. W. de Klerk; Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat; Israeli Prime Minister Yizhak Rabin; 1992 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Rigoberta Menchu; and UNFPA Ambassadors of Goodwill Ted Turner and Jane Fonda.

*

Harvard University Professor Amartya K. Sen, in a lecture at UN Headquarters on 18 April, disputed the view that unchecked population growth will lead to a global catastrophe. He cited demographic and development statistics to show that population growth in the 1980s and 1990s has been matched by a marked rise in per capita food production and consumption. Arguing that "scare tactics" would lead to harmful policies, he argued that the population issue must be addressed within the context of social and economic development.

Professor Sen, recently elected as president of the American Economics Association, spoke in the Trusteeship Council chamber to an audience of more than 150 guests. The lecture was organized by the Eminent Citizens Committee for Cairo '94.

*

The Independent Commission for Population and Quality of Life organized a conference in New Delhi from 25-27 April to address the connection between poverty and rapid population growth. A panel of experts cited inadequate health care, poverty, insufficient budget resources for social programmes and a lack of education -- particularly among women -- as impeding efforts to reduce high population growth. South Asian officials, politicians and non-governmental organizations offered various suggestions to improve the quality of life and lower fertility rates.

The consultation was one of several being held around the world this year. The commission, headed by former Portuguese Premier Maria de Lourdes Pintasilgo, is to release its findings and proposals in mid-1995.

*

Zero Population Growth, a U.S.-based NGO (1400 Sixteenth St., N.W., Suite 320, Washington, D.C. 20036), has compiled an 8-page catalogue of "Selected Resources on Population". It includes brief descriptions of 33 books on world population growth and global environmental issues, including four that offer "a different viewpoint" and four written "especially for kids"; 15 periodicals; 16 handbooks, reports and wall charts; and 10 videos and films. A section on resources for teachers lists various materials for teaching about population issues, including computer software (mathematical models, simulations and games) and descriptions of classroom activities.

*

Between 85 million and 114 million girls and women have been subjected to female genital mutilation, according to a report presented to the 47th World Health Assembly in Geneva in May. Most of them live in 26 African countries, a few in some Asian countries, and increasingly in Europe, Canada, Australia and the United States.

The report states that although both mortality and morbidity following female genital mutilation are believed to be high, available information is very limited. Since female genital mutilation is a deeply rooted tradition, World Health Organization Director-General Hiroshi Nakajima has declared, "What we must aim for is to convince people, including women, that they can give up a specific practice without giving up meaningful aspects of their own cultures."

*

On behalf of the Andean Governments, the "Andean Declaration on Population and Development" was presented to PrepCom III by the delegation of Peru. The Declaration (available in Spanish and English) was adopted by the Governments of Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia at the Andean Meeting on Population and Development, held in Lima, Peru, from 1-3 December 1993.

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Quantitative Goals in Draft Programme

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QUANTITATIVE GOALS IN THE DRAFT PROGRAMME OF ACTION

The following is excerpted from the ICPD draft Programme of Action adopted at PrepCom III. (Passages in brackets have not been agreed to.)

1.18 The present Programme of Action commits the international community to quantitative goals in three areas that are mutually supporting and of critical importance to the achievement of other important population and development objectives. These areas are: education, especially for girls; infant, child and maternal mortality reduction; and the provision of universal access to family planning and reproductive health services.

INFANT AND CHILD MORTALITY

8.16 ... [Countries should strive to reduce their infant and under-5 mortality rates by one third, or to 50 and 70 per 1,000 live births, respectively, whichever is less, by the year 2000,

with appropriate adaptation to the particular situation of each country. ... By 2015 all countries should aim to achieve an infant mortality rate below 35 per 1,000 live births and an under-5 mortality rate below 45 per 1,000. Countries that achieve these levels earlier should strive to lower them further.]

MATERNAL MORTALITY

8.21 Countries should strive to effect significant reductions in maternal mortality by the year 2015; [a reduction in maternal mortality by one half of the 1990 levels by the year 2000 and a further one half by 2015. The realization of these goals will have different implications for countries with different 1990 levels of maternal mortality. ...]

EDUCATION

4.18 Beyond the achievement of the goal of universal primary education in all countries [before the year 2015], all countries are urged to ensure the widest and earliest possible access by girls and women to secondary and higher levels of education, as well as vocational education and technical training, bearing in mind the need to improve the quality and relevance of that education.

11.6 ... All countries should further strive to ensure the complete access to primary school or an equivalent level of education by both girls and boys as quickly as possible, and in any case before the year 2015. ...

FAMILY PLANNING

7.14. All countries should, over the next several years, assess

the extent of national unmet need for good-quality family planning services and its integration in the [sexual and reproductive health] context All countries should take steps to meet the family planning needs of their populations as soon as possible and should, [in all cases by the year 2015], seek to provide universal access to a full range of safe and reliable family-planning methods and to related [legally permissible] [reproductive health] services.

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Review of Draft Programme of Action

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PRE-CONFERENCE REVIEW OF ICPD DRAFT PROGRAMME OF ACTION BEGINS

The ICPD draft Programme of Action is being distributed widely to Governments and non-governmental organizations, starting the final stage of Conference preparations. Last month the third session of the ICPD Preparatory Committee (PrepCom III), in three weeks of negotiations, agreed on most of the wording of the draft document, which is to be finalized and approved in Cairo. (It is presently available in an unofficial, English-language version.)

The draft Programme represents the world's nations' shared understanding of what needs to be done to address the challenges of population, and of development as it relates to population, over the next 20 years. It includes new emphases and approaches to a number of key issues.

In particular, the document stresses: the essential connection between population factors and sustainable development; the need to

empower women and achieve gender equity and equality; and a holistic approach to women's rights, girls' and women's education, and reproductive health including family planning.

Its more than 30 subchapters spell out actions needed in regard to a wide range of population and development themes, including poverty alleviation, environmental protection, family diversity, population growth, ageing, sexuality, sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS, reproductive health needs of adolescents, gender relations and male responsibility, maternal and child health, urbanization, internal and international migration, and education.

The Programme also defines: national, regional and international efforts and resources required to implement the various actions outlined; related research, awareness creation and data collection; partnership between Governments and non-governmental organizations and the private sector; and mechanisms for following up Conference decisions.

In a 3 May address to the UNICEF Executive Board, Dr. Nafis Sadik, Secretary-General of ICPD and Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), assessed the progress made at PrepCom III, held 4-22 April at UN Headquarters: "Nearly all of the 162 country delegations were in agreement that population must be fully integrated into and become a central component of the development process if the efforts of individuals, nations and the international community are to bring about equitable, human-centred sustainable development.

"Approximately 95 per cent of the country delegations were also in agreement with the proposed reproductive health approach that goes well beyond family planning," she added, "an approach focused not on demographic targets, but on seriously addressing the health and education needs of individuals, especially of girls and women. ... Central to such endeavours is the imperative need to empower women, to provide girls with a good education and women with better health and real choices."

PrepCom negotiations strengthened a number of chapters and subchapters of the draft Programme, Dr. Sadik reported, notably those dealing with population growth and structure, population development and education, partnerships with the non-governmental sector, follow-up to the Conference, and child survival and health.

Despite her very positive assessment of PrepCom III, Dr. Sadik said that she "and the overwhelming majority" of delegates were "disappointed that it was not possible to make more progress in forthrightly addressing two of the most pressing health problems facing the world; namely the millions of unsafe abortions that occur each year; and the unmet education, counselling and services needs of the hundreds of millions of adolescents that are sexually active."

She explained: "Partly because of the position of a few delegations in these two areas, and partly because of definitional difficulties concerning exactly what the widely used words, 'safe motherhood' and 'family planning' do and do not include, the term 'safe motherhood' was without exception placed in brackets for further negotiation in Cairo and the term 'family planning' was often also placed in brackets. The phrase 'reproductive health' was

also repeatedly placed in brackets despite an excellent definition of the phrase provided to the PrepCom by the Director-General of WHO."

"The draft Programme of Action does not advocate or promote abortion, let alone abortion on demand." Dr. Sadik stated. "What it does advocate is that all Governments, intergovernmental and non-government organizations deal openly and forthrightly with unsafe abortion as a major public health concern for women. It also makes it explicitly clear that women should have access to services for the management of complications arising from unsafe abortions. The Programme of Action suggests the need for abortion should be reduced by providing family planning programmes, as is the case in a growing number of countries.

"According to a recent exhaustive study by the United Nations Population Division," she continued, "currently 173 countries (of the 190 surveyed) representing 96 per cent of the world's population have policies or laws that permit abortions to save the life of the woman; 119 countries permit abortion to preserve physical health; and 95 to preserve mental health. I hope that the language that will be finally adopted will reaffirm the sovereignty of each nation to set its own laws and conditions concerning abortion."

Following is a chapter-by-chapter summary of some of the main points covered by the ICPD draft Programme of Action, and of some of the major issues requiring further negotiation in Cairo:

Chapter I, Preamble. Stating that ICPD "occurs at a defining

moment in the history of international cooperation", Chapter I provides an overview and sets the context for action in terms of environmental concerns; population growth projections; use of and access to family planning; infant, child and maternal mortality; and education levels.

Chapter II, Principles. This chapter lists 15 principles that have guided Conference deliberations; concerns addressed include human rights, sustainable development, gender equity, health care and family planning, education, support of families and children, migration and asylum. The language proposed for most of the principles is taken or derived from various international declarations; the sources are listed after each principle.

The Preparatory Committee Chairman prepared revised drafts of Chapters I and II based on a first reading of the chapters. However, as there was not enough time to consider either chapter in depth, further discussion will take place at the Conference.

Chapter III, The Interrelationships between Population, Sustained Economic Growth and Sustainable Development. Economic and development strategies to alleviate poverty, curb wasteful consumption and protect the environment are all closely connected to population growth and cannot be addressed effectively in isolation. Proposed wording on human rights, on the right to development and on international trade in relation to these issues remains bracketed for further negotiation.

Chapter IV, Gender Equality, Equity and Empowerment of Women. These are recognized both as fundamental human rights in their own right and as prerequisites of sustainable development. The major

goals in this regard are to educate women and girls to raise their status, and to increase male responsibility in matters of family planning and child-rearing.

Chapter V, The Family, its Roles, Composition and Structure. Utilizing consensus wording from General Assembly resolution 47/237 the draft Programme notes that family structures and composition are increasingly diverse, and that families in difficult circumstances need increased socio-economic support.

Chapter VI, Population Growth and Structure. World population is 5.7 billion and growing by over 90 million persons a year. In many countries, high fertility and declining mortality have resulted in youthful populations, guaranteeing that rapid growth will continue into the next century; actions taken over the next 20 years will determine what level world population will reach before human numbers stabilize. Proposed actions will focus on the health, education and well-being of people, with particular emphasis on the young, the poor, the underserved, the elderly, indigenous people and persons with disabilities.

Chapter VII, Reproductive Rights, [Sexual and Reproductive Health] and Family Planning. Family planning programmes must aim to establish a wide freedom of choice in matters of procreation and stress that coercion has no part to play. Government programmes should assist individuals in ensuring that all pregnancies and all children are wanted. Prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, promotion of equitable sexual relations, and the provision of reproductive health information and services to adolescents are all crucial to safeguarding reproductive rights.

Chapter VIII, Health, Morbidity and Mortality. Primary health care systems must be strengthened to better guarantee the survival and health of infants and children, reduce maternal morbidity and mortality, and prevent HIV/AIDS. The proposal to address unsafe abortion as a major public health concern remains in brackets.

Chapter IX, Population Distribution, Urbanization and Internal Migration. To slow migration from rural areas to cities that is contributing to phenomenal urban growth, the document emphasizes the need to reduce urban-rural inequality, to foster environmentally sustainable development of rural areas and small and medium-sized cities, and to better manage cities to improve the quality of life of the urban poor.

Chapter X, International Migration. Actions are needed in this area to reduce undocumented migration by addressing its root causes, especially those related to poverty; to encourage more cooperation between sending and receiving countries; to ensure the well-being and social integration of documented migrants; to protect both the documented and undocumented from racism and xenophobia; and to find durable solutions to the plight of refugees and displaced persons.

Chapter XI, Population, Development and Education. Universal primary schooling and literacy; job training; elimination of gender disparities; and greater awareness of population, development and health issues, leading to necessary actions and responsible behaviour, are among the educational goals the draft emphasizes.

Chapter XII, Technology, Research and Development. Improved

collection and analysis of data would allow better understanding of the relationships between population and socio-economic and environmental conditions. Biomedical research is needed to expand people's choices of family planning methods, particularly male methods, and to combat the spread of sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS.

Chapter XIII, National Action. This chapter includes estimates of the funding levels required to meet developing countries' needs in the period 2000-2015 for basic reproductive health services including family planning; prevention of sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS; and population data collection, analysis and dissemination, policy formulation and research.

As Dr. Sadik reported in her remarks to UNICEF's Executive Board, the ICPD Secretariat's original total estimates of funds required from developing and developed countries were increased by more than one third (by \$3.8 billion in the year 2000), "after a number of developed countries questioned and challenged the modesty of the original figures as well as the methodology that had been used." The funding estimates are in brackets and subject to further negotiation in Cairo.

There will also be further negotiation on a proposed recommendation that at least 20 per cent of countries' public-sector expenditures and 20 per cent of official development assistance be devoted to social sectors, stressing poverty eradication within the context of sustainable development.

Chapter XIV, International Cooperation. If the Conference

objectives are to be met, resources committed to population and development programmes will need to increase substantially. The developing countries themselves will continue to provide, on average, approximately two thirds of the resources needed, but it is estimated that international assistance will have to account for up to one third, a share projected to total \$5.7 billion in 2000 and \$7.2 billion in 2015 (in 1993 dollars).

Chapter XV, Partnership with the Non-governmental Sector. Political commitment to population and development goals is essential to implementation of the actions outlined above. The draft Programme emphasizes the need to actively involve parliamentarians, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), grass-roots groups, the private sector and individuals in national policies and programmes.

Chapter XVI, Follow-up to the Conference. Appropriate national, regional and subregional and international mechanisms are needed for policy guidance, resource mobilization, coordination, sharing of experience, and monitoring and reporting of progress in implementing the Programme of Action.

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The draft Programme of Action is available from the ICPD Secretariat, and can also be found in electronic form on the Population Information Network (POPIN) gopher, located within the United Nations Development Programme gopher on the Internet computer network.

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Small Islands Conference

"ICPD 94", No. 15

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DR. SADIK ADDRESSES SMALL ISLANDS CONFERENCE

Addressing the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States on 28 April, ICPD Secretary-General and UNFPA Executive Director Dr. Nafis Sadik praised Cuba, Mauritius, Singapore and Sri Lanka for fully integrating population policies into their national development strategies. The Conference was held in Bridgetown, Barbados, from 25 April - 6 May.

"These countries have invested heavily in the social sectors, including the health of their population, reproductive health services and the level of education of the people, especially of girls," Dr. Sadik said. "In spite of problems with economic growth, they have achieved high levels of regular use of family planning methods and low levels of infant and maternal mortality."

At a press conference, Dr. Sadik said, "It is often very difficult, if not impossible, for the small island developing

nations with their limited resources, to strike a balance between population, environment, and development." A lack of reproductive health services targeting adolescents is a serious problem in the Caribbean, in particular, she said. Investments in education for girls are key to any long-lasting demographic change, she stressed.

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