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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Cairo, Egypt

5-13 September 1994

"ICPD 94" newsletter, Number 17

July 1994

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Final Conference Arrangements

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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FINAL TOUCHES PUT ON CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS, DOCUMENTATION

As more and more organizational details of the International Conference on Population and Development are finalized, a clearer picture is emerging of what participants can expect in Cairo in September.

In June, the official, edited version of the ICPD draft Programme of Action (A/CONF.171/L.1) became available in the six official UN languages. Since its release, the ICPD Secretariat has distributed over 10,000 copies to Governments, field offices, intergovernmental organizations, accredited non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other interested groups. Numerous requests for the document continue to be filled.

Several related documents are now nearing completion, including two that give important details of how the Conference will be organized.

Meanwhile, more names have been added to the list of heads of State or Government planning to address ICPD. A number of heads of United Nations organizations have also indicated their interest in addressing the plenary. Still others will be part of a distinguished lecture series that will be held at the Conference site in conjunction with ICPD.

Finally, the host-country agreement spelling out Conference logistical arrangements was signed 6 July in Geneva by Dr. Nafis Sadik, Secretary-General of ICPD, and Dr. Maher Mahran, Egyptian Minister of Population and Family Welfare.

KEY DOCUMENTS

The rules of procedure of ICPD (A/CONF.171/2) will shortly be presented to the UN General Assembly for adoption. Two other documents were recently submitted to the UN Secretariat for editing and processing: the Provisional Agenda of ICPD, with annotations (A/CONF.171/1); and the Note from the Secretary-General of the Conference on the Organization of Work, Including Establishment of the Main Committee of the Conference (A/CONF.171/3).

The Fourth Review and Appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action (A/CONF.171/4) has also been submitted. It examines the achievements, shortcomings and lessons of population programmes and activities by Governments, NGOs and the international community over the 20 years since the 1974 World Population Conference in Bucharest adopted the World Population Plan of Action. Drafted by the UN Population Division, the review has been revised since PrepCom III for presentation at ICPD. After discussion in Cairo, it

will be revised further and released in final form in October.

A fifth important ICPD document, the Report of the Secretary-General of the Conference Containing a Synthesis of the National Reports of Countries on Their Experiences in Population and Development Strategies and Programmes (A/CONF.171/5) is now being finalized. It is based on the more than 140 National Reports written by Governments in preparation for the Conference.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

According to the note on organization of work, all of the items on the provisional agenda will be considered directly in the plenary, with the exception of the Programme of Action of the Conference (item 9); the draft Programme of Action will be considered by the Main Committee, which is expected to meet from 5-9 September and report back to the plenary when it finishes its work.

The first seven agenda items (opening of the Conference; election of the President; adoption of the rules of procedure; adoption of the agenda; and election of officers other than the President; organization of work; and credentials of representatives to the Conference) are expected to be dealt with on the first day of ICPD, based on recommendations made during pre-Conference consultations on 3-4 September.

The Conference will be opened by UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali. Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak will then take up his duties as President of the Conference and will address the plenary.

General debate will take up the remainder of the first week of

plenary meetings. This debate is expected to conclude on 9 September, but it is possible that it will continue on the morning of 12 September. It is expected that many speakers will set out their perspectives on the draft Programme of Action, as well as commenting on their national population and development strategies. Each governmental delegation will have the opportunity to speak -- a 10-minute time limit has been proposed.

A number of heads of State or Government have already indicated they will attend ICPD and address the Conference during the general debate. They include President Soeharto of Indonesia, Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of Pakistan, Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland of Norway, Prime Minister Tansu Ciller of Turkey, Prime Minister Kaamuta Laatasi of Tuvalu and Prime Minister Khaleda Zia of Bangladesh. Vice President Al Gore will head the United States' delegation.

Many representatives of intergovernmental organizations, UN programmes and specialized agencies, and NGOs are also expected to speak during the five-day debate.

Those who have already advised the ICPD Secretariat of their intention to attend include International Monetary Fund Chairman Michael Camdessus, World Health Organization Director-General Dr. Hiroshi Nakajima, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development President Lewis Preston, UN High Commissioner for Refugees Sadako Ogata, UN Development Programme Administrator James Gustave Speth, UN Children's Fund Executive Director James Grant, UN Industrial Development Organization Director-General Mauricio de Maria y Campos, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Jos, Ayala

Lasso, UN University Rector Heitor Gurgulino de Souza, International Fund for Agricultural Development President Fawzi Al-Sultan, International Organization for Migration President James Purcell, International Planned Parenthood Federation Secretary-General Halfdan Mahler, and Population Council President Margaret Catley-Carlson.

The formal list of speakers list will open on at UN Headquarters on 3 August (room S-2963J). It will be closed at noon on 7 September in Cairo.

At the conclusion of the general debate, the plenary will be occupied with the report of the Main Committee on the Programme of Action (item 9). This will be considered on 12 and 13 September, followed by adoption of the report of the Conference (item 10), consideration of other matters (item 11) and the conclusion of the Conference.

In parallel to the formal deliberations of ICPD, a series of lectures and panel discussions on Conference-related themes will be held within CICC. The list of distinguished speakers and panellists is currently being assembled.

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News in brief

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NEWS IN BRIEF

On June 16, the Day of the African Child, Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa voiced his strong support for family planning.

At a Cape Town news conference, the church leader said, "Planned parenthood is an obligation of those who are Christians. Our church thinks we should use scientific methods that assist in planning of families. ... It is far better to have children that we want than to say you must have children, no matter what."

In regard to ICPD, the archbishop said, "The call that is being put out for this UN conference ... is not just a Western thing. There are very many in other parts of the world who believe the issues raised there are crucial issues."

The UN Children's Fund sponsors the annual Day of the African

Child to call attention to the problems facing African children.

The date was chosen in memory of the children of Soweto, South Africa, who were massacred on 16 June 1976, when Africans tried to speak out against the brutality of apartheid.

*

Jacques Diouf, Director-General of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, said on 20 June that rapid population growth over the next 30 years will destroy fertile farmland and cut food production -- mostly in countries where people are already going hungry.

"Naturally, the relationship between food production and population is at the centre of food security," Diouf told a news conference in Rome. "Population growth and its impact on the environment is a key issue. He said he would speak on the topic when he addresses the ICPD plenary in September.

By the year 2010, FAO estimates there are currently 180 million undernourished people in sub-Saharan Africa. According to Diouf, the number could reach 300 million by 2010. "If there is no technological breakthrough to produce more food and increase the value of the land," he said, "then there is no solution."

While agricultural production world-wide outstripped population growth by 4 per cent over the last 10 years, "in Africa per capita food output fell by 5 per cent during the same period," said Diouf.

*

A workshop on "Tools for Policy and Planning" will be held during the Cairo Conference to train delegates and NGO participants in computer tools and techniques that they can use in their countries to help develop a policy consensus in support of the goals of the Conference.

Organized by the Cairo Demographic Centre in collaboration with RAPID, the workshop will demonstrate tools for planning the costs of needed programmes and techniques for effective population policy advocacy, using the RAPID ICPD model which was shown at PrepCom III.

Instructions will be given in English by two population policy analysis experts, Dr. Scott Moreland of RAPID and Mr. Ed Abel of Future, along with CDC staff. The registration fee is \$5 per participant. For information, contact the Centre at 78 (St. No. 4) El Hadhaba-Elolya, Mokattam (11571), Cairo, Egypt. Telephone: 20 2 506 0485. Fax: 20 2 506 2797.

*

The Arab World Regional Office of the International Planned Parenthood Federation organized a 26-29 May workshop for NGOs in the Arab countries in preparation for ICPD. Over 32 participants from organizations planning to attend the Conference took part in the gathering, held in Beirut, Lebanon. They reviewed the draft Programme of Action of the Conference and sought to develop a unified approach to the issues covered in the document. They also discussed ways to liaison with the media.

In a statement, the participants voiced concern that ICPD not retreat from positions taken at the Arab Population Conference in Amman, Jordan, in April 1993. They stated that family planning should be recognized as a major determinant of family health and well-being, and as playing a leading role in reducing maternal and infant mortality.

Also under the aegis of the Arab World Office of IPPF, a network of Arab NGOs was created to facilitate their participation in ICPD. Participating organizations are involved in a wide range of fields, including family planning, population activities, health, youth, women, emergency relief, and environmental protection. Professional associations of demographers, midwives, pharmacists and statisticians are also involved.

*

The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) International has released a WWF Draft Discussion Document on Population and the Environment.

The 45-page paper discusses the relationship between demographics such as rapid human population growth, urbanization and migration and its impact on the environment and natural resource base. Influencing factors of economy, poverty, gender and development are also discussed. Impacts on biodiversity, habitat and species, land use, forests, coastal areas and climate are examined.

The basic thesis is that the cumulative impact of humans is having adverse affects on the planet's biological diversity and

ecological systems on which all life depends. The impacts are from a number of contributing factors including rapidly growing populations worldwide and high rates of resource consumption and concomitant pollution.

Conclusions call for changes in the long term population and consumption patterns of growth as well as adapting to and coping with inevitable current and near term population pressures on the Earth's environment.

For copies contact Gordon Shepherd, WWF International, Av. du Mont-Blanc, 1196 Gland, Switzerland, Fax: 41 22 364 5829 or phone 41 22 364 9502, e-mail: gordon.shepherd@wwf-int.ch

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Population award

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PRESIDENT MUBARAK, TURKISH FAMILY PLANNING FOUNDATION

RECEIVE UN POPULATION AWARD

In a 14 June ceremony in Geneva that focused attention on issues central to ICPD, UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali presented the 1994 United Nations Population Award to President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt and Vehbi Koc, President of the Turkish Family Health and Planning Foundation.

Each winner received a diploma, a gold medal and \$10,000.

The Award is presented annually by the UN Population Award Committee to individuals and institutions for outstanding work in increasing public awareness of population problems and their solutions.

Participating in the ceremony in the Council Chamber of the Palais des Nations was Dr. Nafis Sadik, Executive Director of the

United Nations Population Fund and Secretary-General of ICPD, and Nicolaas Biegman, UN Ambassador of the Netherlands and Chairman of the Award Committee.

In his statement, Mr. Boutros-Ghali said President Mubarak was chosen for his national and international leadership in population issues, while the Turkish Family Health and Planning Foundation was chosen for its achievements in improving the quality of family planning services in Turkey. He noted that population issues, in the context of equitable and sustainable development, are a key element in the new approach to development set out in his recently published Agenda for Development and in the Programme of Action to be adopted at ICPD.

"Today, with this award, we are not only honouring the laureates for their work in improving people's lives and solving population problems", the UN Secretary-General said. "We are also signalling to the world our continuing concern for people's needs and aspirations for a peaceful world in balance with population, environment and development."

Progress is being made in addressing population issues, the Secretary-General said, but it is uneven and more has to be done. Family planning and reproductive health-care services should be made available to all women and men, as basic human rights. That message was reaffirmed by the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna a year ago. When people have a choice, they tend to choose smaller families. And if people have access to reproductive and primary health care, their families are healthier.

Mr. Boutros-Ghali noted that the 20-year Programme of Action of ICPD will aim to integrate population concerns into every aspect of development, giving further impetus to population programmes everywhere and laying the cornerstone for an integrated approach to fulfilling people's needs and fostering sustainable development.

The UN Secretary-General recalled that President Mubarak created a National Population Council in Egypt in 1981. He recently established a Ministry for Population and Family Welfare. He also introduced family planning and population issues into the country's five-year plans and was instrumental in expanding compulsory education for girls. He served twice as President of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), where he had stressed the need to stabilize population growth.

President Mubarak said the award was in recognition of Egypt's success in confronting population problems and their negative impact on economic and social development. His Government approached the problem of population growth by taking two pivotal steps: intensifying efforts to achieve comprehensive development; and introducing closely knit policies to persuade people to take part freely in advanced population programmes. Consequently, Egypt's population growth rate has fallen from 2.8 per cent in 1980 to 2.2 per cent in 1994.

President Mubarak said that ICPD will provide an opportunity, perhaps the last in this century, for the world community to discuss the close relationship between population and economic growth, in a new spirit of cooperation and solidarity.

Mr. Koc said the Turkish Family Health and Planning Foundation

is committed to supporting alternative and innovative solutions to economic and social problems caused by rapid population growth. It also plays a catalytic role for action in family planning, with the aim of constructively influencing national population programmes and policies. Foundation members believe the private sector must make a strong commitment to family planning, basing its work on goals, not on rules or budgets.

The Foundation was founded in 1985 by eminent industrialists and scientists, he continued. The Foundation addresses the country's population challenges by developing national education campaigns, through publications for the mass media, and training courses and seminars for local, national and business leaders. The Foundation also has developed its own contraceptive distribution service, linking family planning activities to maternal and child health care and nutrition services. It has focused much of its clinical work in factories and squatter settlements, among migrant workers and in rural provinces. The Foundation is also credited with raising public awareness of population problems and with helping to extend information and services to isolated areas.

The Population Award Committee is made up of representatives of 10 UN Member States elected by the Economic and Social Council for a term of three years. Mr. Boutros-Ghali and Dr. Sadik serve as ex officio members. This year's winners were chosen from 18 nominations, including 11 individuals and seven institutions.

One of last year's Population Award recipients, Dr. Fred Sai, served as Chairman of the ICPD Preparatory Committee at its second and third sessions. Dr. Sai is Chairman of the National Population

Council of Ghana and President of the International Planned
Parenthood Federation.

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Conference Timetable

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PROPOSED TIMETABLE FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

PLENARY, CHEOPS HALL

MAIN COMMITTEE, CHEFREN HALL

3, 4 September, 10 am and 3 pm

Pre-Conference Consultations

5 September, 10 am

1. Opening of the Conference
2. Election of the President
3. Adoption of the rules of procedure
4. Adoption of the agenda
5. Election of officers other than the President
6. Organization of work, including establishment of the Main Committee of the Conference

7. Credentials of representatives

to the Conference

8. General debate starts

5 September, 3 pm

General debate continues

1. Election of officers

2. Organization of work

3. Negotiation of remaining

sections of the ICPD Programme

of Action

6-8 September

10 am and 3 pm

General debate continues

Negotiations continue

9 September

10 am

General debate continues

Negotiations continue

3 pm

General debate concludes

Completion of work

12 September

10 am and 3 pm

Consideration of the recommendations

of the Main Committee on the ICPD

Programme of Action

13 September

10 am and 3 pm

1. Consideration of the recommendations

continues

2. Adoption of the Conference Report

3. Other matters and closure

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Information for ICPD Participants

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INFORMATION FOR ICPD PARTICIPANTS

PASSPORT AND VISA

All travellers to Cairo must be in the possession of a national passport that is valid for at least six months beyond the date of entry into Egypt, and which contains an Egyptian entry visa.

Egyptian Embassies and Consulates have received special instructions for issuing visas for participants in the Conference.

IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS CLEARANCES

Beginning on 24 August, participants will be welcomed by ICPD liaison staff in the restricted area of the airport and directed to special ICPD desks where they will be informed about arrangements for immigration, customs, baggage handling and transportation to hotels. Currency exchange will be available in the restricted area.

SITE OF THE CONFERENCE

The International Conference on Population and Development will be

held at the Cairo International Conference Centre (CICC). The distance between CICC and the centre of Cairo is approximately 10 miles, roughly 20 minutes by motor-vehicle in non-peak-hour traffic.

REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS AND IDENTIFICATION CARDS

Admission to CICC will require, at all times, the presentation of access/identification cards. All participants of the Conference -- government delegates, United Nations Secretariat staff, representatives of United Nations programmes and specialized agencies and representatives of accredited intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are, therefore, requested to register at the Conference registration centre, where they will receive access/identification cards.

The Conference registration centre will be open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. starting Thursday 25 August, at the Olympic Swimming Pool Complex off Saleh Salem Street. This is located five minutes by car from CICC. From 1 to 5 September, the registration centre will open for longer hours to ensure smooth issuance of passes.

PRE-CONFERENCE CONSULTATIONS

Pre-Conference consultations to consider organizational and procedural matters will be held at the CICC (Chefren Hall) on Saturday, 3 September, and Sunday, 4 September. They will begin at 10 a.m. on 3 September.

OPENING MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE

The formal opening of the Conference will be held at 10 a.m. on Monday, 5 September, in the Cheops Hall of CICC. Further

information about the opening meeting will be given at the pre-Conference consultations. In order that the opening meeting may begin punctually, participants are requested to be seated in the Cheops Hall by 9.30 a.m.

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS

The programme of meetings will be printed in the Conference Journal, to be issued on a daily basis, giving details and times. Morning sessions are scheduled to take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and afternoon meetings from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. When evening sessions are required, they will generally begin at 6 p.m.

DISTRIBUTION OF OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS

The main documents distribution counter will be located at the Delegates Entrance Hall of CICC. Official documents of the Conference will be made available in the languages of the Conference i.e. Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

PRESS CENTRE

The Press Centre established for the duration of the Conference will be located on the ground floor of CICC. The area will include a press working area, press briefing rooms, documents distribution for members of the press, limited video and radio recording and editing studios, and, on a commercial basis, facilities for telephone, facsimile, telex and photocopying.

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New book on Population Policy

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BOOK TRACES FORMATION OF NEW GLOBAL CONSENSUS ON POPULATION

Since the late 1960s, national population policies have undergone a remarkable evolution, resulting in slower population growth rates and reduced levels of fertility in many countries. A new book by a former Director in the European Commission traces the progress that has led up to this year's ICPD.

"World Population -- Turning the Tide: Three Decades of Progress", by Stanley P. Johnson, examines the development of national policies to address population concerns, along with the involvement of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), other UN organizations, the World Bank, international NGOs, foundations and others.

Written in preparation for ICPD, the book includes a foreword by Dr. Nafis Sadik, Secretary-General of ICPD and Executive Director of UNFPA, as well as numerous demographic tables and

graphs. The author is a former head of the European Commission's prevention of pollution division. He has had more than 25 years experience with environment and development issues, and he considers population topics within this framework.

The 350-page book opens with an appraisal of the world population situation in 1970. It then examines the development of national population policies and family planning programmes, citing early successes and sources of international assistance. There are also case studies of countries (including Japan, Singapore and China) where significant gains in reducing fertility have been registered.

Mr. Johnson assesses the major meetings that have shaped the changing global consensus on population, including the 1974 World Population Conference (Bucharest) and the 1984 International Population Conference (Mexico City). One chapter covers population and the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development. The last part of the book looks at prospects for ICPD and beyond.

"World Population -- Turning the Tide: Three Decades of Progress" is published by Graham & Trotman/Martinus Nijhoff (London/Dordrecht/Boston). It is available in hard cover or paperback.

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News for the NGOs

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NEWS FOR THE NGOS

Some important decisions have been taken in regard to NGO accreditation and representation at ICPD. These are outlined below, along with some advice on how to come to Cairo prepared for registration.

To date, 137 NGOs that have Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) have requested automatic accreditation to the Conference, as their status entitles them to; more are expected to do so. Together with the 919 NGOs already accredited, this brings to over 1,050 the total of NGOs expected to participate in ICPD.

As of 1 July, over 150 NGOs had given the ICPD Secretariat the names of their representatives who will be coming to Cairo (the deadline for submitting names was 15 July). The average number of representatives these NGOs are planning to send is three.

Each accredited NGO will have representation within the Conference venue. The ICPD Secretariat is committed to providing all accredited NGOs the best possible access to the Cairo International Conference Centre (CICC). However, because of the size limitations of the CICC and its meeting rooms, it has been decided that up to two representatives of each national NGO and up to five representatives of each international NGO will have access to the Centre. Each NGO is asked to specify these representatives, who will be issued photo passes.

Registration locale set

The office that will issue CICC access passes for accredited NGO representatives, official government delegates and accredited media representatives is located at the Olympic Swimming Pool Complex, next to Salah Salem Street, Nasr City, Cairo. This complex is near the CICC.

Registration will open on Thursday, 25 August and will continue until the last day of the Conference. Hours will be from 9 am to 6 pm. Extended hours of 8 am to 8 pm will be in effect from 1 to 5 September.

It is anticipated that passes for the NGO Forum '94 will be issued at a site near the Pool Complex, simplifying matters for ICPD-accredited NGOs that are also registering for the Forum. The NGO Planning Committee for the ICPD will soon inform all NGOs that have registered for the Forum of the registration procedures.

Some points to keep in mind in regard to NGO registration for

ICPD:

1. To register, all accredited NGOs must have informed the ICPD Secretariat of the full names of their representatives, in advance and in writing.
2. Each representative of an accredited NGOs who has been selected by his or her organization for a photo pass enabling entry into the CICC should bring a copy of the fax or letter to the ICPD Secretariat that lists his/her name. In addition, an NGO business card with the representative's name printed on it would be helpful as additional proof of affiliation. Photo identification such as a valid passport is also required. No one will be issued a photo pass without proper documentation.
3. Representatives from accredited NGOs who are residing in Egypt and those who are arriving early are strongly urged to obtain their photo passes as early as possible in order to reduce the lengthy lines which will inevitably form the day prior to and on the opening day of the Conference.
4. As a wait is to be expected, designated representatives from accredited NGOs should dress comfortably and may choose to bring with them bottled water (and a sense of humour) when they come to obtain their passes.
5. If the line for registration is long, representatives might consider obtaining the NGO Forum pass first and returning to the Pool Complex when the wait is shorter.
6. It will be very difficult, if not impossible, to replace lost

photo passes. All representatives issued passes should take appropriate measures to secure them.

*

Official delegates and accredited media representatives are invited to participate in NGO Forum activities. The complete schedule of Forum events will be sent to all Governments with this intent in mind. It is anticipated that there will be a large flow of people from the CICC to the Forum, providing good opportunities for discussions and interactions among all participants.

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Upcoming Events

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CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

27 June-29 July 1994

United Nations Headquarters,

New York

Substantive session of the United Nations Economic and Social
Council.

22 August-2 September 1994

United Nations Headquarters,

New York

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

31 August-4 September 1994

Cairo, Egypt

Youth Consultation for the International Conference on Population
and Development.

3-4 September 1994

Cairo, Egypt

International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development.

3-4 September 1994

Cairo, Egypt

Pre-Conference intergovernmental consultations.

5-13 September 1994

Cairo, Egypt

International Conference on Population and Development.

20 September-mid-December 1994

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.

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 1995

Copenhagen, Denmark

World Summit for Social Development.

26 June 1995

San Francisco, USA

Commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the signing of the
United Nations Charter.

4-15 September 1995

Beijing, China

Fourth World Conference on Women.

22-24 October 1995

United Nations Headquarters

New York

Special commemorative meeting of the United Nations General
Assembly on the 50th anniversary of the United Nations.

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