



A Look Back at the ICPD Process

This newsletter is being made available by the Population Information Network (POPIN) Gopher of the United Nations Population Division, Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis, in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Cairo, Egypt

5-13 September 1994

"ICPD 94" newsletter, Number 22

Final Issue, December 1994

A LOOK BACK AT THE ICPD PROCESS AND WHAT IT HAS ACCOMPLISHED

The UN General Assembly's endorsement of the ICPD Programme of Action on 19 December completes the first phase of follow-up to the Cairo Conference. Ahead lies the longer-term work of implementing the Programme: revising national and international policies, programmes and coordinating mechanisms; and finding the resources needed to put into effect the actions agreed upon in Cairo.

The resounding verdict from this General Assembly session has

been that the September Conference was highly successful. How ICPD will ultimately be remembered, however, will hinge on the world community's success in translating into actions the Programme of Action's central themes: the inseparability of population and sustainable development; the need for gender equity and equality; and the importance of meeting the totality of people's reproductive health needs, including family planning.

The General Assembly unanimously adopted resolution 49/128 after its Second Committee had met informally earlier this month to negotiate a draft put forward by Algeria on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement. (The text of the resolution appears on page 6.)

The resolution notes with satisfaction the report of the Conference (A/CONF.171/13 and Add.1); acknowledges the contribution of the UN Secretary-General and the Secretary-General of ICPD to the Conference's success; and gives guidance in regard to national, regional and international implementation of the Programme of Action, mobilization of resources for population and development, and institutional follow-up to the Conference.

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), which together with the Population Division of the UN Secretariat played a lead role in organizing ICPD, continues to review its programmes to ensure maximum support for implementation of the Programme of Action. The Fund is also committed to ensuring that the programmes of the upcoming World Summit for Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women build on the agreement reached in Cairo.

The ICPD Secretariat, having widely disseminated the report of the Conference and completed its post-Cairo administrative tasks, is now ending its operations. Staff members on loan from various Governments and UN agencies are returning to them; others are taking up different posts within the UN system.

FIVE YEARS OF CONSENSUS BUILDING

This final issue of ICPD 94 looks back on the events that led to the adoption of the Programme of Action on 13 September -- a remarkable process of consensus building that began five years ago when the UN Economic and Social Council (in resolution 1989/91) decided to convene in 1994 a successor to the population conferences of 1974 and 1984.

In 1990, the UN Secretary-General appointed UNFPA Executive Director Dr. Nafis Sadik as Secretary-General of the Conference, and the Director of the Population Division as Deputy Secretary-General. UNFPA and the Population Division worked closely throughout the preparatory process on matters such as organizational arrangements, procuring financial resources, public information activities, promoting regional and national preparatory activities, maintaining relationships with Governments, and drafting the Programme of Action.

In March 1991, as preparations for the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) were focusing attention on the interrelationship of environment and development, the first session of the ICPD Preparatory Committee resolved that "population, sustained economic growth and sustainable development" would be the overall theme of ICPD. In July, ECOSOC agreed that the name of the Conference should explicitly link population and development. In

July 1992, Egypt's offer to host ICPD was accepted.

The Preparatory Committee and ECOSOC identified six groups of priority issues and proposed convening expert group meetings on these topics to provide input and a scientific basis for the formulation of recommendations at the Conference. Five of these were held in 1992: population, environment and development (New York, January); population policies and programmes (Cairo, April); population and women (Gaborone, Botswana, June); family planning, health and family well-being (Bangalore, India, October); and population growth and demographic structure (Paris, November). The sixth, on population distribution and migration, took place in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, in January 1993.

Five regional population conferences, jointly sponsored by the UN regional commissions, UNFPA and others, were held to review experiences in population and propose future action: Asia and the Pacific (Denpasar, Indonesia, August 1992); Africa (Dakar, December 1992); Europe and North America (Geneva, March 1993); the Arab States (Amman, April 1993); and Latin America and the Caribbean (Mexico City, April/May 1993).

The second session of the Preparatory Committee (PrepCom II) was held in New York from 10-21 May 1993; 154 country delegations participated along with hundreds of NGO representatives. The meeting agreed on a draft structure for the Cairo final document. This was based on a Conceptual Framework submitted by Dr. Sadik, which incorporated input from the regional conferences and expert meetings.

Subregional ICPD preparatory meetings were held in 1993 for the Maghreb (Tunis, July), the South Pacific (Port Vila, Vanuatu, September), the Caribbean (Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, December), and the Andean Group (Lima, December). The Non-Aligned Movement held a ministerial-level meeting on ICPD issues in Bali, Indonesia in November 1993. The same month, in Kathmandu, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation held a Ministerial Conference on Women and Family Health.

In addition, five ad hoc round-table meetings in 1993 addressed priority ICPD issues: Women's Perspectives on Family Planning, Reproductive Health and Reproductive Rights (Ottawa, August); Population Policies and Programmes and HIV/AIDS (Berlin, September); Population and Development Strategies (Bangkok, November); Population, Environment and Sustainable Development in the Post-UNCED Period (Geneva, November); and Population and Communications (Vienna, December). A Round Table on Population and Food in the Early 21st Century: Meeting Future Food Needs of an Increasing World Population was held in February 1994 in Washington, D.C.

Building on the strong commitment to ICPD evident during PrepCom II, ECOSOC in July 1993 adopted a resolution recommending that the ICPD Preparatory Committee be made a subsidiary body of the General Assembly. The Assembly took this action in December when it adopted resolution 48/186, giving ICPD a status similar to UNCED.

The forty-eighth General Assembly's Second Committee spent two days in November 1993 debating an annotated outline of the draft final document, prepared by the Conference Secretariat on the basis

of debate at PrepCom II. Statements and supplementary material provided by delegations guided the Secretariat in preparing the draft Programme of Action for negotiation at PrepCom III. Important input also came from national population reports prepared in many countries.

Over 170 countries took part in PrepCom III, held at UN Headquarters in New York from 4-22 April 1994. Delegates reached agreement on over 90 per cent of the wording of the 16-chapter Programme of Action. A few substantive unresolved issues were left for further negotiation at the Conference.

One part of the Programme that was finalized was Chapter IV, on Gender Equality, Equity and the Empowerment of Women, considered by many to be one of the strongest statements on women's empowerment ever to be included in a UN document. It emphasizes that the improvement of women's political, social, economic and health status is both an important end in itself and an essential condition for achieving sustainable development.

The three-week PrepCom session strengthened the consensus that population concerns are an indispensable part of national and international efforts to achieve equitable, sustainable development. There was also strong support for the draft Programme's emphasis on a broad approach to reproductive health including family planning.

CAIRO

The Conference itself had 10,757 registered participants -- from Governments, intergovernmental organizations, UN programmes and

specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the news media--and received an unprecedented level of media coverage. Egyptian President Mohamed Hosni Mubarak was President of the Conference; Dr. Maher Mahran, Minister of Population and Family Welfare of Egypt, was ex officio Vice-President.

The 5 September opening plenary was addressed by President Mubarak, UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, Dr. Sadik, Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland of Norway, Vice President Al Gore of the United States, Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of Pakistan, and Prince Mbilini, the Prime Minister of Swaziland. Among the 249 speakers in the week-long general debate were Prime Minister George Cosmas Adyebo of Uganda, Prime Minister Tamirat Layne of Ethiopia and Prime Minister Francisque Ravony of Madagascar.

The Conference's Main Committee, chaired by Dr. Fred Sai of Ghana, held intense negotiations all week to finalize the draft Programme of Action. Chapters requiring the most involved negotiations were those on Principles; Reproductive Rights and Reproductive Health; Health, Morbidity and Mortality; and International Migration.

One particularly key section of the Programme of Action on which the Main Committee spent considerable time and effort related to abortion. In the final text, delegates agreed that abortion must be addressed as a major health concern. They also set out their overall perspective on abortion. Paragraph 8.25 begins, "In no case should abortion be promoted as a method of family planning." Agreement on this paragraph facilitated the resolution of sections on reproductive health and rights, family planning and safe

motherhood.

Also approved were estimates of developing countries' annual costs for reproductive health services including family planning and related programmes. It was agreed that "up to two thirds of the costs will continue to be met by the countries themselves and up to one third from external sources".

The entire Programme of Action was adopted by acclamation on 13 September. During the two final plenary meetings in which general agreement was reached, 13 countries made statements expressing reservations or comments on specific chapters, paragraphs or phrases in the Programme which they requested be recorded in the report of the Conference. Ten States submitted written statements for inclusion in the report.

The Holy See, which did not join the consensus in the 1974 and 1984 population conferences, announced it was joining the current consensus "in an incomplete, partial manner."

NGO PARTICIPATION

Throughout the preparatory process, non-governmental organizations were involved to a degree that was unprecedented for a UN conference, participating actively in meetings and offering comments on successive drafts of the Programme of Action. An estimated 1,200 representatives from over 500 NGOs had considerable access and influence in shaping the outcome.

At the Conference itself, a total of 1,254 NGOs based in 138 countries were accredited. In addition, more than 4,200

representatives of over 1,500 non-governmental organizations from 133 countries attended the NGO Forum '94, an independent gathering held parallel to ICPD.

Chapter XV of the Programme of Action affirms that "to address the challenges of population and development effectively, broad and effective partnership" between Governments and NGOs "is essential". NGOs are expected to play a central role in every aspect of implementation of the ICPD Programme.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON FOLLOW-UP TO ICPD:

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UNFPA Task Force on ICPD Implementation

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UNFPA GEARS UP TO IMPLEMENT ICPD PROGRAMME OF ACTION

Immediately after the ICPD Programme of Action was adopted, many groups turned their focus and their energies to its implementation.

Not surprisingly, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has been among the most active in determining what will be needed to put the commitments of Cairo into practice. All units of the Fund have been actively engaged in reviewing current practices and policies to ensure that they fit into the population and

development philosophy embodied in the Programme of Action.

To complement the work of UNFPA's various geographic, technical and information/external relations divisions in this regard, the Fund's Executive Director Dr. Nafis Sadik has announced the creation of a new unit, the Task Force on ICPD Implementation.

Under the direction of Dr. Sadik, the Task Force will be headed by Ms. Catherine S. Pierce, who has been Chief of the Women, Population and Development Branch of UNFPA's Technical and Evaluation Division.

The Task Force will: plan and support ICPD follow-up activities at various levels, in cooperation with the UNFPA divisions and units concerned; report on developments related to the Programme of Action in the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and other UN bodies; bring ICPD-related matters to the attention of UNFPA divisions, field offices and Country Support Teams; and provide secretariat support to the Executive Director for her ICPD follow-up tasks.

Summing up the purpose of the new Task Force, Dr. Sadik stated: "Making sure that the implementation of the Programme of Action is totally linked with every aspect of UNFPA's work is of the highest importance to me. This Task Force will work alongside others in the Fund to make sure that we are at the forefront of carrying out the international commitments made at the Conference, to ensure that the promise of Cairo is realized."

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News in Brief

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NEWS IN BRIEF

In recent weeks, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has conducted four regional consultations in New York as follow-up to the Cairo Conference.

On 14 and 15 December, UNFPA convened a high-level meeting of sub-Saharan African ministers, parliamentarians, non-governmental organization representatives and health experts from the public and private sectors. They discussed the ICPD Programme of Action and

made recommendations to speed its implementation; the focus was on problems and priorities of Africa, and strategies for increasing political and legislative commitment and support to population programmes.

Government officials, NGO representatives and health and family planning experts from 13 Asian and Pacific countries attended a 29 November-2 December meeting. They issued a set of recommendations which included educating policy makers, programme managers and women about reproductive health; support by the UNFPA and Governments for educational programmes for adolescents and married adults on family planning, teenage pregnancy, and the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases; advocacy to change the social perception of women's roles; increased education for women, especially for girls; and a new partnership between UNFPA and NGOs aimed at achieving the goals of the Conference.

Meetings for European and Arab States and for Central and Latin American countries were held from 28 November-2 December and 18-23 November, respectively.

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Some 160 representatives of U.S. population- and environment-related non-governmental organizations took part in a three-day post-ICPD conference, "The Road from Cairo", held in Miami, Florida, from 18-20 November. The meeting was organized by the National Audubon Society and co-sponsored by about 20 NGOs.

Participants reviewed the outcome of ICPD and discussed ways

to advocate effectively for comprehensive, sensible and humane population and development policies. Workshops made recommendations in regard to implementing the Programme of Action; domestic family planning policy; consumption, environmental justice and sustainability; and national population policy.

U.S. Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs Timothy Wirth was keynote speaker. Also featured was a forum on immigration with Vanderbilt University Professor Virginia Abernethy and National Immigration Forum Executive Director Frank Sharry.

For more information: National Audubon Society, 4150 Darley Ave., Suite 7, Boulder, CO 80303, U.S.A.; tel. (303) 499-5155.

*

Representatives of NGOs in Eastern and Western Europe and the former Soviet Union took part in a seminar on implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action, held in Alicante, Spain on 28-29 November. Organized by the Population Institute, the meeting was co-sponsored by the United Nations Associations of Denmark, Germany, Lithuania, Poland and Spain and the Family Planning Association of Spain.

Among the speakers was ICPD Executive Coordinator Jyoti Shankar Singh.

Participants adopted the Alicante Declaration, calling on Governments to move swiftly in implementing the Programme of Action and on donors to reorder their priorities to ensure that sufficient resources will be available.

Next year, the Population Institute, a U.S.-based NGO, will sponsor international seminars on implementation in Juarez, Mexico, and Brisbane, Australia, and five regional seminars in the United States. For information: Population Institute, 107 Second St., NE, Washington, DC 20002, U.S.A.; tel. (202) 544-3300; fax (202) 544-0068.

*

An International Symposium on Issues Related to Sex Preference for Children in the Rapidly Changing Demographic Dynamics in Asia was held from 21-24 November in Seoul. Jointly sponsored by UNFPA and the Korean Institute for Health and Social Affairs the meeting was attended by 26 participants from countries in the region, observers from several countries, and UN staff.

Fifteen papers were presented on the impact in different countries of sex preference for children. They found the impact on fertility decline to be of greatest concern in countries at a relatively early point in the demographic transition. The impact on gender differentials in infant and child mortality was found to be more pervasive, discriminating against girls more in some countries and ethnic groups than in others. Abnormally high sex ratios at birth due to the use of prenatal sex detection and gender-selective abortions were found to be a growing concern as fertility approaches or goes below replacement level and as sex-detection techniques become available.

UNFPA and KIHASA will jointly publish a full report of the

proceedings, the presented papers and additional analyses early in 1995.

*

UNFPA this month released "Making a Difference: Twenty-five Years of UNFPA Experience". Edited by Dr. Nafis Sadik, the Fund's Executive Director and ICPD Secretary-General, the book charts the development of UNFPA's mandate since its founding in 1969, showing how policies and procedures have evolved in response to countries' and individuals' changing needs.

As the Fund has promoted greater awareness of population concerns in both developed and developing countries and supported innovative action programmes, its resources have grown. The book illustrates how UNFPA's increased assistance has enabled developing countries to address population and development concerns in the context of their respective priorities and cultures.

Published by Banson (London), "Making a Difference" is available from the Technical and Evaluation Division, UNFPA, 220 E. 42nd Street, New York, NY 10017, U.S.A. The price is \$20.

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Regions Draft Plans of Action for Beijing

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WOMEN'S CONFERENCE DRAFTS REFLECT ICPD THEMES

It was the hope of many ICPD participants that the message from Cairo would be taken up in the preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women (WCW), to be held in Beijing next September. That hope has found strong support in the five regional WCW preparatory meetings held in 1994.

Key concepts from the ICPD Programme of Action have been included in the regional draft programmes and plans of action

prepared at these meetings. Drafts written or amended by the regional economic commissions, government delegates and non-governmental organizations alike stress the right of couples to choose the number and spacing of their children and call on Governments to make reproductive health information and support services available.

Debates at these meetings have been frank in identifying the obstacles that stand between women and their empowerment. Even in areas of the world where women have gained some equity, great gaps still exist between the opportunities available to men and those to women in education, training, employment and access to credit. Unequal opportunity deprives women of their basic human rights and also impedes countries' efforts to achieve sustainable development.

Another global bias militates against giving women the same quality health care as men or rural people the same as urban residents. Rural women are therefore the worst off of all human groups in many countries. To make the lack of health care equity worse, societies do not put the same pressure on men to be sexually disciplined and as a result an alarming number of men have infected their wives with sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS.

The regional preparatory meeting for Europe and North America, held in Vienna from 17-21 October, recommended "a new gender contract" based on partnership between men and women. Such a contract could lead to the reduction of women's double workload inside and outside of the home. The Europeans and North Americans said further that proposals for social and economic change must be analysed from the viewpoints of men and women respectively.

DOUBLE WORKLOAD

The African regional preparatory meeting, held in Dakar from 16-23 November, concluded that women's double workload creates a burden which seems to lead to stress-related health problems. Both the African and European meetings called for an end to traditional practices which harm the health of girls and women.

Africans called for better care for mothers and children in the hope that maternal and infant mortality can be halved by 2005. The maternal mortality rate for African women now, some noted, is 540 times that of northern Europe.

Asian and Pacific women, meeting in Jakarta from 7-14 June, called for an end to female foeticide and said the "culture of silence" that prevents women from taking account of their own health problems must be ended by using consciousness-raising processes.

The Arab Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women to the Year 2005, adopted at a 6-10 November meeting in Amman, says it "emanates from the religious values that respect the rights of women as human beings and it emphasizes the belief that their participation in the development process and the fruits thereof is a precondition for its comprehensiveness and sustainability". That said, the document points out inequalities for women in all areas of life and laments that they have "insufficient mechanisms at all levels to promote the advancement of women".

The draft prepared by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean was discussed at two meetings, held in

Mar del Plata, Argentina, from 25-29 September and in Santiago, Chile, from 16-18 November. It says that research is still needed in that region to determine women's health needs, especially with respect to reproductive health. The statement also would "encourage the adoption of measures to protect women's reproductive rights."

Paragraph 1.7 of the ICPD Programme of Action notes that the Cairo Conference outcomes "are closely related to and will make significant contributions to" WCW and other major conferences in 1995 and 1996: "These events are expected to highlight further the call of the 1994 Conference for greater investments in people, and for a new action agenda for the empowerment of women to ensure their full participation at all levels in the social, economic and political lives of their communities."

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Text of the General Assembly Resolution on ICPD

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TEXT OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION ON ICPD

Following is UN General Assembly resolution 49/128, "Report of the International Conference on Population and Development", as recommended by the Second Committee and adopted on 19 December 1994 (as of 11 January 1995 the final official text had not yet been released):

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/176 of 22 December 1992 and 48/186 of 21 December 1993 on the International Conference on Population and Development, and 48/162 of 20 December 1993 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 1989/91 of 26 July 1989, 1991/93 of 26 July 1991, 1992/37 of 30 July 1992, 1993/4 of 12 February 1993 and 1993/76 of 30 July 1993, in which the Council decided on the convening, mandate and preparatory process of the International Conference on Population and Development,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council decision 1994/227 of 14 July 1994, by which the Council approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-eighth session of the Population Commission, including discussion of the implications of the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 3 (III) of 3 October 1946, 150 (VII) of 10 August 1948 and 1985/4 of 28 May 1985 on the mandate of the Population Commission, as well as 1763 (LIV) of 18 May 1973 and 1986/7 of 21 May 1986 on the aims and purposes of the United Nations Population Fund,

Having considered the report of the International Conference on Population and Development, held at Cairo, from 5 to 13 September 1994,

Reaffirming the importance of the outcome of the World Population Conference, held at Bucharest in 1974, and the International Conference on Population, held at Mexico City in 1984, and acknowledging fully the integrated approach taken during the International Conference on Population and Development, which recognizes the interrelationship among population, sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

Recognizing that the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development is the sovereign right of every country, in accordance with its national laws and development priorities, with full respect for the various religious and ethical values and cultural backgrounds of its peoples and in conformity with universally recognized international human rights,

Expressing its belief in the contribution that the outcome of the International Conference on Population and Development will make to the forthcoming World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), in particular with regard to the call for a greater investment in people and for the empowerment of women to ensure their full participation at all levels in the social, economic and political lives of their communities,

Expressing its satisfaction at the fact that the International Conference on Population and Development and its preparatory process enabled the full and active involvement of States Members of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, of observers and various intergovernmental organizations and of representatives

of non-governmental organizations representing all regions of the world,

Expressing its profound gratitude to the Government and people of Egypt for the hospitality extended to the participants at the Conference and for the facilities, staff and services placed at their disposal,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the report of the International Conference on Population and Development; 17/

2. Endorses the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development; 18/ adopted on 13 September 1994;

3. Acknowledges the contribution made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Conference to the successful organization of the Conference;

4. Affirms that, in the implementation of the Programme of Action, Governments should commit themselves at the highest political level to achieving its goals and objectives, which reflect a new, integrated approach to population and development, and take a lead role in coordinating the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of follow-up actions;

5. Calls upon all Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and other major groups concerned with population and development issues, including intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, parliamentarians and other

community leaders, to give the widest possible dissemination to the Programme of Action and to seek public support for its goals, objectives and actions;

6. Fully acknowledges that the factors of population, health, education, poverty, patterns of production and consumption, empowerment of women and the environment are closely interconnected and should be considered through an integrated approach, and that the follow-up to the Conference must reflect this fact;

7. Urges all countries to consider their current spending priorities with a view to making additional contributions for the implementation of the Programme of Action, taking into account the provisions of chapters XIII and XIV of the Programme of Action and the economic constraints faced by developing countries, in particular the least developed among them;

8. Acknowledges the importance of the subregional and regional activities undertaken during the preparations for the Conference, including the regional strategies, plans and declarations adopted as part of that process, and invites the regional commissions, other regional and subregional organizations and the development banks to examine the results of the Conference within their respective mandates, for the follow-up and implementation of the Programme of Action at the regional level;

9. Emphasizes that international cooperation in the field of population and development is essential for the implementation of the recommendations adopted at the Conference, and in this context calls upon the international community to provide, both bilaterally and multilaterally, adequate and substantial support and assistance

for population and development activities, including through the United Nations Population Fund and other organs and organizations of the United Nations system and the specialized agencies that will be involved in the implementation, at all levels, of the Programme of Action;

10. Calls upon the organs and organizations of the United Nations system and the specialized agencies to undertake the actions required to give full and effective support to the implementation of the Programme of Action;

11. Emphasizes the need to maintain and enhance effective partnership with non-governmental groups and organizations so as to ensure their continued contributions and cooperation within all aspects of population and development, and urges all countries to establish appropriate national follow-up mechanisms, in partnership with non-governmental organizations, community groups and representatives of the media and the academic community, and to seek the support of parliamentarians, so as to ensure the full implementation of the Programme of Action;

12. Recognizes the importance of South-South cooperation in the implementation of the Programme of Action;

13. Also recognizes that the effective implementation of the Programme of Action will require an increased commitment of financial resources, both domestically and externally, and in this context calls upon the developed countries to complement the national financial efforts of developing countries on population and development and intensify their efforts to transfer new and

additional resources to the developing countries, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Programme of Action, in order to ensure that population and development objectives and goals are met;

14. Acknowledges that countries with economies in transition should receive temporary assistance for population and development activities in view of the difficult economic and social problems faced by these countries at present, and therefore suggests that the specialized agencies and all related organizations of the United Nations system should adjust, on this basis, their programmes and activities in line with the Programme of Action and take appropriate measures to ensure its full and effective implementation;

15. Emphasizes the importance of the early identification and allocation of financial resources by all members of the international community, including regional financial institutions, to enable them to fulfil their commitments with regard to the implementation of the Programme of Action;

16. Requests the Secretary-General to consult with the various bodies of the United Nations system, as well as with international financial institutions and various bilateral aid organizations and agencies, with a view to promoting an exchange of information among them on the requirements for international assistance, reviewing on a regular basis the specific needs of countries in the field of population and development and maximizing the availability of resources and their most effective utilization;

17. Invites the Secretary-General to ensure that adequate

resources are provided for the Conference follow-up activities of the United Nations Secretariat during 1995;

18. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare periodic reports for the substantive sessions of the Economic and Social Council on the flow of financial resources for assisting in the implementation of the Programme of Action and to promote the exchange of information on the requirements for international assistance among the members of the donor community;

19. Urges the international community to promote a supportive international economic environment by adopting favourable macroeconomic policies for promoting sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

20. Stresses the importance of continued and enhanced cooperation and coordination by all relevant organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and the specialized agencies in the implementation of the Programme of Action;

21. Emphasizes the need for follow-up activities relating to the Conference and the Programme of Action so as to utilize, to the fullest extent possible, existing capacity within the United Nations system in the area of population and development, including the Population Commission, the Population Division of the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis of the United Nations Secretariat and the United Nations Population Fund, as well as other organizations, programmes and funds of the United Nations and the specialized agencies whose support and commitment are required for the successful implementation of the

full range of activities outlined in the Programme of Action;

22. Requests the specialized agencies and all related organizations of the United Nations system to review and, where necessary, adjust their programmes and activities in line with the Programme of Action and take appropriate measures to ensure its full and effective implementation, taking into account the specific needs of developing countries, and invites them to report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1995 for coordination purposes and to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session for policy implications;

23. Decides that the General Assembly, through its role in policy formulation, the Economic and Social Council, through its role in overall guidance and coordination, in accordance with Assembly resolution 48/162, and a revitalized Population Commission shall constitute a three-tiered intergovernmental mechanism that will play the primary role in the follow-up to the implementation of the Programme of Action, keeping in mind the need to develop a common framework for a coherent follow-up to United Nations summits and conferences, and to this end:

(a) The General Assembly, being the highest intergovernmental mechanism for the formulation and appraisal of policy on matters relating to the follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development, will organize a regular review of the implementation of the Programme of Action;

(b) The Economic and Social Council, in assisting the General Assembly, will promote an integrated approach, provide system-wide coordination and guidance in the monitoring of the implementation

of the Programme of Action and make recommendations thereon;

(c) The revitalized Population Commission, as a functional commission assisting the Economic and Social Council, will monitor, review and assess the implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, regional and international levels and advise the Council thereon;

24. Also decides that, to emphasize the new and comprehensive approach to population and development embodied in the Programme of Action, the revitalized Population Commission shall be renamed the Commission on Population and Development;

25. Further decides that the Commission on Population and Development shall meet on an annual basis, beginning in 1996;

26. Recommends that the Economic and Social Council review, at its substantive session of 1995, the Commission's terms of reference and mandate so as to bring them fully into line with the provisions of paragraph 23 (c);

27. Also recommends that the Economic and Social Council, pursuant to the decisions made on the terms of reference and enhanced mandate of the revitalized Commission, should consider at its substantive session of 1995 the composition of the Commission, in order to ensure that the Commission fully fulfils its functions as provided in paragraph 23, taking into account the integrated multidisciplinary and comprehensive approach of the Programme of Action as well as the membership of the other functional commissions of the Council;

28. Requests the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 1995, to consider:

(a) The establishment of a separate executive board of the United Nations Population Fund;

(b) The submission of recommendations to the Secretary-General concerning secretariat support and coordination arrangements for the United Nations system;

(c) The submission of recommendations to the Secretary-General regarding the establishment of an appropriate inter-agency coordination, collaboration and harmonization mechanism for the implementation of the Programme of Action;

29. Also requests the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 1995, to review the reporting procedures within the United Nations system regarding population and development issues, including a quinquennial review and appraisal of the progress made in achieving the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action, in order to ensure full support for its implementation, bearing in mind the reporting procedures for all United Nations conferences in the economic and social field;

30. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with States, to prepare a report on institutional follow-up issues and reporting procedures in the United Nations system, to be submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1995;

31. Requests the Economic and Social Council:

(a) To discuss the relevant matters concerning the implementation of population and development programmes, as well as matters concerning harmonization, cooperation and collaboration within the United Nations system regarding the implementation of the Programme of Action;

(b) To discuss the reports submitted by the different bodies and organs on various matters related to the Programme of Action;

32. Invites the governing body of the United Nations Population Fund to oversee, on a regular basis, the response of the Fund to the needs of countries regarding activities to strengthen national population and development programmes, including the specific requests from developing countries for assistance in the preparation of national reports, within its area of competence, and to report to the Economic and Social Council on this matter;

33. Calls upon the programmes of the United Nations system and the regional commissions and funds to provide their full and active support to the implementation of the Programme of Action, particularly at the field level, through the United Nations resident coordinator system, and invites the relevant specialized agencies to do the same;

34. Requests the Commission on Population and Development, at its twenty-eighth session, to review, within its area of competence, the Programme of Action and its implications and to transmit its views to the Economic and Social Council at its

substantive session of 1995;

35. Requests the Secretary-General to report, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

36. Decides to include in the agenda of its forthcoming sessions, within existing clusters, an item entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development".

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON FOLLOW-UP TO ICPD:

Task Force on ICPD Implementation

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ICPD and the Media

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Cairo, Egypt

5-13 September 1994

"ICPD 94" newsletter, Number 22

Final Issue, December 1994

ICPD AND THE PRESS: "A MARRIAGE MADE IN HEAVEN"

The Cairo Conference is being described as the most-covered UN event ever. Media coverage was extensive in all parts of the world. In Nepal for instance, 48 newspaper articles were published on ICPD; in Japan, 256 articles; in Tunisia, 244.

The ICPD Secretariat has received more than 10,000 clippings on the subject of ICPD. These indicate some general trends in what was said, and in how the coverage developed.

Some 3,700 journalists from all over the world attended the Conference. Among them, there was an unusually high level of enthusiasm and involvement; it was clear that journalists in general had the feeling that something real was at stake in Cairo.

Television coverage of ICPD, particularly the daily reporting of CNN's international service and its numerous background reports on items related to the Conference, played a major role in setting the global news agenda before and during ICPD.

The vast majority of the press coverage was positive about the purpose of ICPD, its emphasis that women have a key role in the development process, and the Programme of Action generally.

Many newspapers used the launch of UNFPA's "The State of the World Population 1994" report in August as an opportunity to introduce ICPD's woman-focused agenda to the public. The report makes it very clear that women are the key to sustainable development and to balancing population growth with the world's resources.

In the days prior to the opening of ICPD, newspapers paid a lot of attention to security issues and to the decision by one or two countries not to attend the Conference.

The opening of ICPD on 5 September got world-wide attention. Highlighted were the speeches of UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali (call for tolerance), ICPD Secretary-General Dr. Nafis Sadik (women are the key), Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of

Pakistan (empowerment of women is needed), and Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland of Norway ("This Conference is really about the future of democracy").

During the first few days of the Conference, most articles dealt with the debate on abortion and with the position of the Vatican. Attention was also given to the positions of Islamic countries like Egypt and Iran.

On 7 and 8 September hundreds of newspapers all over the world reported that delegates were losing their patience, saying that they wanted to discuss the real issues instead of being "taken hostage" by the abortion debate. Dr. Sadik was quoted widely as saying: "We have been talking about giving women real choices. But as soon as that possibility seemed to become reality, that seemed very threatening to some delegations."

By that time, ICPD was well known to newspaper readers, and passing references to the Conference appeared in all kinds of articles, crossword puzzles and quizzes. Many columnists, particularly women, devoted their columns to ICPD. Hundreds of letters from readers were published on editorial pages world-wide.

While covering the Conference, many journalists took the opportunity to interview representatives of non-governmental organizations from all over the world, resulting in a large number of stories about NGOs' work in different countries.

At the close of the Conference its outcome, the Programme of Action, was mostly presented positively as a 180-country consensus. Quoted world-wide was Dr. Sadik's closing observation that the

Programme "will bring women at last into the mainstream of development. ... Without resources however, the Programme of Action will remain a paper promise."

Many editorials supported that point of view, commenting that while the Programme of Action is strong, the time has now come to turn these promising words and commitments into tangible results.

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News for NGOs

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NEWS FOR THE NGOS

The Centre for Development and Population Activities (CEDPA), an international nongovernmental organization committed to the empowerment of women, was an active player throughout the ICPD process and is involved in post-Conference efforts to ensure that the promise of Cairo is realized.

The Centre and its network of more than 900 partner NGOs viewed ICPD's focus on women's empowerment as a reaffirmation of

their 19-year mission to promote women's involvement as full partners in development. The Southern, women-focused organizations in the CEDPA network reach more than 20 million women and girls through integrated population and development programmes including family planning and reproductive health care.

CEDPA staff and alumnae helped shape the Conference agenda and emphasis, participating in expert group meetings, regional population conferences and meetings of the ICPD preparatory committee. In 1993, the Centre organized meetings in 11 countries on ICPD issues; more than 200 women heading family planning, women's health and development organizations took part. In July and August of this year, it supported national meetings throughout Central America to assist women's groups and networks concerned with population and development issues.

At ICPD, CEDPA was represented by 62 persons from 30 countries, including eight members of official delegations. At the NGO Forum '94, the Centre conducted a workshop on advocacy, in which network members shared experiences as advocates for women-centred programmes. Members also conducted or participated in over 20 other workshops and panel discussions at the Forum.

To help women continue their advocacy efforts for policies to empower women and promote gender equity as they work to implement the ICPD Programme of Action in their countries, the Centre has prepared a 36-page handbook, "After Cairo: A Handbook on Advocacy for Women Leaders".

The handbook is organized to be a clear, simple guide to help

advocates shape effective campaigns after ICPD. It presents strategies for community-based advocacy in four sections: planning for advocacy, taking your message to the public, forging alliances, and advocating for resources. A concluding section illustrates some of these strategies with profiles of CEDPA alumnae and partner organizations.

Produced with funding from the United Nations Population Fund, the booklet was distributed at the NGO Forum in Cairo. A French-language version, now available, was given to participants in last month's African regional preparatory meeting for the Fourth World Conference on Women, and is being distributed in Africa. CEDPA is preparing a Spanish version for its advocacy networks in Latin America, and a Chinese version for distribution at the Women's Conference in Beijing next September.

With CEDPA's assistance, national networks have been established in Kenya and India to help design programmes incorporating themes of ICPD, especially women's empowerment. CEDPA hopes to help set up similar networks in about 10 more countries.

For more information: CEDPA, 1717 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Suite 200, Washington, D.C. 20036, U.S.A.; tel. 202-667-1142; fax 202-332-4496. CEDPA also has offices in Bucharest, Cairo, Kathmandu, Lagos, Nairobi and New Delhi.

*

Just released by Family Care International: "Action for the 21st Century: Reproductive Health & Rights for All", a summary of the fundamental reproductive health recommendations contained in the

ICPD Programme of Action.

Prepared by Maria Jose Alcala, the report includes sections on: women's empowerment and gender equity; eliminating discrimination against girls; male responsibility and participation; sexual and reproductive health and rights, including safe motherhood, unsafe abortion, adolescents, prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDs; quality of care, training and research; community participation' and mobilizing human and technical resources. Each section includes paragraph references from the Programme of Action.

The report is a valuable reference and advocacy tool for Governments, NGOs, women's groups and the private sector. Single copies of "Action for the 21st Century" are available without charge in English, French and Spanish from Family Care International, 588 Broadway, Suite 503, New York, NY 10012, U.S.A.; tel. (212) 941-5300; fax (212) 941-5563. Additional copies for Canada, Europe and the United States are \$1 each.

*

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is committed to broadening and deepening its collaboration with NGOs active in all aspects of sustainable development. The Fund is particularly interested in learning of any ICPD-related follow-up activities NGOs are planning, and would be pleased to make copies of the Programme of Action available or to provide any other needed information to help assure the success of any such activities.

For further information on UNFPA-NGO partnership, NGOs are encouraged to contact the Interregional and International NGO Branch, Technical and Evaluation Division, UNFPA, 220 E. 42nd Street, New York, NY, 10017, U.S.A.

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

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CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

1995

10-13 January

UN Headquarters, New York

First regular session of the UN Development Programme/UN Population Fund Executive Board.

16-27 January

UN Headquarters, New York

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

21 February-2 March

UN Headquarters, New York

Twenty-eighth session of the UN Population Commission.

6-12 March

Copenhagen, Denmark

World Summit for Social Development.

15 March-7 April

UN Headquarters, New York

Third meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women in preparation for the Fourth World Conference on Women.

4-7 April

UN Headquarters, New York

Second regular session of the UN Development Programme/UN Population Fund Executive Board.

6-16 June

UN Headquarters, New York

Annual session of the UN Development Programme/UN Population Fund Executive Board.

26 June

San Francisco, USA

Commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the signing of the United

Nations Charter.

26 June-28 July

Geneva

Substantive session of the UN Economic and Social Council.

28 August-1 September

UN Headquarters, New York

Third regular session of the UN Development Programme/UN Population Fund Executive Board.

4-15 September

Beijing, China

Fourth World Conference on Women.

22-24 October

UN Headquarters New York

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

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