

ANNUAL REPORT



1998



UNFPA

United Nations
Population Fund

CONTENTS

Foreword	3
UNFPA in 1998 — Programme and Financial Highlights . .	5
Programme Priorities	9
Programme Effectiveness	22
Regional and Interregional Overview	33
Africa (sub-Saharan)	34
Arab States and Europe	37
Asia and the Pacific	41
Latin America and the Caribbean	44
Interregional Programmes	47
List of Abbreviations	50
Appendix A: UNFPA Mission Statement	51
Appendix B: UNFPA Income and Expenditures 1998	52
Appendix C: Government Pledges and Payments 1998	52
Appendix D: Project Expenditures in 1998	53
Appendix E: Executive Board Decisions 1998	55
Appendix F: General Assembly and ECOSOC Resolutions	59

FOREWORD



FOREWORD



The year 1998 was a crucial one in UNFPA's efforts to advance the agenda agreed to by the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), held in Cairo. In all of the 155 countries where the Fund was active in the past year, our support to developing countries reflected the goals and priorities laid out in the ICPD Programme of Action. These include integration of population and development strategies, universal access to comprehensive reproductive health services, information and services for young people and promotion of gender equity and women's empowerment.

A central activity in 1998 was a global review of progress achieved so far in implementing the ICPD agreement, with a view to identifying successful approaches, ongoing constraints and key future actions. UNFPA and the United Nations Population Division jointly organized a series of "ICPD+5" round tables and technical meetings involving governments, non-governmental organizations, various United Nations organizations and members of civil society, and participated in regional consultations.

In addition, the Fund undertook a Field Inquiry to obtain country-level feedback on the progress made and problems encountered during the course of ICPD implementation efforts. All of these review activities were intended to provide inputs to a UNFPA-organized international forum in The Hague in February 1999 and to the United Nations General Assembly's Special Session on ICPD, held from 30 June to 2 July 1999.

The inquiry found that actions taken since Cairo are producing positive results. With UNFPA assistance, many countries have taken steps to integrate population concerns into their development strategies. Many are focusing on quality reproductive health care, as envisioned in Cairo, including improved access to family planning, prenatal and postnatal care, screening and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and appropriate care during childbirth.

In the area of adolescent reproductive health, the Field Inquiry found that countries around the world are formulating programmes and policies to meet the needs of young people. Many countries are reporting high teenage pregnancy

rates. For the young mothers, this often means increased health risks and curtailed educational and job opportunities. This year's *Annual Report* spotlights a number of innovative initiatives that are addressing this problem.

There has also been marked progress regarding the status of women. Several countries have created laws and policies that target harmful traditional practices like female genital mutilation as well as gender-based violence. Many are also passing or strengthening laws to protect women's rights in the areas of marriage and divorce, property, inheritance, and political and economic participation. This report details many UNFPA-assisted projects aimed at empowering women. UNFPA Goodwill Ambassadors continued to help raise awareness of issues affecting women's status and well-being.

In addition, many civil society groups are contributing to the formulation and implementation of policies, programmes and projects on their own or in partnership with governments and the private sector, as called for by ICPD.

However, the ICPD+5 review also showed that for some countries and regions, progress has been limited, and in some cases setbacks have occurred. Women and girls continue to face harmful discrimination. The HIV/AIDS pandemic is more severe than was anticipated in 1994, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa. Far too many women in poor countries die or become ill as a result of pregnancy and childbirth. Young people remain especially vulnerable to unwanted sex and pregnancy, STDs and sexual exploitation. And millions of couples and individuals still lack access to reproductive health information and services, including quality, voluntary family planning.

At Cairo, governments agreed to provide a wide range of reproductive health services, including but not limited to family planning, through the primary health care system. The challenge for most countries is how to expand or merge services, given resource constraints and in the context of ongoing health-sector reform. A shortage of resources adds to the difficulties involved. UNFPA is continuing to work with governments, NGOs and other development organizations to help countries overcome such obstacles.

Also in 1998, the Fund stepped up its collaboration with other partners to provide reproductive health services to people displaced by armed conflicts or natural disasters. UNFPA also collaborated in efforts to combat the spread of HIV/AIDS, supporting awareness and prevention activities among young people, promotion of condom use, efforts to reduce mother-to-child transmission, and research into the effect of hormonal contraceptives on the progression of the disease. And as a partner in the Safe Motherhood Inter-agency Group, which proclaimed 1998 as the "Year of Safe Motherhood", UNFPA helped develop an action agenda of measures needed to reduce the world's unacceptably high levels of maternal mortality and morbidity.

I am confident that the lessons learned from these efforts and from the ICPD+5 exercise will provide invaluable input as the Fund continues to help governments develop programmes to meet current and future needs in the areas of population and reproductive health, to achieve the goals of the 1994 Cairo Conference.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Nafis Sadik".

Dr. Nafis Sadik
Executive Director
United Nations Population Fund

UNFPA IN 1998

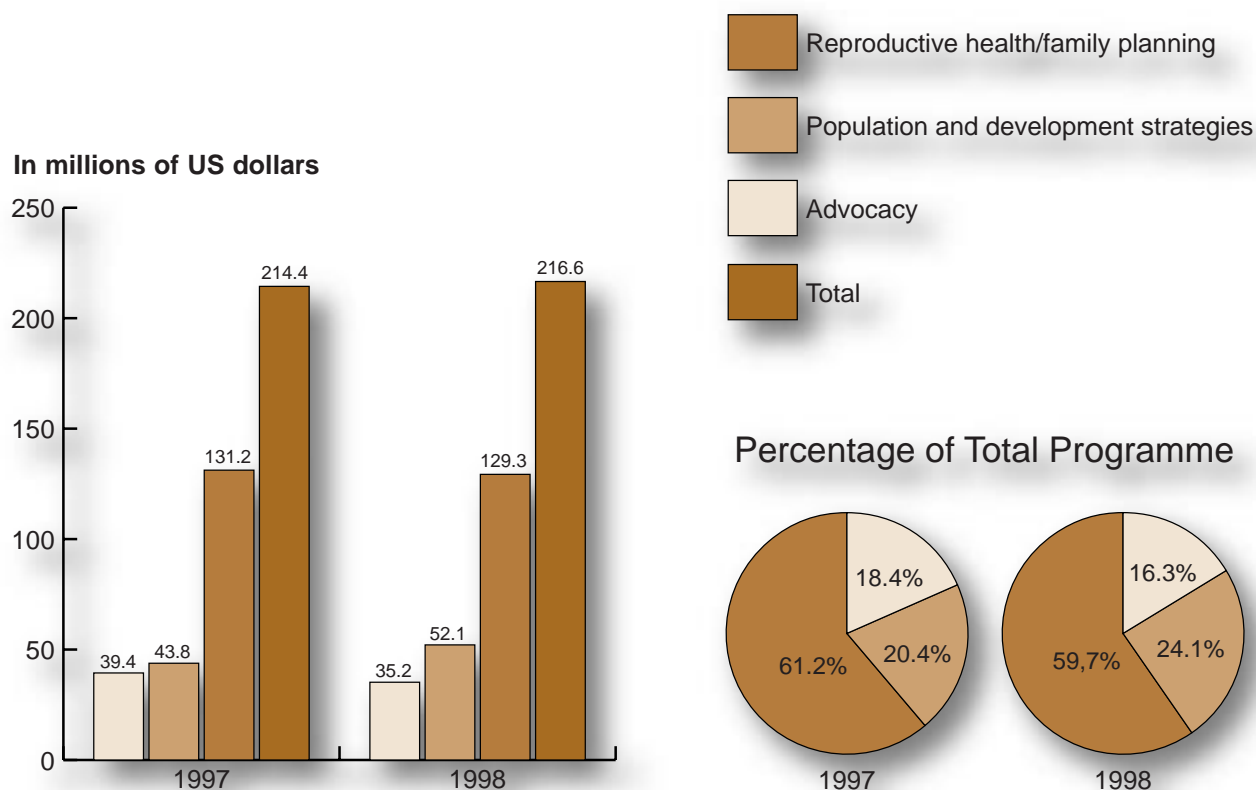
PROGRAMME AND FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS



UNFPA IN 1998

PROGRAMME AND FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

UNFPA ASSISTANCE BY MAJOR FUNCTION*



* Figures and percentages may not add up to totals due to rounding.

Pledges and contributions

Regular income in 1998 totalled \$277.0 million**, a decrease of 5.3 per cent compared to the 1997 income of \$292.5 million.

Pledges to UNFPA's general resources in 1998 totalled \$269.2 million, \$18.1 million less than in 1997, a decrease of 6.3 per cent. At year's end, cumulative pledges through 1998 totalled about \$4.5 billion from a cumulative total of 172 donors. The number of donors in 1998 totalled 93.

An additional \$32.3 million was provided through multi-lateral co-financing arrangements.

Total income in 1998 (provisional) was \$309.3 million, compared to \$322.7 in 1997.

Expenditures

Total (provisional) programmable resources for 1998 were \$305.1 million, compared to \$306.8 million in 1997.

Project expenditures in 1998 totalled \$216.6 million, as compared to \$214.4 million in 1997. The 1998 figure includes \$174.7 million for country programmes, compared to \$175.0 million in 1997; and \$41.9 million for intercountry (regional and inter-regional) programmes, compared to \$39.4 million for 1997.

Technical support services under the successor support cost arrangements approved by the Governing Council in decision 91/37 were \$22.3 million. Administrative and operational services (AOS) costs amounted to \$9.1 million.

** This figure does not include \$3.6 million in cost-sharing.

The resource utilization rate (expenditures divided by programmable resources, as approved by the Governing Council in decision 89/46 B) was provisionally 102 per cent in 1998 compared to 95 per cent in 1997.

For expenditures in 1998 by executing agency, by geographical area and by country category, see data on pages 7 and 8.

Country categories

Executive Board decision 96/15 endorsed the procedure for allocating resources according to categorization of countries into groups and approved the relative shares of resources to groups as follows: Group A, 67-69 per cent; Group B, 22-24 per cent; Group C, 5-7 per cent; countries with economies in transition, on a temporary basis, 3-4 per cent; and other countries and territories, 0.5 per cent.

The breakdown of resources expended for country programmes and projects in 1998, by group, is as follows: Group A, 62.5 per cent; Group B, 27.4 per cent; Group C, 3.2 per cent; countries with economies in transition, 4.8 per cent; and other countries and territories, 2.1 per cent.

Total expenditures in 1998 to Group A countries amounted to \$109.3 million, compared to \$106.0 million in expenditures in 1997.

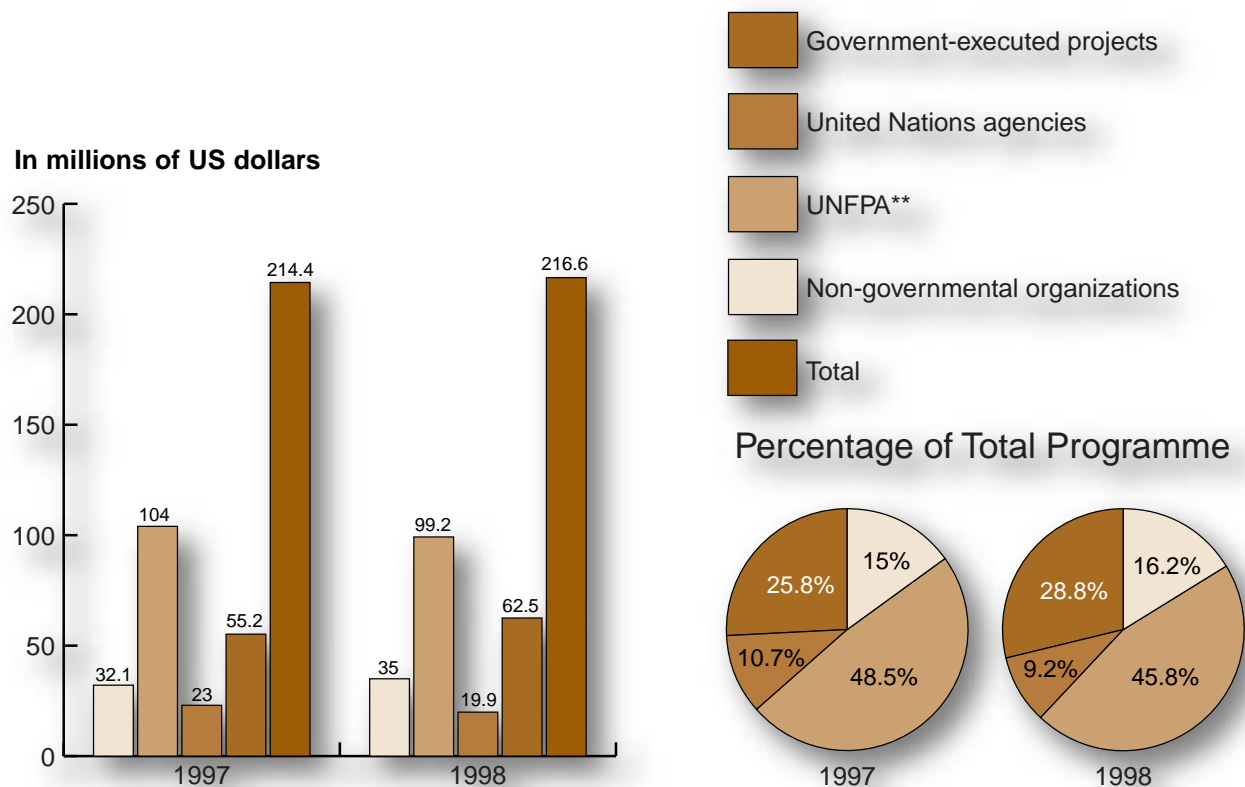
Intercountry activities

Expenditures for intercountry activities (regional and inter-regional) totalled \$41.9 million in 1998, compared to \$39.4 million in 1997. By category of activity, these expenditures were:

UNFPA IN 1998

PROGRAMME AND FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

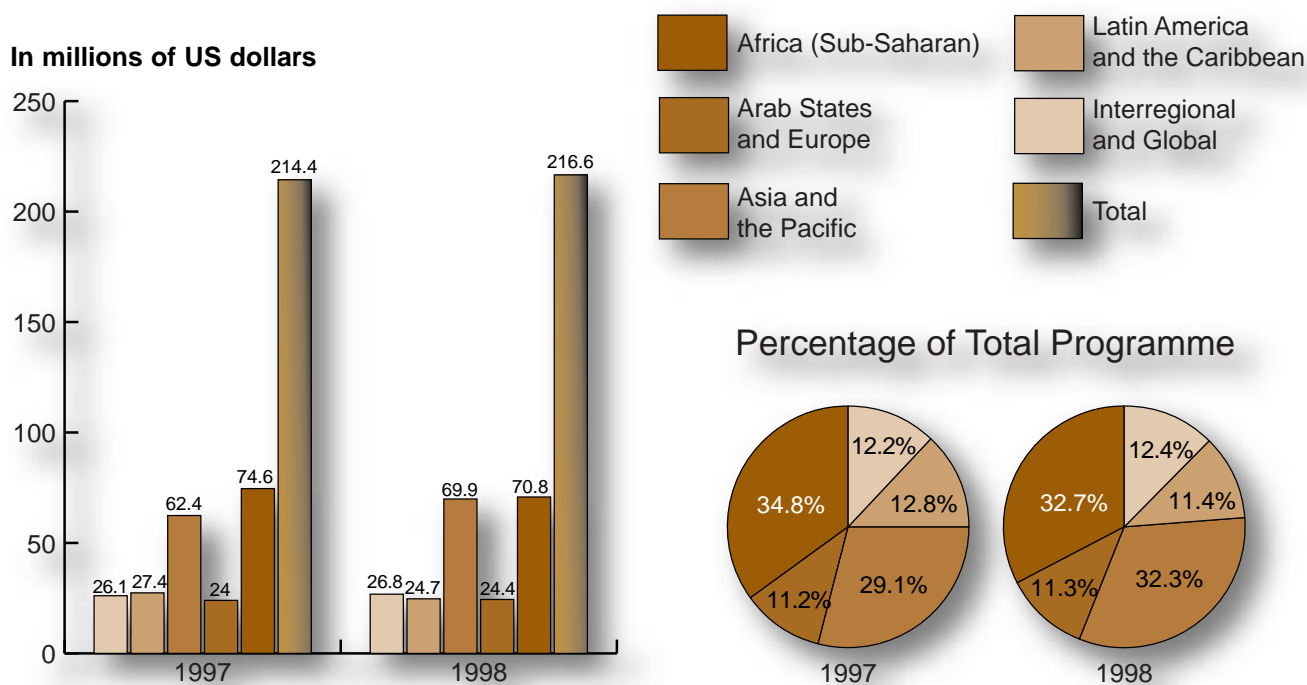
UNFPA ASSISTANCE BY EXECUTING AGENCY*



* Figures and percentages may not add up to totals due to rounding.

** Includes assistance to procurement for government projects as follows: \$42.8 million in 1997 and \$69 million in 1998.

UNFPA ASSISTANCE BY GEOGRAPHICAL REGION*

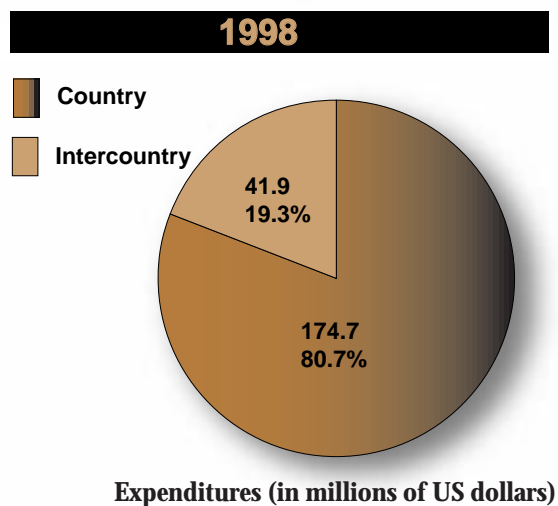
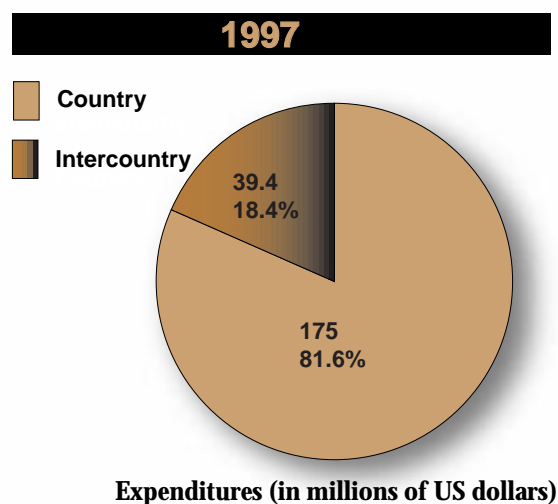


* Figures and percentages may not add up to totals due to rounding.

UNFPA IN 1998

PROGRAMME AND FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

UNFPA ASSISTANCE BY COUNTRY/ INTERCOUNTRY CATEGORY



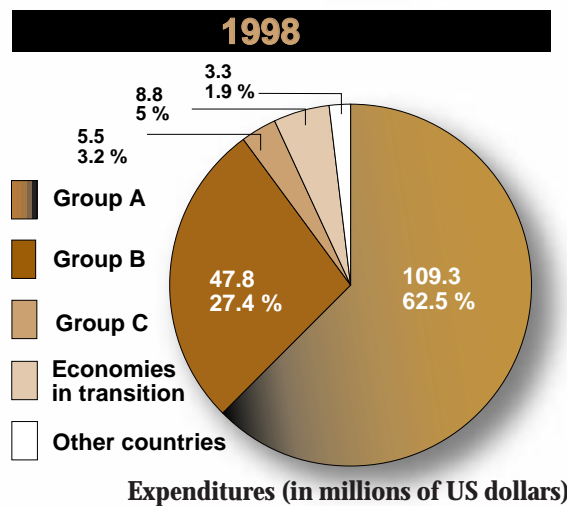
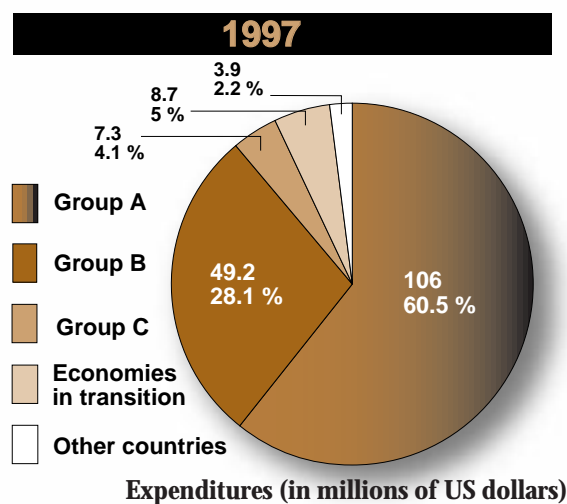
regional, \$15.1 million in 1998, compared to \$13.3 million in 1997; interregional, \$26.8 million in 1998, compared to \$26.1 million in 1997.

Intercountry programmes accounted for 19.3 per cent of 1998 total project expenditures, compared to 18.4 per cent in 1997.

Country Population Assessments

In 1998, Country Population Assessments (CPAs) were completed in four countries — Benin, Burundi, Madagascar and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

COUNTRY ACTIVITIES BY GROUP



Personnel

As of 1 January 1998, the total number of authorized budget posts numbered 972, comprising 350 Professional (including 156 national programme officers) and 622 General Service staff. These include 103 Professional and 135 General Service posts at headquarters, 2 Professional and 2 General Service posts in Geneva and 245 Professional and 485 local General Service posts in the field.

The percentage of women on UNFPA's Professional staff at headquarters and in the field was 47 per cent in 1998, one of the highest percentages among United Nations agencies and organizations. Moreover, 7 of the 11 members of the Fund's Executive Committee are women.

PROGRAMME PRIORITIES



PROGRAMME PRIORITIES

Nineteen ninety-eight was one of UNFPA's most productive years ever. Carrying out activities in some 155 countries, the Fund achieved the highest implementation rate in its history. Such success is indicative of the quality of UNFPA-assisted reproductive health and population programmes and of the Fund's efficiency in implementing them. It not only reflects the high level of need for such programmes, but also suggests that the Fund could effectively utilize more financial resources if they were available.

The year was also one of review and assessment. Particularly useful was the five-year review of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD). Informally known as the "ICPD+5" process, the review provided UNFPA with an opportunity to assess what had been learned to date during the course of ICPD implementation efforts and to consider how those lessons could be applied to future programmes.

As part of the ICPD+5 process, the Fund organized three round tables on major themes connected with implementing the Programme of Action: adolescent reproductive health (New York, 14-17 April); reproductive health and rights, including gender concerns (Kampala, Uganda, 22-25 June); and partnerships with civil society (Dhaka, Bangladesh, 27-30 July). The Fund also sponsored a series of technical meetings and symposia on international migration (The Hague, the Netherlands, 27 June - 1 July); ageing (Brussels, Belgium, 6-9 October); population change and economic development (Bellagio, Italy, 2-6 November); reproductive health in emergency situations (Rennes, France, 3-5 November); and the use of new information technologies (Ankara, Turkey, 1-4 December).

The ICPD+5 process also prompted UNFPA to conduct a global Field Inquiry. This survey, sent to developing countries and countries with economies in transition, collected informa-

tion in four areas: population and development policies and programmes; gender equality, equity and the empowerment of women; reproductive rights and reproductive health; and government partnerships and collaboration with civil society. Out of 139 countries receiving the inquiry, 114 responded, for an overall response rate of 82 per cent.

A smaller inquiry was conducted among developed countries. It focused on the countries' experiences in implementing the Programme of Action; their views on progress achieved and constraints encountered by developing countries; and issues related to resource mobilization. There were 18 responses out of 21, for a response rate of 86 per cent.

The responses were coded and entered into a database for analysis, and the results were compiled and published. The resulting database allows for a comparison of changes in policies and programmes since ICPD and can be used as a barometer to measure progress made in implementing the Programme of Action. Its focus on lessons learned and constraints encountered provides valuable guidance for the further implementation of the Programme of Action, as well as useful insights for UNFPA programmes.

During the year the Fund also published a series of technical reports and programme advisory notes. Particularly relevant to the assessment of the implementation of the Programme of Action were: a technical and policy paper on "Issues in Measuring and Monitoring Maternal Mortality"; technical reports on "The Sexual and Reproductive Health of Adolescents" and "Operationalizing Advocacy in Support of Population and Development Programmes at Country Level"; programme advisory notes on "Reducing Maternal Mortality and Morbidity" and "Reproductive Health Effects of Gender-Based Violence"; and a publication on "Indicators for Population and Reproductive Health Programmes".



UN/John Isaac

Women and their young children waiting outside a clinic in Jordan. UNFPA is helping countries to integrate reproductive health components into primary health care services.

PROGRAMME PRIORITIES

UNFPA also undertook thematic evaluations of UNFPA-supported safe motherhood strategies and HIV/AIDS-prevention interventions. In addition, the Fund carried out a study to assess progress in implementing the integrated reproductive health approach set out in the ICPD Programme of Action.

In 1998, the Fund began to systematically collect and analyse its best, most successful practices as well as lessons that have been learned. To do so, it relied on input from UNFPA Country Support Teams (CSTs). The teams, which visited countries with UNFPA-supported programmes around the world, provided information that is expected to have considerable impact on the Fund's future work.

All of these review, evaluation and technical activities were designed to strengthen UNFPA's work in its three core programme areas: reproductive health, including family planning and sexual health; population and development strategies; and advocacy in such cross-cutting areas as the promotion of gender equity and equality and the empowerment of women.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH, INCLUDING FAMILY PLANNING AND SEXUAL HEALTH

More than half the countries responding to the UNFPA Field Inquiry reported having taken significant measures to improve the quality of reproductive health services since ICPD in 1994. More service providers are being trained; health infrastructure and facilities are being improved; monitoring and evaluation efforts are being strengthened; and referral to reproductive health services is being enhanced. There has also been greater recognition of reproductive rights, with several countries having formulated policies and laws to combat female genital mutilation (FGM) and sexual and gender-related violence.

However, the inquiry also showed the need to augment existing reproductive health programmes with new components and to integrate reproductive health services into primary health care systems. Greater effort is also needed to promote the decentralization of health care systems. Major challenges include improving financial resources, strengthening human resources and addressing sociocultural issues that may impede service delivery and/or the achievement of reproductive health.

The "Expert Round-table Meeting on Ensuring Reproductive Rights, and Implementing Sexual and Reproductive Health Programmes, Including Women's Empowerment, Male Involvement and Human Rights" provided insights applicable to the Fund's programmes. The round table, organized in Kampala by UNFPA in collaboration with the United Nations Population Division, was attended by some 50 experts and observers from around the world. Attendees included representatives from governments as well as non-governmental organizations (NGOs), from both developing and developed countries. Also participating were experts on reproductive rights and health from academic and research institutions and United Nations agencies.

The meeting sought to identify post-ICPD strategies aimed at ensuring reproductive rights and making sexual and reproductive health programmes operational. Additionally, it attempted to identify successes and constraints in the policy, legal, administrative, managerial, strategic and financial aspects of such programmes. Finally, it tried to reach a consensus on actions needed to accelerate progress towards the achievement of ICPD goals.

The round table focused on actual case studies. For example, the experiences of Zambia provided insights into the process of developing a sexual and reproductive health policy. Bangladesh was the focus of the discussion on broadening the constellation of services within existing systems. The experiences of PROFA-



UN

Indian women learning about reproductive health and family planning methods. Information is one key to reproductive health; the freedom to act on that information is another.

MILIA, a Colombian non-governmental organization, shed light on the participation of NGOs in providing services. And Uganda's Reproductive, Education and Community Health Programme (REACH), which has helped discourage the practice of FGM, illustrated the importance of creating the necessary conditions for implementing sexual and reproductive health and rights.

The Kampala round table reinforced many of the Field Inquiry's findings. For example, while various elements of reproductive health care are available in many countries, these elements are not always well connected. Most programmes still have vertical administrative structures and compartmentalized budgets and staff, all of which inhibit coordination among institutions and limit programme effectiveness. There is a need to strengthen collaboration among national ministries and institutions and to decentralize health care systems to ensure that care actually reaches the local level through coordinated networks of services.

The Field Inquiry, round table and other follow-up activities all showed that meeting the goals of ICPD in the area of reproductive health requires reducing vertical administrative structures and integrating all aspects of reproductive health into primary health care systems. A related task is integrating different institutional structures, or at least improving collaboration among them. Other challenges include improving logistics systems and training and overcoming social and cultural barriers to service access — for example, by educating men regarding their roles and responsibilities concerning women's health.

The round table's recommendations addressed many of these challenges. Several focused on health-sector reform. For example, it was suggested that health systems be reoriented, to ensure that sexual and reproductive health policies, strategic

PROGRAMME PRIORITIES

plans and all aspects of implementation are rights-based, cover the clients' entire life cycles, and serve all who require reproductive health services. Change should, round-table participants agreed, be incremental and phased according to resource availability. Moreover, the process should involve all partners, including those from civil society. A related recommendation called for the creation of an enabling environment, at all levels of society, which would promote women's empowerment and involve males in securing sexual and reproductive rights within a human-rights framework.

Country-level initiatives. UNFPA is attempting to address these challenges through a series of initiatives in its country programmes. For example, by the end of 1998, the Fund had helped Pakistan's Ministry of Population Welfare carry out an evaluation of all of its family planning outlets. The evaluation identified a number of actions needed to establish an integrated reproductive health system incrementally. Information gleaned from the monitoring visits will guide the Government in 1999 as it works to improve the quality and variety of reproductive health services.

Elsewhere, in Kenya for example, the Fund is supporting the development and implementation of comprehensive, integrated reproductive health services. In the last two months of 1998, UNFPA joined other international partners in assisting the Ministry of Health in a study of six selected districts. The study assessed the districts' commitment, capability and preparedness to implement integrated, comprehensive reproductive health programmes.

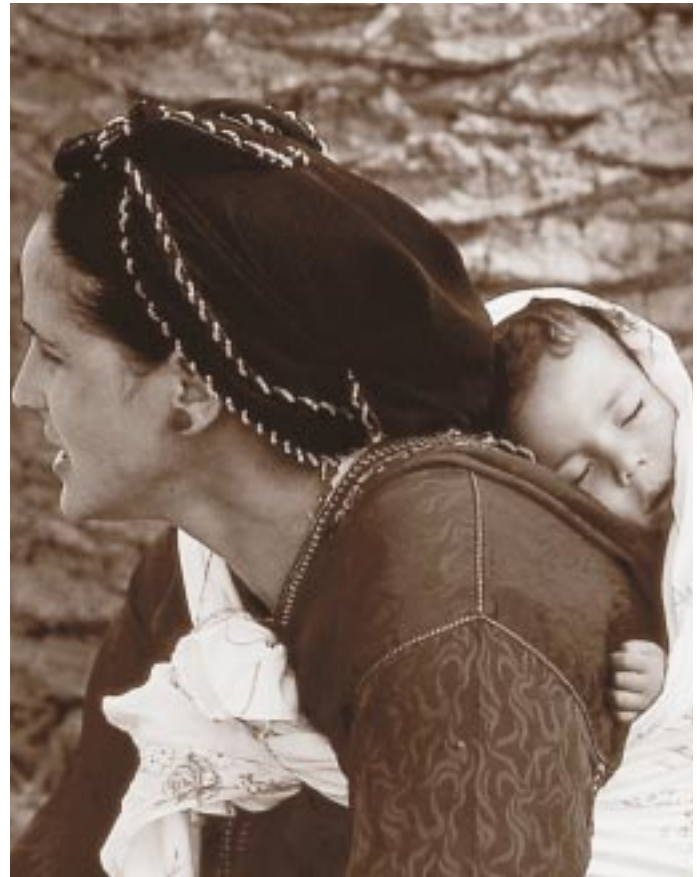
In the United Republic of Tanzania, UNFPA was actively involved, through its country programme, in helping ensure that reproductive health services were not lost or marginalized during the nation's reform of its health sector last year. Also during the year, the country office obtained \$4.2 million in multi-bilateral assistance to supplement the Fund's regular programme. This programme provides comprehensive integrated reproductive health services in 38 underserved districts, with an emphasis on reducing maternal mortality and morbidity.

In Cambodia, UNFPA helped the Government provide reproductive health services in more than 50 per cent of the country's health centres, including in eight new provinces. The Fund also helped develop a national strategy for information, education and communication (IEC) in support of reproductive health.

Nineteen ninety-eight saw the debut in Sri Lanka of a network of "Well Women's Clinics", which take a holistic approach to women's reproductive health needs. UNFPA's country office helped establish the clinics through a consultative process that involved the Government as well as professional colleges, such as the colleges of obstetricians and gynaecologists, pathologists, and surgeons.

Reducing maternal mortality

Reducing maternal mortality continues to be a priority in UNFPA-supported reproductive health policies. This was particularly true in 1998, which was proclaimed the "Year of Safe Motherhood" by the Safe Motherhood Inter-agency Group. The group, of which UNFPA is a member, also includes the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Bank, the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), Family Care International and The Population Council. The group's proclamation focused attention on the fact that more than 600,000 women, most of them in developing countries, die each year from childbirth-related illnesses and injuries. Events included a World Health Day ceremony at World Bank headquarters in Washington, D.C., on 7 April. In preparing for the event, UNFPA collaborated in the production of "The Safe Motherhood Action Agenda: Priorities for the Next Decade".



United Nations

Reducing maternal mortality continued to be a UNFPA priority in 1998.

The 1998 events followed up on the completion of the first decade of the global Safe Motherhood Initiative. Launched in 1987, the initiative aimed to cut the number of maternal deaths in half by 2000. Though the initiative did not achieve the progress that had been hoped for, a number of important lessons were learned.

Many of these lessons were discussed at an October 1997 technical consultation held in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Safe motherhood, it was agreed, requires a readily available network of community health care providers, clinics and hospitals. Among the integrated services that such a network should provide are: community education; antenatal care and counselling; skilled assistance during childbirth; care for obstetric complications; post-partum care; management of complications from abortions; and family planning counselling, information and services.

The decade's experience shows that the single most effective way to reduce maternal deaths is to ensure that a health professional is present during childbirth. This professional must not only possess the skills to conduct a normal delivery but also be able to manage any complications that may arise. There is, however, a chronic shortage of such professionals in poor and rural communities in developing countries.

Translating these lessons into practical advice for use in its country programmes, in 1998 UNFPA issued a programme advisory note on reducing maternal mortality and morbidity. The note, which draws on research from WHO and uses data from a joint WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA/World Bank statement, recommended actions aimed at reducing the number of women who die in pregnancy or childbirth as well as the number of those who survive, only to live with lifelong disabilities and ill-health. It identified specific actions that are required within families, in communities and in society at large; at the legal and

PROGRAMME PRIORITIES

policy level; and in health systems. Reducing maternal mortality, according to the advisory note, requires a national strategy to bring about three essential changes: societal commitment to ensuring safe pregnancy and birth; improvements in access to, and the quality of, health care; and commitment to meeting the special needs of girls and women throughout their lives. The note also recommended actions for UNFPA to take to help build up health-sector capacity to reduce maternal mortality.

The thematic evaluation of UNFPA-supported safe motherhood projects found a number of constraints. For example, the activities often seemed to be based on national-level data and were monitored at the central level. However, assessments of need and monitoring of results at the local level were sometimes neglected. In addition, the activities promoted antenatal care as a strategy to reduce maternal deaths, but such care, in and of itself, cannot bring about significant reductions in maternal mortality, since all pregnancies pose risks for the mother. Likewise, training of traditional birth attendants (TBAs) has not had the impact that was hoped. If TBAs are to be involved in providing maternal care, they must be made an integral part of the formal health care system.

Country-level initiatives. A UNFPA-supported pilot programme in Uganda, which embraces many of the key elements of the Safe Motherhood Initiative, has proven effective. Indeed, a survey commissioned by UNFPA has shown that Uganda's rural emergency relief programme has helped reduce maternal deaths significantly in the Iganga District, the area in which it was piloted. The programme developed an effective referral system for emergency obstetric cases. This was accomplished in part by establishing a communications link between TBAs and health units and between the health units and hospitals. In addition, transportation was provided from the TBAs to the health units and from the units to the district hospital. And finally, life-saving supplies and equipment were provided, and staff were trained in their use. As a result, supervised deliveries have increased significantly since 1995. At the same time, the number of babies delivered in hospitals and health units has increased, while the number delivered by TBAs has decreased.

World Health Day provided Nepal with an ideal opportunity to draw national attention to safe motherhood efforts. The Prime Minister appealed to all politicians, journalists, social workers and health personnel to help make information and services available for safe deliveries. The country's Safe Motherhood Network, a consortium of women's NGOs with which UNFPA collaborates, organized a procession to raise awareness of issues related to safe deliveries and safe motherhood. The procession observed a minute of silence to commemorate all those who had died in childbirth. In addition, the UNFPA country office released a cassette of songs on the theme of maternal mortality.

Several other initiatives are worth noting. For example, UNFPA funded a year-long study intended to clarify the extent and nature of maternal mortality in Zambia, thereby enabling the country's health service to focus its efforts in the areas with the most pressing needs. UNFPA supported a similar study in Turkey, which was conducted with technical assistance from WHO. That study's results are being analysed. In Latin America and the Caribbean, the UNFPA regional programme supports activities designed to prevent maternal mortality, including the safe motherhood advocacy and coalition-building efforts of Family Care International in Bolivia and Colombia.

Adolescent reproductive health

The UNFPA Field Inquiry found that the world's countries are gradually formulating policies and programmes to address the reproductive health needs of adolescents. There is growing acceptance of the fact that adolescents need information and

education so they can protect themselves and make informed decisions regarding their reproductive health. At the same time, it is recognized that parents have important rights and responsibilities in that regard. Despite such awareness, resistance persists. Some people fear that educating young people about sexuality and providing them with related information and services will lead to irresponsibility and promiscuity, although studies have shown that the reverse is true. For their part, many adolescents are reluctant to seek help from adults either within their families or in professional settings. They therefore do not get the information, counselling or services they need.

These and many other concerns brought together some 60 experts and young people from around the world to New York to participate in a round-table meeting on adolescent reproductive health. The April meeting, which was sponsored by UNFPA and hosted by the Ford Foundation, focused on four main issues: promoting an enabling environment; health promotion; providing youth-friendly services; and innovative approaches to involve youth in programmes. The sessions combined presentations by leading experts in the field with ones by youth participants, who provided their personal perspectives on important issues.

The reproductive health of young people was also the focus of two events that took place in August in Portugal. Lisbon hosted the first-ever World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth, and Braga was the site of the World Youth Forum. UNFPA supported several of the delegations attending the forum. The Fund also provided expert assistance in the drafting of the "Braga Youth Plan of Action", which was endorsed by the United Nations Secretary-General and formed a major part of the ministers' Lisbon Declaration. The declaration invited UNFPA to give greater support to national youth policies and programmes within its country programmes.

UNFPA also worked to foster regional cooperation in the area of adolescent reproductive health. In the Caribbean, for example, UNFPA sponsored the Caribbean Youth Summit. The October summit provided an opportunity for young people to voice their concerns and priorities. In the Africa region, UNFPA organized, in collaboration with UNICEF and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), a discussion on the theme of "Africa's New Generation", bringing youth and adolescents to the ECA to present their views to the region's leaders. In Asia, two regional technical workshops were organized to help participants formulate policies and programme strategies on adolescent reproductive health. The South Asia Conference on Adolescents was staged in New Delhi, India, in July, and the Technical Seminar on Adolescent Reproductive Health was held in Bangkok, Thailand, in October. And in the Arab States region, the International Islamic Centre for Population Research organized the UNFPA-supported International Conference on Population and Reproductive Health in the Muslim World, which made significant recommendations on such issues as reproductive rights, women's issues, youth and the family.

The need to include young people in the design and implementation of adolescent health programmes was underscored by initiatives that took place during the year. The advantage of mobilizing young people to advocate for appropriate information and services was illustrated, as was the effectiveness of utilizing media favoured by youth. Also underlined was the importance of involving parents and the community and of fostering an "enabling" environment by equipping adults, through training and sensitization efforts, to help adolescents. Adult family members of both sexes have to be informed of the need and value of sexuality education for adolescents, and they need to be reassured that young people need their support. In addition, the religious community needs to know that the goals of sexuality education are not inimical to moral development. Rather, such education can help young people make responsible choices and decisions.

PROGRAMME PRIORITIES

Country-level initiatives. Adolescent reproductive health concerns were addressed in virtually all UNFPA country programmes in 1998. In Kenya, for example, UNFPA helped launch a compact disc (CD) entitled "I Need to Know" on World Population Day, 11 July. The CD, performed by young Kenyan artists, aimed to create awareness of youth reproductive health rights and responsible sexual behaviour. Produced in various versions, the song achieved a considerable amount of media attention, including in the international edition of *Newsweek* magazine. The song became the signature tune of the Kenyan Broadcasting Corporation's *Youth Variety Show*, which is produced through a UNFPA-funded project executed by the Family Planning Association of Kenya.

In the Islamic Republic of Iran, UNFPA assisted the Ministry of Education in printing a booklet designed to involve parents in helping their children to understand population issues as well as their health. The booklet was distributed to teachers and parents through the national parent-teacher association. UNFPA also assisted the Family Planning Association of Iran in developing materials to educate young people on matters related to their reproductive health; the materials are being pilot-tested. In another pilot project, UNFPA is supporting reproductive health for young girls in one province. Under the project, personnel from the Ministry of Health and Medical Education train women health volunteers, who then pass their knowledge on to mothers. The mothers, in turn, educate their daughters. If successful, the project will be extended nationwide.

The Programme for Enhancing Adolescent Reproductive Life (PEARL) in Uganda is another example of UNFPA-government collaboration. The community-based programme is aimed primarily at out-of-school youth aged 10-24. The approach is twofold: to create a safe environment where adolescents can engage in recreational activities; and to create awareness and

provide reproductive health counselling and services. Although the programme is targeted mainly at adolescents, it also seeks to involve parents and religious and community leaders and to sensitize them to the importance of providing such counselling and services. In fact, the importance of involving parents has been one of the most valuable lessons learned during the course of the programme.

Several other initiatives are worth noting. In Nicaragua, the UNFPA country office supported national counterparts in the production of videos on adolescent pregnancy and helped create a nationwide network of youth theatre and puppet groups that address the concerns and problems of young people. In Algeria, UNFPA provided support to train the directors of 48 provincial youth centres in IEC techniques related to adolescent reproductive health, as well as in interpersonal communication skills with young people. In Tunisia, UNFPA worked with governmental and non-governmental organizations to train peer educators in adolescent reproductive health. In the Maldives, UNFPA helped carry out a workshop on adolescent reproductive health at the Malé Youth Centre. The workshop focused on reproductive and sexual health, communication skills, and smoking and drug abuse.

Reproductive health in emergency situations

A November technical meeting on "Reproductive Health in Crisis Situations" reported that women and girls suffered the most in crisis situations because of social inequity. The UNFPA-supported meeting, held in Rennes, France, found that the breakdown of the social structure of communities often leads to widespread sexual violence, and, in several recent conflicts, rape has been used as an instrument of terror. Since ICPD, UNFPA has helped refugees and displaced people in 33 countries, spending a total of \$6.4 million on 52 projects executed by 24 partner agencies. UNFPA has cooperated with a number of other agencies to provide reproductive health services to refugees and displaced persons. These include the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), WHO, UNICEF, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), and CARE (Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere), among others.

Concluding that reproductive health should be made an integral part of general health care in all situations, the meeting called for increased funding and greater human resources to provide reproductive health care to people displaced by war and natural disasters. UNFPA also pointed out the need to have more reliable data on such refugees and their needs.

Country-level initiatives. During the year UNFPA efforts provided emergency reproductive health kits to the victims of Hurricane Mitch in Central America. Given the extensive devastation caused by the natural disaster, UNFPA's Nicaragua field office assigned maximum priority to rehabilitation efforts that fell within its mandate. Participating in an inter-agency emergency project, the Fund helped meet the urgent sexual and reproductive health needs of women and adolescent girls in the 25 most-affected municipalities in the northern provinces.

In the United Republic of Tanzania, UNFPA supported a project for refugees and communities in the western parts of the country that were affected by war in the neighbouring Democratic Republic of the Congo. An evaluation exercise confirmed that UNFPA-supported projects were responding to the needs of the refugees, especially in terms of referral and emergency obstetric care and in the provision of equipment and training. The evaluation noted a dramatic improvement in the quality of services and a corresponding reduction in maternal deaths as a result of UNFPA's efforts. However, a three-day monitoring visit found that IEC materials in the refugee camps



UNHCR/E. Kovchok

UNFPA provides emergency reproductive health assistance for displaced persons, like this young mother from the Kosovo province of Yugoslavia.

PROGRAMME PRIORITIES

were inadequate, mostly because of language problems; arrangements were made with the UNFPA office in Rwanda to supply materials in French and Kirundi.

In Rwanda itself, UNFPA carried out an evaluation of the reproductive health needs in the camps established for internally displaced persons. The Fund also supported the provision of equipment and supplies to those camps.

UNFPA provided emergency assistance in several other situations. For example, in Papua New Guinea, the Fund provided medical supplies and clean delivery kits in response to the tidal wave disaster in Aitape. The assistance both met the immediate needs of the disaster and replenished supplies and equipment in health centres. UNFPA also provided assistance to Indonesia, where an economic crisis had caused urgent gaps in reproductive health care. The Fund approved a project to help meet the country's immediate contraceptive needs and helped launch a global appeal to overcome the contraceptive shortfall envisioned for the coming two years. UNFPA also procured emergency medical supplies and provided emergency assistance to meet the urgent needs of flood-stricken counties in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

HIV/AIDS prevention

In collaboration with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), UNFPA helped develop specific goals for HIV/AIDS prevention for the years 2005 and 2010. These goals call for assured access to HIV/AIDS information, education and services for at least 90 per cent of males and females aged 15-24 in 2005 and at least 95 per cent in 2010. They also call for a 25 per cent reduction of HIV infection among 15- to 24-year-olds in the most affected countries by 2005, and a 25 per cent reduction globally among the age group by 2010. The goals are currently being considered by the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly for the Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action.

At the global level, UNFPA supported a number of HIV/AIDS-prevention activities. UNFPA joined the UNICEF/WHO/UNAIDS initiative on prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS and is now participating in the preparations to operationalize the programme on a pilot basis in seven countries: Cambodia, Côte d'Ivoire, Rwanda, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. In March, the Fund participated in the UNAIDS Co-sponsors Retreat held in Venice, Italy. Along with WHO and UNAIDS, UNFPA was asked to lead follow-up efforts regarding the establishment of a consensus-building mechanism for policy and technical guidance, which has since been completed.

UNFPA assisted efforts to promote the use of condoms and to conduct social research on their use. It also supported research on the effect of steroid hormonal contraceptives on the progression of HIV. This research, also supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), WHO and the World Bank, was co-sponsored by the WHO Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction (HRP).

UNFPA is also assisting a number of projects executed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The projects are designed to promote AIDS awareness and prevention in various in-school and out-of-school education activities.

UNFPA continued to prepare and disseminate *AIDS Update*. The annual publication reports on UNFPA-supported activities at the country, regional and global levels.

At the regional level, UNFPA provided assistance to conferences aimed at raising awareness and building political support

for different aspects of reproductive health, including HIV/AIDS prevention, women and HIV/AIDS, and men's participation in reproductive health. Assistance was also provided for meetings that targeted special groups such as female parliamentarians. Training that addresses issues related to HIV/AIDS was another key area supported by the Fund at the regional level. In addition, regional reproductive health programmes, in particular those aimed at adolescents and youth, included HIV/AIDS-prevention activities.

To assess the specific impact of UNFPA-supported HIV/AIDS-related interventions — which were usually an integrated part of reproductive health activities — the Fund carried out a thematic evaluation in seven countries. Conducted by the Fund's Office of Oversight and Evaluation in 1997 and 1998, the evaluation highlighted the comparative advantage of UNFPA's reproductive health approach to HIV/AIDS prevention. It also stressed the need to strengthen the technical capacity of field offices to promote a focused, appropriate and efficient response to the epidemic. The evaluation recommended more rigorous planning to improve the sustainability and replicability of programmes and underscored the need to make condoms central to HIV/AIDS-prevention strategies. The evaluation also recommended strengthening interventions aimed at youth; improving the quality of IEC materials and designing IEC materials and strategies suited to specific target audiences; and enhancing advocacy efforts to generate political will and community support. The evaluation's findings are being disseminated within UNFPA with the aim of translating key findings into improved programming in the area of HIV/AIDS prevention.

Country-level initiatives. In 1998, UNFPA supported HIV/AIDS-prevention activities in more than 130 countries. All were developed in cooperation with national governments and coordinated through the theme group mechanism of UNAIDS, in which the Fund plays an active role. These activities were conducted as part of an integrated reproductive health approach, in line with the Fund's reproductive health guidelines issued in November 1997. The approach calls for adding HIV/AIDS-prevention services to existing family planning and maternal health services and broadening the scope of those services. The use of condoms is promoted, both for double protection (pregnancy and STD/HIV/AIDS prevention) and for the detection and management of STDs (as some STDs increase the risk of HIV transmission).

During 1998, the Fund participated in the UNAIDS theme groups in 124 countries, serving as chair of the groups in 13 of them. The theme groups helped coordinate activities among the co-sponsoring agencies and facilitated the planning and implementing of joint activities. NGOs were implementing partners of UNFPA-supported activities in 108 developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

The HIV/AIDS-prevention activities supported by UNFPA focused on providing reproductive health services; training service providers and counsellors on HIV/AIDS issues; supplying and/or distributing condoms (including female condoms in a few countries); providing counselling services; creating awareness and conducting advocacy campaigns; integrating HIV/AIDS components into in-school and out-of-school education; and providing information and services to young people. Preliminary estimates indicate that expenditures for UNFPA-supported HIV/AIDS activities in 1998 totalled \$23 million — \$22 million at the country level and \$1 million at the regional/global level.

UNFPA supported targeted awareness-raising and advocacy activities in over 120 countries. Some innovative examples included orientations on HIV/AIDS for religious leaders and government officials in Bangladesh and for community leaders and Catholic priests in Ecuador, as well as activities conducted

PROGRAMME PRIORITIES

during such sporting events as the African Cup soccer matches in Burkina Faso. Sensitization activities aimed at men in general or at groups made up primarily of males, such as the police or military forces, were supported in Bangladesh, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria and the Philippines. In Paraguay, UNFPA-supported projects for the armed forces and the police focused on educating military and police personnel on HIV/AIDS transmission and prevention and on providing condoms for distribution in military and police units around the country. In the Philippines, support was provided to an empowerment-education project benefiting female sex industry workers. To encourage participation in the project and promote the use of services, the project makes use of the casual setting of a café, which also serves as a clinic.

UNFPA supported educational activities for in-school and out-of-school youth in 96 countries and counselling and other services for youth in 30 countries. These services were provided by health workers, peer counsellors, teachers and parents. Telephone hotlines proved a popular source of information in India, the Philippines and Poland. In Lithuania, preparations were made to establish five youth centres, which will provide peer counselling, a hotline for adolescents, and reproductive health counselling and services from a trained midwife and a part-time doctor. In Uganda, as a result of the success of youth-friendly services in attracting adolescents, services will be expanded to four new districts each year. It is hoped that this will contribute to the current positive trend towards falling HIV-prevalence rates among adolescents in the country.

Information and awareness-raising activities for young people have been provided outside of schools through such channels as the theatre in Jordan, Malawi, Republic of Moldova and Rwanda; youth camps in Jordan, Latvia, Romania and the Syrian Arab Republic; parent education in Estonia, Poland and Uganda; discussions with and among young people in Bhutan and South Africa; anti-AIDS clubs in Guinea and "Cool Clubs" in Haiti; magazines in Honduras; pre-marriage counselling in the Islamic Republic of Iran; youth competitions in Mali and Myanmar; festivals in Mauritania; sports activities in Niger; parent/church activities in Papua New Guinea; and film screenings in South Africa and Togo.

Recognizing the wide reach and impact of the media, UNFPA supported radio and television serials focusing on reproductive health issues, including HIV/AIDS, in several countries, including Ethiopia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, and the United Republic of Tanzania. In Eritrea, UNFPA assisted the Ministry of Education in conducting a radio audience listenership survey that showed that HIV/AIDS messages had been fairly well understood.

Promoting condom use is an essential part of HIV/AIDS-prevention strategies. During 1998, UNFPA provided 177.5 million condoms worth \$5.1 million to 52 countries and procured an additional 39.1 million condoms on behalf of other donors. Female condoms were provided to five countries. Community-based services supported by the Fund included the distribution of condoms in Azerbaijan, Benin, the Central African Republic, India, Madagascar, Mali and South Africa. In Azerbaijan, female volunteers from the NGO Women and Development Centre were trained to disseminate information about reproductive health, including materials promoting behaviour that would minimize the risk of STDs and HIV/AIDS. The approach appears to be working, as there has already been a significant increase in condom use in some of the areas covered by the Centre.

POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

In the area of population and development strategies, UNFPA carried out activities aimed at increasing awareness of some of the population challenges that the world will be facing in the



An AIDS victim begging on a Polish street. In 1998, UNFPA supported HIV/AIDS-prevention activities in more than 130 countries.

next century. These included devoting the year's edition of *The State of World Population* report to an investigation of the strains being caused by two demographic facts. The first fact is that the world now has the largest-ever generation of young people, thanks to past fertility increases. The second is that the world is now home to rapidly increasing numbers of elderly, because of declining mortality rates and increased life expectancies. Issues involving the elderly were also discussed during the year at a meeting on population ageing.

UNFPA sponsored technical meetings that addressed other important issues as well, including international migration and the effects of population change on economic development. The Fund also made a significant step in its ability to monitor progress in achieving ICPD goals with the publication of "Indicators for Population and Reproductive Health Programmes".

Notable among these activities was the launching of *The State of World Population 1998* in London and 24 other cities throughout the world on 2 September. The event and the publication's major messages received extensive coverage in newspapers and radio networks around the world. *The State of World Population 1998* was subtitled "The New Generations", in reference to the new challenges faced by the world in dealing with unprecedented numbers of young people and the elderly. The report examined the social implications of these demographic trends, including young people's pressing needs for education, job opportunities and health care, and the strains on national economies and social structures as they confront the need to support rapidly growing populations of older persons.

Ageing. Collaborating with the Population and Family Study Centre of Belgium, UNFPA sponsored a "Technical Meeting on Population Ageing" in Brussels. One of the October meeting's chief themes was that in many developing countries, there are almost no provisions for support of elderly persons outside of the family. As societies attempt to provide such supports, the

PROGRAMME PRIORITIES

expenses incurred could threaten other development gains. Governments therefore need to respond to these emerging challenges and promote collaboration among a broad range of government institutions and international organizations. It was stressed that old-age security systems to alleviate poverty among the elderly have to address gender inequality. Moreover, the reproductive health of all people, especially women, should be ensured throughout their lifetimes, because of its importance to the quality of life at later stages.

Migration. Another issue of great importance to countries as they formulate and implement development strategies is that of international migration. UNFPA took part in the organization of a "Technical Symposium on International Migration and Development", which was held in The Hague, the Netherlands, in June and July. More than 100 migration specialists from both developing and developed countries reviewed case studies on various aspects of migration, including its root causes, return migration and the migration of women. Also discussed were issues concerning refugees. The symposium's aim was to improve understanding of migration's causes and consequences from the point of view of both sending and receiving countries and to suggest ways to foster more orderly migratory flows and prevent the economic and social marginalization of migrants.

Among the topics explored at the symposium were: poverty and environmental degradation as root causes of international migration; the effects of global and regional economic integration; the positive impact of migrants' remittances on sending countries' economies; the circumstances surrounding the migration of women; the import of skilled labour and the "brain drain"; unauthorized employment of migrants; return migration; the distinction between political and economic refugees; and the tightening of asylum policies since the end of the Cold War.

In its conclusions, the symposium noted that international migration by definition involved more than one government and that bilateral and multilateral cooperation was necessary in a number of areas. Although participants recognized that it would be difficult to reach large-scale agreements on the complex issues involved, they agreed that there were a number of smaller steps that could be very useful. In particular, it was felt that policies to manage the flow of people across borders and to protect migrants' rights had to be based on reliable data and a careful analysis of migration's costs and benefits.

Population change and economic development. A November symposium entitled "Population Change and Economic Development" was organized as part of the ICPD+5 review process. The symposium, sponsored by the Rockefeller and Packard Foundations on behalf of UNFPA, examined the overall consequences of population change in the development process. Organized by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, the symposium was held in Bellagio. Speakers pointed out that for years economists have been reluctant to make strong statements about the direction and magnitude of the effects of demographic change on economic growth. However, some recent analyses suggest that there is a fairly strong, direct relationship between the two.

Symposium participants identified four facts that need to be considered when assessing the relationship between demographic change and economic growth. First of all, the effect is conditioned by the level of development — the lower the initial level of per-capita income, the greater the net positive impact of demographic changes, especially of fertility decline. Secondly, the positive effect of the demographic changes associated with the demographic transition probably depends strongly on the economic policy that accompanies the transition. The third fact is that fertility decline is not only a possible cause of more rapid economic growth but also an outcome of factors associated with economic growth, inclu-

ding increased education, better functioning markets and so forth. And lastly, increases in economic growth per capita exaggerate real income gains to the extent that such increases reflect unsustainable degradation of natural resource wealth.

The symposium also addressed the policy implications of the relationship between population and economic growth. Economic growth, participants noted, is not an end in itself. Rather, it is a means used to attain larger objectives associated with improved well-being.

Thus the new evidence that high fertility constrains economic growth does not in itself provide a rationale for public interventions to reduce fertility, particularly if the means to reduce fertility compromise the well-being and rights of individuals. However, the growing evidence that high fertility exacerbates poverty and that, among the poor, some portion of high fertility is unwanted and unintended does justify policies and interventions that can be shown to improve the situation of poor families, particularly the kind of reproductive health and family planning programmes that are included in the ICPD Programme of Action.

Development of reproductive health and population indicators. Since the adoption of the Programme of Action, increasing emphasis has been placed on using indicators to measure progress in the implementation of population and reproductive health programmes. Reflecting this new emphasis, in October UNFPA issued "Indicators for Population and



UN/John Isaac

UNFPA's 1988 State of World Population report discussed the challenges presented by the world's increasing numbers of young people and elderly.

PROGRAMME PRIORITIES

Reproductive Health Programmes", the result of a process that had begun in early 1996. In addition to the indicators, the publication included detailed discussion of issues considered in developing the indicator framework and their implications for data collection systems.

The indicators are based on the recognition that the key to successful programme and project management is performance monitoring and evaluation. The thematic indicators are designed to monitor progress in achieving ICPD goals and to track performance in population and reproductive health programmes. Indicators were developed for each of the Fund's three core programme areas: reproductive health, including family planning and sexual health; population and development strategies; and advocacy. They were also designed to serve as markers to measure programme performance in conjunction with the logical framework programme methodology now used in the development of all UNFPA country programmes.

UNFPA also acted as the secretariat for the Inter-Agency Working Group on Common Country Assessment (CCA) Indicators, which was formed by the United Nations Development Group (UNDG). The working group devoted its time to developing a new core indicator framework for use in CCA exercises, which are part of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), taking into account the goals and targets of the major global conferences that have taken place over the last decade. UNFPA helped in the design of the indicator framework, including the filtering and selection of the indicators, which are to be issued in 1999.

Country-level initiatives. The area of population and development strategies accounted for approximately 24 per cent of the Fund's expenditures in 1998. The strategies aimed to strengthen the national capacity of programme countries to produce and analyse data; to provide timely, reliable and relevant information for policy formulation, programme development and monitoring and evaluation; and to develop and carry out programmes relevant to their own population situations. A large number of UNFPA-supported activities were undertaken in these areas in 1998.

Censuses were held, or prepared for, in many countries in 1998. In Cambodia, for example, the National Population and Household Census — the country's first census since 1962 — enumerated 99 per cent of the population. The census has already begun to yield data that will assist in planning for the country's future development. It also helped build national capacity in this area, training over 36,000 enumerators and census supervisors, as well as more than 4,400 staff in such skills as mapping, data entry and editing.

Namibia started preparations for its 2001 census and asked UNFPA to provide technical assistance, through its Country Support Team in Harare, on census planning and design and on cartography work. Nepal agreed to the joint suggestion of UNFPA, UNICEF, UNDP and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) to create a gender-disaggregated database beginning with its 2001 National Population Census. In Panama, UNFPA provided limited but strategic technical assistance for the 2000 census. Zambia provided training for enumerators in census cartography as part of its preparations for the 2000 census.

UNFPA supported many other capacity-building initiatives during the year as well. For example, in Ecuador, the Fund supported a project with the University of Cuenca to examine the linkages between population and sustainable development at the community level. The university is using graduate students to conduct community-level censuses to assist the Ministry of Public Health in ensuring that its decentralization efforts respond to community realities and identified needs.

In the Islamic Republic of Iran, UNFPA is helping the Government design a survey to evaluate the coverage of the country's system for the registration of vital events. This assistance supports the nation's continuing efforts to develop a unified demographic data system. The Fund also assisted the Plan and Budget Organization in drafting the country's first-ever population policy paper. The draft paper is being used as an input for the preparation of the population chapter of the country's third five-year development plan. UNFPA also supported the Statistical Centre's efforts to analyse the results of the 1996 census and to disseminate the findings.

In the Sudan, the curriculum for a master's of science degree in population and development was revised and updated, and training in research methodology for the national project directors of UNFPA-supported projects was provided by the Central Bureau of Statistics. Moreover, baseline surveys for all integrated reproductive health and family planning projects were carried out, and the reports on them are to be circulated in early 1999.

Sociocultural research provided a wealth of information for future programming in Malawi. Studies on such issues as "Patterns of sexual behaviour of men and women in Malawi", "Socio-cultural determinants of women's reproductive health decision-making in Malawi", and "Beliefs and perceptions of parents, teachers and students" highlighted the role and bearing of initiation rites and ceremonies on sexual behaviour in Malawi. They also confirmed the importance of such research as a major programming tool.

ADVOCACY

The aim of advocacy, in general, is threefold: to support a particular cause or issue; to promote or reinforce change in policy, programmes or legislation; and to create a supportive environment for programmes and to mobilize resources. Advocacy is, by its nature, public-policy oriented and oppositional at times and requires networking and coalition-building to broaden the base of support.

In recent years, UNFPA has assumed a vigorous advocacy role to promote the goals of the ICPD Programme of Action. At the international level, UNFPA raises awareness of reproductive health and population issues to mobilize support and resources for the implementation of ICPD and to enhance the visibility of UNFPA as an organization. At the country level, the Fund's advocacy activities are an integral part of UNFPA-supported country programmes and are designed to assist countries in reaching the goals of national population programmes.

Many of the issues brought forward at ICPD still need to be fully understood, promoted and adopted at the national and community levels, especially in such sensitive areas as gender-based violence, quality of care, male involvement, and adolescent reproductive health and rights. Promoting support for ICPD is the focus of much of the advocacy work that UNFPA undertakes at the country level as part of its country programmes. Such advocacy activities are necessarily intertwined with the substantive activities being supported — adolescent reproductive health and the reduction of violence against women, for example — and, as such, are likewise integrated into the various topics examined throughout this report.

The Fund's "Face to Face" campaign is one of the key activities used to achieve greater public awareness of population and reproductive health issues. The campaign, which uses celebrity Goodwill Ambassadors as spokespersons on a variety of issues, was expanded successfully throughout 1998. In January, actress Linda Gray, Face to Face campaign chairperson and spokesperson for the United States of America, hosted a round-table seminar attended by senior-level corporate women from throughout the United States. Supermodel Waris Dirie, UNFPA

PROGRAMME PRIORITIES

Special Ambassador for the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation and Face to Face Campaign spokesperson, was a popular speaker for the elimination of FGM at international conferences and in many media interviews. She was a keynote speaker at the Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights at the Peace Palace in The Hague on 29 October. Other Goodwill Ambassadors included Geri Halliwell of the United Kingdom, a singer and entertainment personality; Kattis Ahlstrom, a Swedish journalist and radio/television host and producer; Magenta Devine, a radio and television personality based in the United Kingdom; Mikko Kuustonen, a Finnish songwriter, singer and human rights activist; and Keiko Kishi, a Japanese actress and television personality.

Informational publications issued by UNFPA in 1998 that were designed for international audiences included *The State of World Population 1998: The New Generations*; the *Annual Report*; a revision of the *Population Issues Briefing Kit*; 10 issues of the news bulletin *Dispatches* and four issues of the UNFPA magazine *Populi*; and a new booklet in UNFPA's advocacy series, *UNFPA at Work: Five Country Profiles*, which described the Fund's country-level operations in Burkina Faso, Eritrea, India, Nicaragua and the Syrian Arab Republic.

An electronic version of *State of World Population 1998* was the most-visited document on UNFPA's popular Web site (www.unfpa.org). The Internet site is now a key source of information for the public on the Fund's work and on population and reproductive health issues generally, with an average of 800 visitors a day. In 1998 the variety and volume of information continued to expand. The site was redesigned to accommodate more information and was made easier to navigate and use. The ICPD+5 section of UNFPA's Web site, created in 1998, was continually updated to provide timely information on the full range of activities being undertaken in connection with the five-year review.

UNFPA produced a great variety of posters, exhibits and multimedia materials in 1998, including a UNFPA CD-ROM containing 30 Web sites with more than 84,000 cross links and 50 software applications; an institutional video, *UNFPA Is Making a Difference*; six video news releases on issues including safe motherhood, UNFPA Goodwill Ambassadors and the launch of *The State of World Population* report. A poster competition and poster production were organized for World Population Day on 11 July.

Such advocacy efforts seem to be having some effect. Opinion polls have shown that awareness among the general public on population-related issues and reproductive health has been steadily increasing since ICPD. As a result of media outreach efforts through, for example, video news releases, press conferences and the work of the Goodwill Ambassadors, UNFPA has become increasingly well known by the general public, in both developed and developing countries. It also continues to enjoy credibility among journalists as a reliable source of information on population-related issues. Despite these successes, opinion polls in developed countries have shown that while the public considered such issues to be important, they did not necessarily see direct connections between achieving ICPD goals and other issues that they regarded as being crucial to the future of the world, such as the environment, poverty, migration and war.

The role of new technologies

To discuss the role that new communication technologies might have in promoting the goals of the ICPD Programme of Action, in December some 60 experts from around the world gathered at a seminar in Ankara, Turkey. The seminar was organized by UNFPA in collaboration with the Government of Turkey. For the first time, experts, policy makers and practitioners from two separate fields — the information and

communication technologies (ICT) sector and the population communication field — had the opportunity to share their experiences as well as the lessons they had learned, to envision future trends, and to propose actions for population advocacy.

The seminar was based on the premise that traditional top-down and one-way information flows do not work. People must be able to communicate with one another and have access to the information they need to make informed decisions on complex issues that affect their lives.

Discussions focused on new concepts and the operational implications of new technologies for future advocacy strategies in support of ICPD. Three questions guided the discussions: how is the changing ICT environment affecting the advocacy efforts to implement the Programme of Action; how can new technologies be harnessed as a tool for social mobilization beyond traditional top-down information-sharing activities; and how can ICPD advocacy be strengthened by promoting the use of new technologies and expanding inter-agency dialogue.

Participants emphasized the opportunities that the new technologies offer: access to new ideas; improved access to strategic information; and wider delivery of information to the public in general and to marginalized groups in particular. The new technologies, participants agreed, provide them with new tools for networking and community organizing. They can also help bridge the geographic, social and economic gaps that currently exist in access to information around the world. However, they also have the potential to widen the gap between those who have access to such technologies and systems and those who do not.

Recommendations emerging from the discussions stressed that ICT applications need to be gender-responsive and located in institutions to which women already have access. They should also be community owned and operated; should be decentralized to local community organizations; and should enlist private-sector support. The seminar also pointed out the limitations of information and communications technologies, most notably that their effectiveness depends on their accessibility.

EMPOWERING WOMEN AND ELIMINATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Empowering women and eliminating violence against them are essential to effective reproductive health programmes. Without these actions, which are called for in chapter IV of the ICPD Programme of Action, women may be unable to exercise autonomy in the use of reproductive health services. Specifically, the Programme of Action recommended assisting women to establish and realize their rights, including those that relate to reproductive and sexual health (para. 4.4(c)); eliminating violence against women (para. 4.4(e)); and making special efforts to emphasize men's shared responsibility and to promote their active involvement in responsible parenthood and sexual and reproductive behaviour (para. 4.27).

A majority of countries responding to the Field Inquiry have taken at least some measures since the ICPD to protect the rights of women and promote women's empowerment. The greatest changes have been in policy: protecting women's employment and inheritance rights; prohibiting harmful traditional practices; protecting women from acts of violence; and establishing Women's Affairs Offices.

But considerable barriers remain. Over half of the respondents cited social and cultural attitudes as the major constraint in achieving gender equity, while a quarter cited the lack of financial resources and poverty as the major obstacles. All UNFPA-assisted programmes support actions to encourage gender equality and equity and the empowerment of women in one form or another. Below are selected examples.

PROGRAMME PRIORITIES

Country-level initiatives. In the Islamic Republic of Iran, gender equality and equity continued to be a high priority. Training in gender sensitization was conducted at the national level, and the Centre for Women's Participation conducted seven regional workshops on gender issues with over 10,000 participants. The workshops provided an important forum for discussing gender issues, in particular the gaps and priorities in current programmes. The workshops led to decisions and the adoption of measures by high-level authorities at the provincial level.

Gender issues also figured prominently in the programme in Malawi. The Ministry of Women, Youth and Community Services showed the video on "Voices of Young Mothers" to a cross-section of Malawian society, including policy makers, chief executives, members of Parliament, women's groups and NGOs. It was also shown to over 30,000 villagers and students in the areas in which the video had been shot. The showings provided a unique opportunity to help raise awareness of critical aspects of gender relations and adolescent fertility.

Zambia also made creative use of information materials. Two books were disseminated in high schools and other appropriate places. The first, "Woman Know Your Place", is a gender analysis of the messages conveyed by popular Zambian popular songs. The second, "Women in Politics", presents profiles of famous Zambian women who can serve as role models for girls.

In Thailand, the first project approved under the new country programme will develop a research agenda aimed at creating a gender-sensitive reproductive health programme. The project's first phase ended with a national seminar that identified priority issues relating to gender and reproductive health and examined research methodologies. In the second phase, beginning in early 1999, project staff will prepare a training curriculum for research on sociocultural and gender issues in reproductive health; conduct a short-term training course for researchers; select and prepare research proposals; carry out the research in four regions; and disseminate the findings for use in policy-making and programming.

Reproductive health effects of gender-based violence

One of the major gender-related issues highlighted during 1998 was violence against women. UNFPA issued a programme advisory note that aimed to raise awareness of the pervasiveness of gender-based violence as well as the specific effects it has on reproductive health. The note also pointed to directions that programmes need to take to enable women and girls to live free of violence.

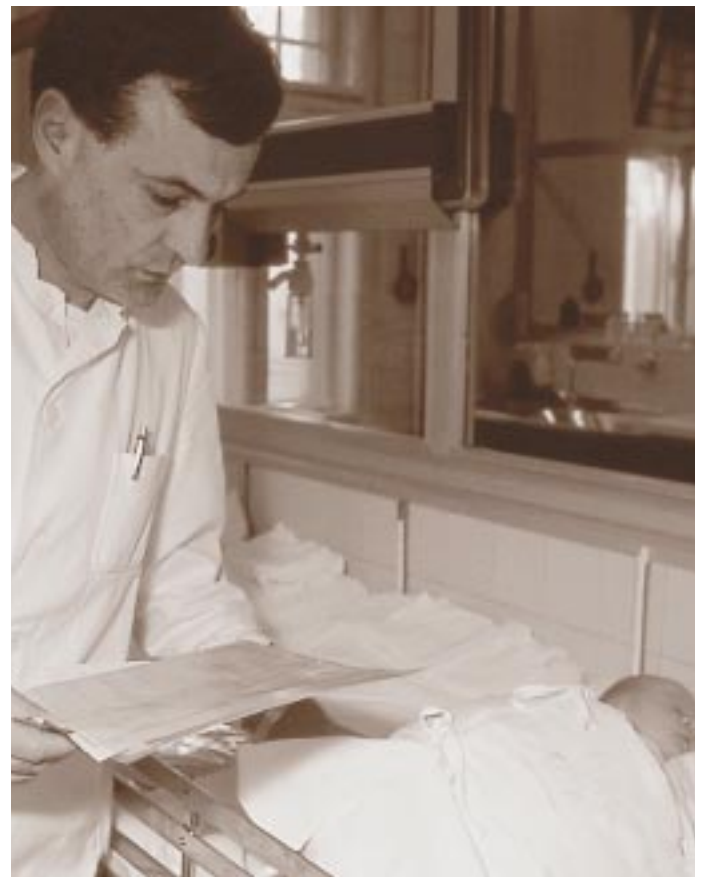
The programme advisory note examined the reproductive and sexual health consequences of gender-based violence at various stages of the victim's life cycle. It also analysed the effects of such violence on reproductive health-related choices and decisions. For example, gender-based violence has a direct effect on women's ability to exercise autonomy in the use of reproductive health services. It also limits their ability to protect themselves from HIV infection and STDs. The treatment of the effects of such violence imposes additional demands on health-care systems and thus represents a hidden and costly burden on these systems.

The note identified strategic entry points within UNFPA's three core programme areas, using UNFPA projects as innovative examples of ways to meet the major challenges to addressing gender-based violence in each programme area. In the area of reproductive health, for example, the note looked at ways to develop a nationwide, institutionalized approach to the problem. Such an approach would promote partnerships with

community constituencies, involve men and youth, and reach out to community-based workers. In the area of population and development strategies, data collection and research stand out as entry points for providing essential support to the work on gender-based violence. So do developing national strategies on gender equality and equity and promoting women's participation in public life. Advocacy is a critical tool in lifting the secrecy and denial that often shroud the problem of gender-based violence; advocacy efforts must therefore focus on building constituencies, effecting legal reform, enforcing laws and fostering empowerment.

As part of its series of advocacy booklets, UNFPA produced, and distributed widely, a publication entitled "Violence Against Girls and Women: A Public Health Priority", which was based on the programme advisory note.

Country-level initiatives. The experience of Uganda's REACH programme in reducing female genital mutilation in the district of Kapchorwa was highlighted at the Kampala round table. Lessons from the Kapchorwa experience were gleaned for the benefit of other countries. The programme's success, which was accomplished in a mere two years, led to the Sabinu Elders' Association being awarded the 1998 Population Award. Four elements were critical to this success: the programme enlisted the support of elders at the beginning of the campaign; it was able to separate FGM from the cultural values it was supposed to serve; it proposed alternative activities to sustain those ideals; and it reached out to the custodians of community ethics. The success of the programme was in dramatic contrast to the results of a 1989 effort to outlaw the practice. The earlier effort had led to an increase in the rate of female circumcision in Kapchorwa District as a reaction to what was perceived as outside interference.



UNHCR

A Croatian doctor cares for a baby abandoned by his mother, a rape victim. UNFPA programmes address the reproductive health effects of such gender-based violence.

PROGRAMME PRIORITIES



UN/John Isaac

These masked women from Lesotho are participants in a ceremony celebrating female genital mutilation, a harmful traditional practice that is the target of UNFPA advocacy efforts.

In Burkina Faso, on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a campaign was launched to combat violence against women. The campaign included a wide variety of advocacy activities. On 2 December, the Government presented the results of a study on domestic violence against women. The study, which presented evidence regarding the extent of such violence, also analysed its causes and consequences. This followed two previous studies, one on sexual violence against girls in schools and one on forced marriage. In May and June, the Government held five days of seminars with journalists to study communications strategies for combating female genital mutilation.

Panama also used the window of opportunity provided by the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to launch an inter-agency campaign entitled "A life free of violence: It's our right". This topic was discussed in meetings with women's NGOs and with the mass media, as well as in the ongoing consultative process to prepare the five-year National Plan of Action for reproductive and sexual health.

In the Philippines, the integrated package of reproductive health services in Nueva Vizcaya Province contains a social component to address violence against women. The component, which is being managed by the Provincial Social Welfare Development Office, employs a multisectoral task force involving such agencies as the social welfare office, the provincial health board, the provincial police office and selected local NGOs.

In Nepal, the Ministry of Women and Social Welfare drafted a bill to protect women against domestic violence. The bill proposes the establishment of a Family Court to deal with such violence. Violence against women was also the focus of advocacy activities carried out by various women's groups, NGOs and women journalists. Moreover, the Minister for Women and Social Welfare addressed a two-day workshop organized by Tribhuvan University on gender equality and changing society.

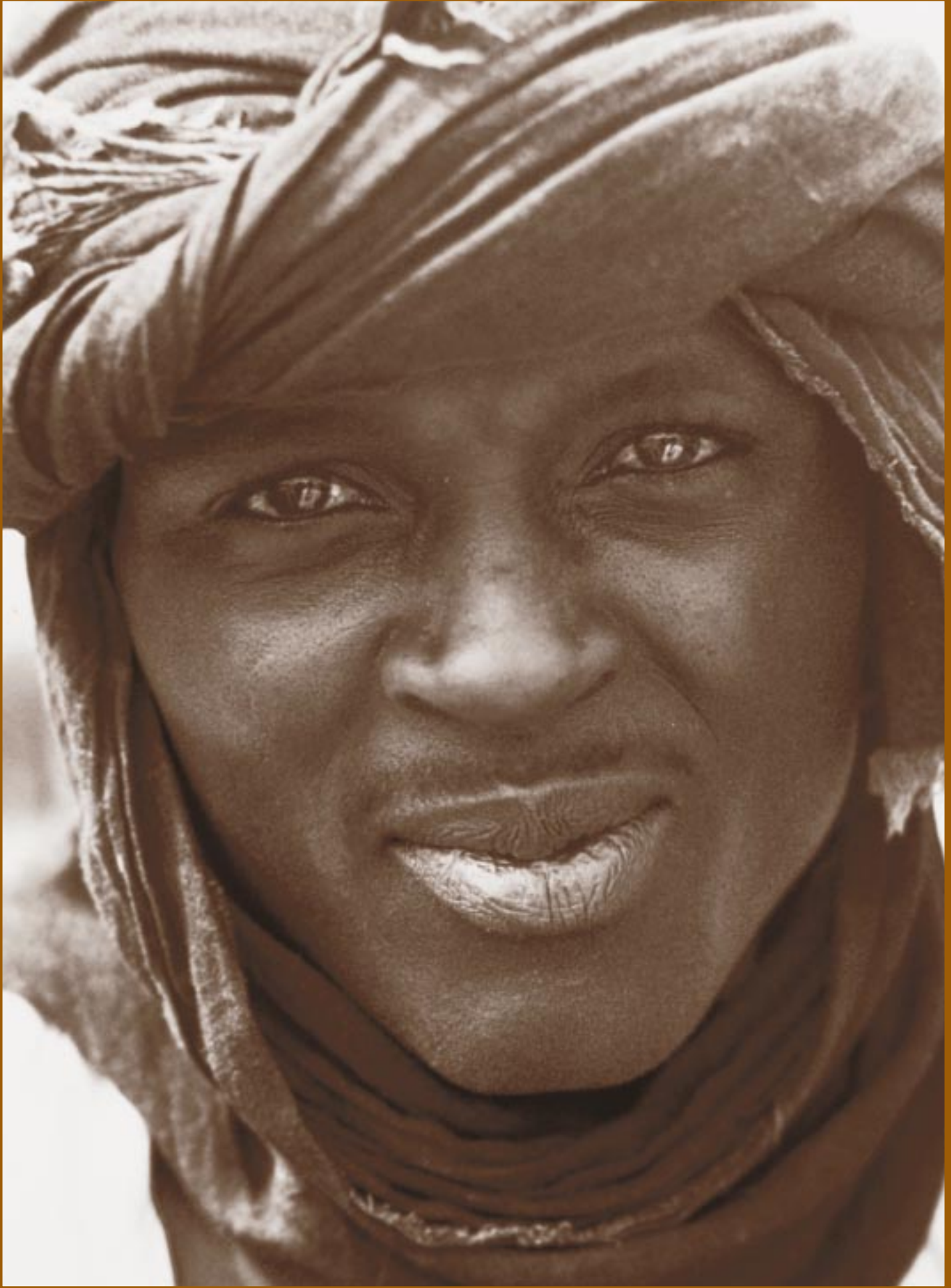
Male involvement

Numerous activities focused on male involvement and male responsibility during 1998. For example, from 20 March to 3 April, the first conference in francophone African countries on the subject of male participation was held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. The conference focused on identifying barriers to the participation of men in reproductive health and on developing strategies and action plans to overcome those barriers. Representatives from 15 countries took part in the conference, which concluded with the adoption of the "Ouagadougou Declaration".

A regional conference in Santiago, Chile, discussed how men see male sexuality, identity and power. The June conference, entitled "Gender Equity in Latin America and the Caribbean: Challenges for Male Identities", was organized to promote a region-wide examination of male identities, gender equity, power systems, and sexual and reproductive health and rights.

In Zambia, a study on male involvement was carried out with the aim of producing IEC materials and providing a basis for training service providers. In Sri Lanka, two workshops were conducted with NGOs and government service delivery personnel on how to incorporate male participation into the national reproductive health programme. In Nepal, information on gender equality and male responsibility was included in the orientation of newly elected local leaders, and male responsibility was promoted in a radio programme.

PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS



PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS

The success of UNFPA programmes depends upon numerous activities. The Fund's Global Initiative on Contraceptive Requirements and Logistics Management Needs, for example, builds nations' capacities to manage and distribute reproductive health commodities. It does so by coordinating donor support, strengthening national logistics systems and improving the flow of reproductive health commodities to developing countries. Another important activity is the Fund's staff training programme, which trains field staff in the financial management of UNFPA programmes as well as in the "logical framework technique," a step-by-step guide to the programming process. Coordination and collaboration activities, which continued to be expanded during the year, are also key to programme effectiveness, as are monitoring and evaluation exercises. During 1998, the Fund moved from a system of project-focused reviews to one that emphasizes subprogramme and programme-level reviews. This transition was accompanied by an increase in allocations for external evaluations of UNFPA-supported projects.

CONTRACEPTIVE REQUIREMENTS AND LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT NEEDS

The Global Initiative on Contraceptive Requirements and Logistics Management Needs was established in 1992 with support from donors and international agencies. Since then, the initiative has addressed a wide range of global as well as country-specific needs. During 1998, it focused on the following priority areas: national capacity-building in the areas of logistics management and distribution of reproductive health commodities; donor coordination and advocacy to improve the supply of reproductive health commodities; and sustainability of contraceptive and reproductive health commodities, to be achieved in part through collaboration with the for-profit sectors in developing countries.

The Global Initiative, together with UNFPA country offices and Country Support Teams, contributes to national capacity-building in a variety of ways. For example, it provides technical support for logistics management, strategy development workshops and in-depth studies on contraceptive requirements and logistics management needs.

In 1998, such studies were conducted in Turkey, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe. The studies' reports helped identify contraceptive needs and determine national capacity to meet those needs. In Viet Nam, the report was used to generate donor resources to meet urgent contraceptive requirements, while Turkey's report made recommendations for cost-recovery mechanisms. In Zimbabwe, the report drew attention to long-term contraceptive needs.

The logistics management training and strategy development workshops held in Santiago, Chile, and Kampala, Uganda, each included participants from five to six countries. At the workshops, which offered participants a forum for developing logistics management strategies, particular attention was paid to the effects of health-sector reform upon the distribution and sustainability of reproductive health commodities. The "recommendations matrix" developed in 1998 is being used to monitor follow-up regarding the implementation of workshop strategies and the carrying out of study recommendations.

Coordinating donor support is a crucial part of strengthening national logistics systems and improving the flow of reproductive health commodities to developing countries. The major donors of contraceptive commodities are represented in the Working Group that supervises the Global Initiative. The Working Group's periodic meetings during 1998 provided opportunities to discuss current and future commodity provision; they also contributed to better planning and coordination among donors. An annual report, Donor Support for Contraceptive Commodities, which is

compiled by UNFPA from data supplied by donors, provides details on the quantities, types and costs of contraceptives provided to developing countries and countries with economies in transition. The report, available on the UNFPA Web site, also analyses donor activities aimed at strengthening in-country logistics systems.

Programme sustainability is a major goal of the UNFPA private-sector initiative. The initiative, which was launched in 1997, works with the for-profit private sector and non-governmental organizations in developing countries to increase access to affordably priced commercial reproductive health products and services. In so doing, the initiative frees up public-sector resources, which can then be used to serve the needs of population groups unable to pay full price for such products and services.

A meeting held during 1998 reviewed progress on the private-sector initiative. Gathering at the Rockefeller Study and Conference Center, in Bellagio, Italy, from 16 to 20 November, the participants agreed that the initiative needed to be strengthened in a number of areas, including demand creation, public policy and donor coordination. They recommended that UNFPA continue to support further exploration of the initiative in selected countries. Six missions were fielded in 1998, to Egypt, Ghana, India, Indonesia, South Africa and Thailand. Egypt, Ghana and India in particular have shown considerable interest in the initiative. It is expected that affordable, commercial contraceptive products will become more widely accessible in these and other countries, as governments forge new partnerships with the private sector.

In 1998, the Global Initiative produced a draft report on global requirements for reproductive health commodities. The draft expanded on a previous report entitled *Contraceptive Use and Commodity Costs in Developing Countries, 1994-2005*. The new



UN/Andrea Bitzli

In Indonesia, home of this nursing mother, UNFPA is helping the Government forge partnerships with the private sector to improve access to affordable contraceptives.

PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS



UN/John Isaac

The status of girls and women has a direct effect upon the success of reproductive health programmes and UNFPA-supported projects.

report analyses the financial implications of meeting projected reproductive health commodity needs through the year 2015. It estimates an annual financial requirement of \$8.4 billion for reproductive health commodities in the year 2000, with the requirement rising to \$9.6 billion by 2015. Contraceptive costs make up about 10 per cent of the estimated total; commodities for antenatal and normal-delivery care constitute about 40 per cent; commodities for treatment of pregnancy-related complications about 25 per cent; and commodities for the treatment of reproductive tract infections the remaining 25 per cent.

Aiming to strengthen the logistics management capacity of countries with UNFPA-supported programmes, the Global Initiative has prepared revised guidelines for logistics managers. The document, which provides checklists for the procurement and resupply of commodities, will help supply managers for UNFPA country programmes select the right products, at the right time, and at the right price. In addition, the UNFPA Procurement Unit has prepared guidelines to facilitate procurement by the World Bank and other agencies using UNFPA procurement services. When country programmes are being prepared, the Global Initiative staff collaborate with staff from the relevant UNFPA Geographical Division to estimate resource allocations for reproductive health commodities. Working closely with the Fund's Global Contraceptive Commodity Programme (GCCP), the Global Initiative is strengthening its mechanisms to provide follow-up technical support to countries experiencing shortages due to logistics problems.

The Global Initiative has helped build national capacities and strengthen national logistics systems in a variety of ways. For example, participants at the logistics management training and strategy development workshop in Santiago developed a plan to establish an interactive computer network to share their best, most successful practices, as well as the most valuable lessons learned, with logistics experts in the region. The network is expected to strengthen national capacities by developing regional expertise in managing reproductive health commodi-

ties. In India, the Global Initiative recently helped bring together the Government, donors and contraceptive manufacturers. The participants discussed ways to strengthen cooperative efforts between the public and private sectors, with a view towards expanding the availability of oral contraceptives. Based on the Global Initiative missions' predictions of imminent contraceptive shortages in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam, the respective Governments decided to establish and/or strengthen national logistics systems to reduce the likelihood of future shortages.

In 1998, countries with UNFPA-assisted programmes continued to utilize services provided through the GCCP. The GCCP was established in 1997, in response to decision 96/3 of the Executive Board. During 1998, the GCCP expanded stock holdings to include not only condoms, but also oral contraceptives and intra-uterine devices (IUDs). Oral contraceptives were added due to the lengthy lead times being experienced in obtaining some of those products, and IUDs were added to secure the remaining production of a manufacturer that was ceasing operations. During the year, UNFPA supplied over 2 million gross of condoms under the GCCP, to a total of 13 countries.

During 1998, UNFPA worked with the Inter-Agency Working Group on Reproductive Health in Refugee Situations to develop a set of kits containing essential drugs, basic equipment and contraceptives. Such cooperation is in keeping with the recommendations of ICPD, which stressed the importance of reproductive health programmes in emergency as well as non-emergency situations. The kits were incorporated into the GCCP at the beginning of 1998, with UNFPA initially setting up a stockpile valued at \$500,000. However, a succession of crises around the world during the year resulted in UNFPA's providing a total of nearly 2,000 kits (totalling \$1.7 million) to 15 countries: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Comoros, Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Lesotho, Madagascar, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Senegal

PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS

and Uganda. Anticipating continued high demand, UNFPA is increasing the stockpile of kits currently maintained at a central location in Europe, in the Netherlands, with a total value of \$1.5 million.

TRAINING

The UNFPA staff training programme for 1998 was based in part on a review of training needs as expressed by a cross-section of staff members. As in previous years, emphasis was on the training of field staff. Staff members also received training on the logical framework (logframe) analysis methodology, which was initiated in 1997. In addition, UNFPA's Training Branch and Country Support Teams both continued to conduct regional workshops on the logframe.

An internal evaluation of the 1997 logframe training workshops was completed. Workshop participants, the evaluation found, appreciated the fact that the training focused on explaining how the term logical framework, as used in the new programming guidelines, described an entire process — starting with problem analysis and going on to the systematic planning of interventions, determination of indicators to measure results, and monitoring and evaluation. The training, they agreed, clarified how the matrix serves as a tool in the programming process. Workshop attendees noted the value of using the logframe matrix to distinguish between what UNFPA could deliver at the end of a country programme (i.e., outputs) and its contribution to the achievement of overall goals and what other development partners could deliver and contribute.

The evaluation also found room for improvement. Logframe training materials could, it was agreed, be more user-friendly. It was also pointed out that the logframe matrix relied heavily on indicators to measure results, which may prove problematic in countries with inadequate baseline data. In response to the evaluation's findings, the workshops' curriculum and training materials were revised and updated.

At the regional level, workshops were conducted on finance management, including on the use of the UNFPA Integrated Field Office System (UNIFOS). Several in-region exchanges of national staff between various field offices were undertaken. It was reported that the staff exchanges provided excellent opportunities for capacity-building, sharing of experiences, orienting new staff to the Fund's operational activities, and familiarizing them with the day-to-day work in a field office. In addition, the staff exchanges provided the opportunity to draw on the experience of the more senior national staff and enrol them as trainers. UNFPA also continued to support the participation of staff members in the inter-agency workshops organized by the United Nations Staff College in Turin, Italy.

All headquarters-based staff were briefed on UNFPA's new programming procedures. In addition, there were briefing sessions on the Fund's core programme areas. Selected staff participated in workshops on the logframe, as well as on results-based monitoring and evaluation. All headquarters staff had the opportunity to attend training sessions on new office automation software, Microsoft Office 97. Some staff members also participated in short courses, conducted by external institutions, on supervisory skills, communication skills, writing skills and stress management.

During 1998 UNFPA worked on creating a learning-oriented culture within the organization. Its efforts were in line with the recommendations of the external evaluation of the Fund's staff training programme for the period 1992-1996. The Fund reinforced the role of managers and supervisors as on-the-job coaches. The new guidelines on staff training and development require managers and supervisors to foster an environment conducive to learning, to provide constant mentoring and to assess the impact of structured training on their staff's performances.

Several initiatives to promote self-learning were also launched. A pilot exercise on computer-based training on financial rules and procedures relating to projects was completed and field-tested in the regional finance management/UNIFOS workshops conducted in Malaysia and Peru. CD-ROMs on that subject as well as on programming procedures will soon be made available Fund-wide. Staff were informed of distance learning opportunities, such as the nine-month "Capable Manager" programme offered by the United Kingdom's Open University, which was completed by four staff members. Fostering self-learning will continue to be a UNFPA priority.

COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION

During the year, UNFPA expanded partnerships, both within and outside of the United Nations. The Fund worked especially closely with UNAIDS, coordinating its HIV/AIDS-prevention activities through UNAIDS theme groups and serving as chair of the groups in 13 countries. Stepping up its cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, UNFPA signed a Memorandum of Understanding with that organization. The Fund expanded its collaboration with a number of other partners as well, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; the International Organization for Migration (IOM); the International Planned Parenthood Federation; the Commonwealth Secretariat; and Rotary International. To facilitate implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action, efforts were made to expand cooperation with the European Union.

UNFPA also enhanced its cooperation with the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), with which it signed a Memorandum of Understanding. UNFPA and the OIC agreed to initiate cooperative activities and to explore the possibility of convening high-level meetings aimed at identifying specific areas for technical cooperation, such as reproductive health, family life education and population censuses and surveys. UNFPA Country Support Teams, it was agreed, would provide technical support to help the OIC General-Secretariat strengthen its capacity to formulate population-related policies and undertake relevant data compilation, processing and analysis.

Cooperating with United Nations reforms at the country, regional and global levels, UNFPA participated in the relevant efforts of the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) and its Executive Committee. The Fund's commitment to the reform process paralleled its resolve to ensure that coordination is pursued as a means to more effective programmes and better and more timely service delivery. UNFPA participated in the efforts of UNDG to implement the Action Plan of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), producing, among other things, guidelines for the Common Country Assessment (CCA) and UNDAF. Moreover, the Fund served on the inter-agency team that carried out the assessment of the pilot phase of UNDAF. UNFPA also simplified its own programming processes and produced new programme guidelines to avoid duplications with those processes being put into place under the Secretary-General's reform initiative.

In July, UNFPA participated in the first meeting ever of the WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA Coordinating Committee on Health, which was held at WHO headquarters in Geneva. The committee reviewed the status of programming in such areas as the reduction of maternal mortality, vitamin A deficiency and adolescent reproductive health, and agreed on actions aimed at accelerating programming in these areas.

Specifically, the three organizations agreed to work together, on the basis of a recently finalized WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA/World Bank joint statement on maternal mortality, to reduce maternal mortality within the context of a reproductive health approach. They also agreed that, given the diverse nature of the issues

PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS

concerning adolescent reproductive health, multi-agency involvement in this area was especially important at the country level. Moreover, better inter-agency collaboration and the pooling of technical resources were urgently needed at the regional level. The common agenda agreed to by WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA would serve as the basis for action. The committee also called for close cooperation with the World Bank and welcomed the Bank's informal participation on specific agenda items in future committee meetings.

During 1998, there was increasing collaboration between UNFPA and the World Bank, both at the headquarters and field levels. The annual meeting of senior officials from the two institutions reviewed cooperation to date and identified areas for future collaboration. The World Bank Vice President for the Human Development Network and the UNFPA Deputy Executive Director (Programme) addressed operational and sectoral collaboration and advocacy initiatives that would be pursued in the coming years.

UNFPA's geographical divisions and their regional counterparts in the World Bank consult on a regular basis. When UNFPA Country Representatives come to headquarters, they visit the World Bank to discuss programme issues at the country level. In the field, UNFPA Representatives regularly consult with their World Bank counterparts, giving particular attention to collaborative opportunities in the context of the Bank's Country Assistance Strategy and the Fund's Country Population Assessment.

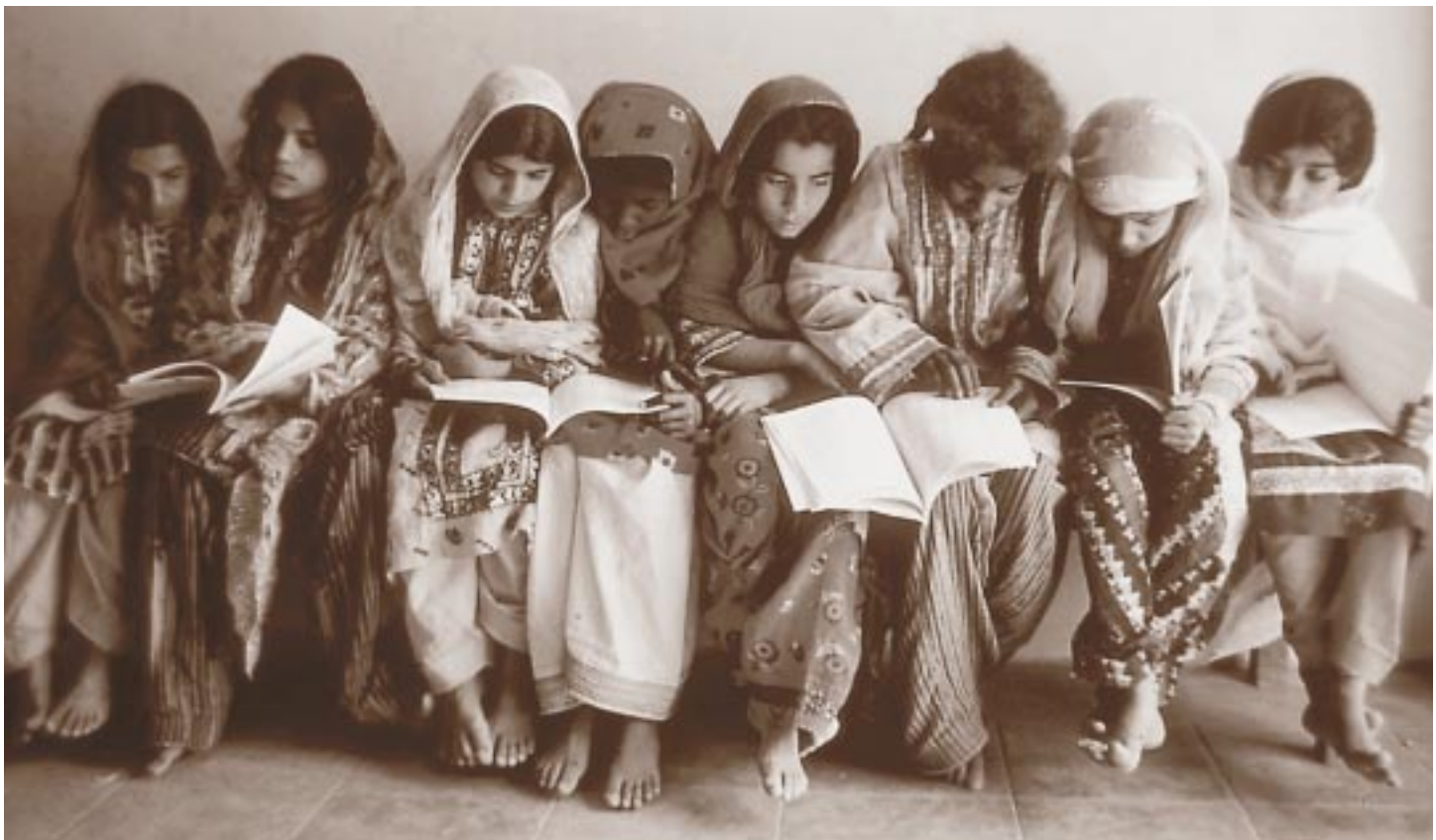
In November 1998, the Africa Division of UNFPA and the Africa Region of the World Bank met at World Bank headquarters to share information on recent or upcoming activities and to identify countries for UNFPA-World Bank collaborative efforts. The participants selected Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea and Uganda as priority countries for concerted collaboration, and

they identified three priority issues: maternal mortality reduction, adolescent reproductive health and HIV/AIDS. They agreed to strengthen collaboration in these areas by improving the use of communications technologies; enhancing and sharing databases, including indicators; collaborating on financing censuses; sharing knowledge on thematic issues; carrying out extended missions to share technical capacity; maintaining contact between the World Bank and UNFPA Country Support Teams; increasing technical discussions, including on procurement, at the headquarters level; exploring field-level collaboration in such areas as financing the development of health infrastructure; and concentrating on capacity-building, sustainability and health-sector reform.

The Fund's Africa Division and Asia and Pacific Division consulted during the year with the regional development banks in their respective regions. Moreover, the Bretton Woods Institutions and regional development banks have taken part in the ICPD+5 process. The World Bank participated in a number of UNFPA-supported technical meetings and in The Hague Forum, and the Inter-American Development Bank participated in the Symposium on Population Change and Economic Development held in Bellagio, Italy.

In terms of common initiatives, UNFPA and the World Bank work closely on a number of activities (e.g., Global Initiative on Contraceptive Requirements and Logistics Management; Partners in Population and Development). The two organizations cooperated, for example, in the area of logistics and procurement. The World Bank has called upon the Fund to procure contraceptives and medical supplies for several countries, and UNFPA has assumed responsibility for logistics and supplies in the Bank's sectoral missions.

The two institutions accord high priority to implementing the Safe Motherhood Initiative, which is key to the attainment of



UN/John Isaac

UNFPA works with other development organizations to enhance donor collaboration in education, health and other social sectors.

PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS

mortality goals set by the ICPD Programme of Action. Nineteen ninety-eight marked the initiative's 10th anniversary, and both the Fund and the Bank participated in meetings that reviewed the decade of experience and charted new directions.

The World Bank and UNFPA also consult regularly on policy matters. There have been frequent exchanges pertaining to health-sector reform, particularly with respect to sector-wide approaches. UNFPA drew on the Bank's experience with such approaches, and the Bank provided valuable comments on early drafts of the report on this topic that UNFPA submitted to the Executive Board at its second regular session in April 1999.

Both organizations are working to strengthen country-level capacity in the area of population and reproductive health. To this end, UNFPA is a co-sponsor of a World Bank's training programme. The Bank's Economic Development Institute has taken the lead, in concert with other donors, in designing a training programme geared towards meeting country-level concerns in the implementation of the reproductive health approach. Participants include programme officials and representatives of civil society. The seminars focus on practical, operational concerns and draw extensively on country experiences. UNFPA has helped develop the programme's curriculum, underscoring the need to integrate gender concerns into the training protocol. Two training seminars took place during the past year — one in April in Dhaka, Bangladesh, and one in September in Nairobi, Kenya. Another seminar, for francophone African countries, was scheduled to take place in Dakar, Senegal, in May 1999. UNFPA, which has provided support for participants from developing countries to attend these training sessions, has been pleased with the positive response.

UNFPA participates in the World Bank Human Development Week, which provides a forum for Bank staff and representatives from population and development organizations to share

experiences about work in the social sector. UNFPA took part in the event and provided suggestions for the 1999 session, which will offer a module on Health, Nutrition and Population focusing on health promotion; equity and health-sector reform; adolescent health; and poverty, equity and health.

In January 1999, the Fund participated in a regional meeting in Bangkok, Thailand, on the social implications of the Asian financial crisis. The meeting, organized by the World Bank, was attended by more than 200 senior-level delegates. The meeting aimed to promote a deeper understanding of the social impact of the crisis; to identify new initiatives to advance social development; and to consider issues related to operational coordination and partnerships. UNFPA participated in the plenary discussion as well as in the Working Group on Maintaining Basic Social Services. The Working Group addressed such issues as the content of basic social services; the impact of crises on social services and how those crises should be addressed; the effective targeting of interventions; the maintaining and improving of funding for social services; and the importance of successful partnerships in designing and implementing social services.

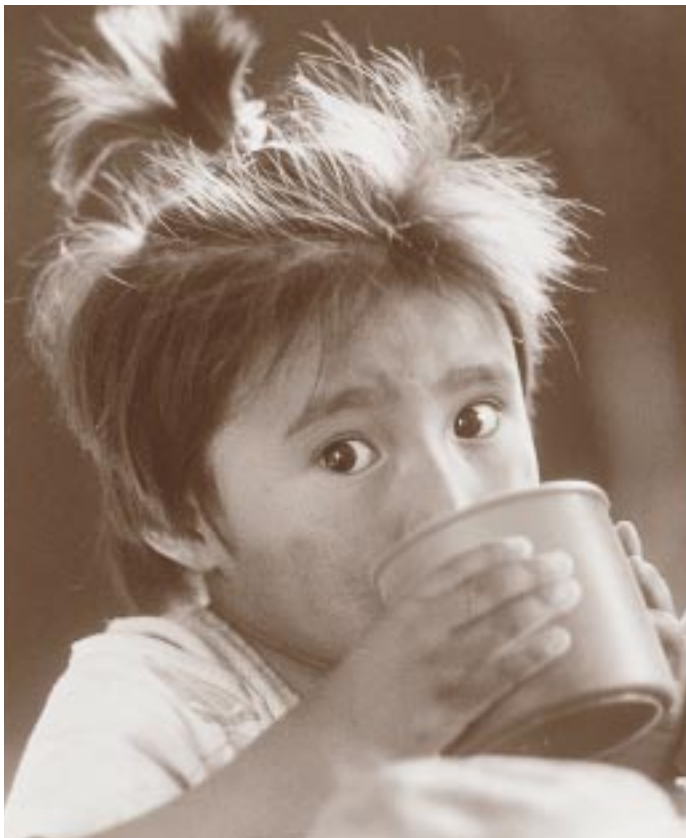
Advocacy was a major focus of the 1998 meeting between senior officials of the World Bank and UNFPA. It was agreed that the Bank would act as an advocate for population issues and linkages, both within the organization itself and in its external policy statements. As UNFPA pointed out at the meeting, the inclusion of population messages in World Bank statements to the economic and financial community would heighten awareness of population-related concerns. For its part, UNFPA agreed to craft population messages to make them more responsive to the needs and interests of economists.

A significant step in this direction was the Symposium on Population Change and Economic Development, held in Bellagio, Italy, in November 1998. The World Bank took an active role in this meeting, which examined the effects of fertility decline and other demographic changes on poverty and inequality as well as the effects of population growth on the sustainability of natural resources. The report of this meeting is being widely circulated to audiences concerned with population and/or economic development.

In 1998, the World Bank continued to participate in the Task Force for Basic Social Services for All (BSSA) and in the ICPD+5 review process. With the World Bank in the lead role, the BSSA Task Force issued its final output, a monograph entitled *Coordinating External Assistance to the Social Sector: Lessons from Bangladesh, Kenya and Peru*. This review seeks to derive lessons from past experiences and to spotlight the best, most successful practices, with a view towards enhancing donor collaboration in health, education and other social sector activities. Within the United Nations Development Group (UNDG), UNFPA participates in the Task Force on the Bretton Woods Institutions, which seeks to strengthen sectoral and operational collaboration and to nurture greater cooperation in the area of knowledge management.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Nineteen ninety-eight was the first year that UNFPA's new monitoring and evaluation guidelines were applied. It was therefore a year of transition from the old system of project-focused reviews to one that emphasizes subprogramme and programme-level reviews. Under the new guidelines, annual project reports are prepared for each project, and these reports in turn serve as inputs to subprogramme reviews. Some UNFPA Representatives still chose to convene project review meetings for a more in-depth review of project implementation, while emphasizing issues of coordination and complementarity at the subprogramme level.



UN/Greg Kirch

A Bolivian child enjoying a meal. Nutrition, health and population were among the topics discussed during the World Bank's Human Development Week.

PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS

Allocations for external evaluation of UNFPA-supported projects continued to increase in 1998. These resources were used to support either mid-term or end-of-project evaluations. Such evaluations were undertaken by national and/or international consultants or by UNFPA Country Support Team advisers, or by a combination of the two. The most significant increase occurred in the evaluation of interregional programmes, because the review and assessment process related to the preparation of the next cycle of intercountry programmes. Following are some of the highlights of interregional programme evaluations.

JOICFP-executed projects

A major interregional project executed by the Japanese Organization for International Cooperation in Family Planning, Inc. (JOICFP), was evaluated in 1998. The project aimed to provide technical and managerial support for integrated reproductive health/family planning projects.

The evaluation focused on the adequacy, appropriateness and timeliness of JOICFP inputs, as well as on the impact and effectiveness of these inputs on country projects. The JOICFP programme, the evaluation found, has expanded its scope from a narrow focus on parasite detection and control to a broader reproductive health approach in line with the ICPD concept. There has also been notable success in supporting and sustaining community mobilization efforts in such areas as refurbishing health facilities and community centres, carrying out vaccination and sanitation campaigns, and implementing income-generation activities. The technical expertise of JOICFP in the area of information, education and communication activities has benefited many developing countries, particularly in terms of using innovative and popular channels for communication. Also successful were the project's training and human resource development activities, which have nurtured capacity-building, particularly in the area of health at the local level. Though JOICFP's advocacy efforts have attracted financial contributions and materials support for national projects from various Japanese sources, sustainability is still a concern. The evaluation suggested a number of ways, including the use of cost-sharing modalities, community-level interventions could be made more sustainable.

Another JOICFP-executed interregional project, "Information Campaigns for International Cooperation in Population and Reproductive Health", was evaluated by an independent consultant in 1998. The consultant focused on two of its publications — *JOICFP News* and *Integration* — as well as on the Japanese-language version of UNFPA's *State of World Population* report and on the JOICFP-sponsored annual Special Symposium and Mass Media Study Tour. The results of the evaluation were largely positive. The production process was found to be generally efficient and timely. Printing and distribution expenses are reasonable, in part because of effective cost-saving measures. Highly valued by readers, the publications are often used in developing reproductive health programmes and IEC training materials. There was room for improvement, however: the evaluation recommended that efforts be made to increase distribution and expand global coverage of the publications; to expand the scope and content of information on the JOICFP Web site; and to explore mechanisms to encourage greater dialogue with readers.

Centres of Excellence for South to South Cooperation

A mid-term evaluation was conducted in 1998 to assess the programme and administration of the Centre of Excellence for South to South Cooperation in Tunisia. Recommendations were then made for the second half of the execution period.

The evaluation found that training modules are well developed, with clearly defined goals and objectives, and trainees are

well grounded in both theory and practice. Participants from African countries find the course on gender, population and development to be very useful. Also worthwhile are the visits to rural Tunisian clinics, especially since the selected sites have similarities with many parts of rural Africa. Some participants, however, indicated that the political and administrative environments in their countries are not favourable to reproductive health/family planning programmes; they therefore foresee difficulties in readily transferring technology and organizational aspects essential to programme execution.

The evaluation's report made a number of recommendations regarding the training programme. For example, it suggested that the number of courses that are academically as opposed to operationally oriented be reduced. Moreover, adolescent reproductive health should be addressed more comprehensively in the relevant modules, including those dealing with the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS. The report also recommended closer collaboration with NGOs, particularly in addressing issues relating to adolescent sexual and reproductive health. More courses that are relevant to Arab participants should be offered, the evaluation found, and more assistance should be provided to participants from sub-Saharan Africa whose mother tongue is neither Arabic nor French. And finally, a communication channel should be developed, initially through the Internet, so that the various Centres of Excellence can share expertise and experiences.

A mid-term evaluation of the project in support of the Centre of Excellence for South to South Cooperation in Mexico was also undertaken. In general, the evaluation's findings were positive. It found a commitment to sustaining the Centre's programme and to sharing knowledge and skills with other countries in the region regarding integrated reproductive health programmes. Most of the collaborating institutions were found to have hands-on experience and served as good models for programme participants from the Latin America and Caribbean region, particularly in regard to collaboration between governmental and non-governmental organizations. There was evidence of a continuing effort to intensify institutional links between sending countries and the Centre, and increased attention is being devoted to tailoring the training programmes to the expressed needs of the sending institutions and individual participants.

The findings and recommendations of these various evaluations are under review. They will be taken into account in the preparation of the next four-year intercountry programme, which will be submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

Safe motherhood projects

A thematic evaluation of UNFPA-supported safe motherhood strategies was completed in 1998. This evaluation was based on a sample of UNFPA-supported projects in seven countries — Bangladesh, Guatemala, Morocco, the Niger, the Philippines, Senegal and the United Republic of Tanzania. These nations represent a wide range of country situations and experiences in implementing projects designed to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity. Diagnostic factors for each case study were identified, and data were collected in-country by an evaluation team composed of a national and an international consultant.

The evaluation found that all projects reviewed responded to national concerns about high levels of maternal mortality. At the same time, even though all projects responded to a national priority and were relevant in a broad context, they were based on national-level data rather than on assessments of needs at the local level. As a result, the projects did not address clearly defined local problems. Thus, even though most of the projects focused on specific regions or districts, the strategies did not address the particular causes of maternal deaths in those selected areas. The evaluation therefore recommended that formal needs assess-

PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS

ments, based on the causes of maternal deaths at the local level, be an integral component of the project formulation.

The strategies chosen to reduce maternal mortality, the evaluation found, were not necessarily the most effective ones. For example, all of the projects promoted antenatal care as part of their safe motherhood strategies, even though evidence shows that antenatal care to detect pregnancy-related complications, in and of itself, cannot bring about significant reductions in maternal mortality, since every pregnancy involves risk. Also, four of the seven projects had training programmes for traditional birth attendants. It is now recognized that TBAs alone cannot substantially reduce maternal mortality. If TBAs are to be involved in the provision of maternity care, linkages between them and the formal health system must be established or strengthened.

Monitoring at the central level occurred regularly for almost all the projects reviewed. Monitoring at lower levels, however, was often neglected. This hampered the ability of the project management team to conduct in-depth technical analyses. Overall, the evaluation found that project personnel focused most of their time and effort on ensuring that the activities were carried out rather than on assessing whether the activities implemented were actually improving maternal health care.

Since most projects did not identify indicators to determine the effectiveness of the selected strategy, there was insufficient information to show whether activities had achieved the intended results. The evaluation did show that in most cases there had been an increase in the provision of different maternal health services. However, it was not possible, with the exception of the Bangladesh project, to determine whether the increase was a result of the UNFPA-supported activities.



A young woman proudly shows off her son in Morocco, where UNFPA helped carry out a review of the progress in implementing the ICPD Programme of Action's reproductive health approach.

The evaluation recommended that project managers identify indicators that can provide information on the progress made in implementing the selected strategy and regularly collect data at the levels where activities are conducted. Such information should be used at local and central levels to resolve problems, assess progress in preventing maternal deaths and determine policies related to maternity care. In addition, the evaluation underscored the importance of process indicators. The indicators selected should be practical, operationally significant, and based on available and reliable data.

The evaluation found that although the Safe Motherhood Initiative is conceptually a concerted effort involving a variety of agencies, the projects studied either were conducted in isolation or were not coordinated with other projects. Moreover, none of the projects provided for a review of the status of maternal mortality in partnership with other agencies. The evaluation underscored the crucial importance of partnerships among agencies, donors and national governments to the success of safe motherhood programmes, since no one organization can by itself bring about a decrease in maternal mortality.

The outcome of the thematic evaluation was reviewed by the UNFPA Policy and Planning Committee, which endorsed its recommendations. It was decided that advisory notes on how to integrate safe motherhood interventions into reproductive health programmes would be prepared on the basis of the lessons learned from the evaluation.

HIV/AIDS-prevention interventions

In 1998, a major thematic evaluation of UNFPA support to HIV/AIDS-related interventions was completed. The evaluation assessed the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of strategies and modalities of recent UNFPA support. Seven countries — Côte d'Ivoire, the Dominican Republic, Indonesia, Kenya, the Sudan, Thailand and Uganda — and an additional seven specific projects were selected as case studies. The country cases were examined at both the country and project levels. At the country level, the focus was on approaches to integrate support of HIV/AIDS interventions; linkages among projects; programme management; coordination; and programme performance. At the project level, specific strategies and modalities of HIV/AIDS intervention were examined, as were their design, delivery process, performance and sustainability.

The evaluation found that UNFPA has provided effective leadership in some countries, encouraging inter-agency collaboration and influencing government policy and strategies on HIV/AIDS. In addition to interventions aimed at women of reproductive age, UNFPA has developed and funded innovative programmes targeted at young people, sex workers, people living with HIV/AIDS, soldiers and truck drivers. Services and information were delivered through a wide range of channels, including maternal and child health/family planning (MCH/FP) service and information providers, youth centres, condom social marketing, community-based distributors, agricultural extension workers, barbers, peer educators and radio programmes.

The interventions targeting at-risk groups, however, tended to be few and reached relatively few people. Also, baseline studies, performance indicators and cost-effectiveness were seldom taken into account at the design stage to facilitate replication and sustainability. This resulted in missed opportunities to derive lessons for future programming. Attempts to integrate HIV/AIDS components into programmes and projects did not always give due consideration to issues related to human sexuality and gender issues or to potential obstacles to planned interventions. Constraints to effective interventions included the discomfort of service providers and clients in discussing sexual issues, the low status of women, social stigmas concerning condom promotion and use, and fragmented government struc-

PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS

tures and programmes. The effectiveness of IEC efforts was limited, because they did not necessarily target groups most at risk, nor were they designed specifically to bring about measurable changes in behaviour.

The evaluation found that UNFPA is well positioned within the United Nations system to work on HIV/AIDS prevention, in part because of its long-standing relationships with governments (particularly with health and population ministries). Contributing to the relative strength of the UNFPA position is the Fund's success as a global- and country-level advocate for reproductive health issues. Moreover, UNFPA is viewed as having a comparative advantage in furthering understanding of how HIV/AIDS impacts on women and in developing effective programmes to help them.

Despite these advantages, in the past UNFPA programme development and management had been adversely affected by the Fund's technical and managerial limitations in the area of HIV/AIDS. The evaluation recommended that the awareness of UNFPA staff be raised to ensure that HIV/AIDS prevention is not simply an "add-on" but is integral to UNFPA programming. The Fund needs to build up its technical and programme expertise in relation to HIV/AIDS, the evaluation found, so that it can be more strategic and systematic in its programming. In particular, UNFPA needs to do a better job at integrating HIV/AIDS-prevention activities into reproductive health programmes to meet the needs of women, who are its core constituency. Efforts to empower women to discuss sexual issues, including condom use, must be part of the strategies to protect them against HIV infection.

The degree of UNFPA collaboration with other organizations varied among the countries studied in the evaluation. In this context, the United Nations resident coordinator system's country-level theme groups on HIV/AIDS proved to be a potentially useful mechanism for working with governments to develop and implement more coherent programme interventions. Currently, other donors and NGOs active in HIV/AIDS prevention are not always a part of the theme groups. To strengthen the theme groups' effectiveness, it is necessary to broaden the base of the groups and to move beyond mere information exchange, to joint planning and programming.

The evaluation recommended that UNFPA continue to develop partnerships with other organizations, including those civil-society organizations that have comparative advantages in reaching certain target groups. The Fund should also seek out financial institutions that can provide support to bring pilot attempts to scale.

Logistics management needs to be strengthened, the evaluation found, despite the fact that UNFPA procurement of condoms has increased dramatically in recent years. Condoms are not always distributed to those who are most likely to be infected and most likely to infect others. Also, the fact that condoms offer double protection — from unwanted pregnancy and HIV/AIDS — has not been aggressively promoted.

Evaluation results were reviewed by the UNFPA Policy and Planning Committee, which decided that UNFPA operations should incorporate its many recommendations. Towards this end, programme advisory notes will be prepared and disseminated to provide practical guidance for future programming.

Implementing the reproductive health approach

Country studies were conducted to assess the progress that has been made in implementing the ICPD Programme of Action's reproductive health approach. The studies focused on the Fund's transition from a MCH/FP approach to a more comprehensive reproductive health orientation in service delivery. Within this context, six principal areas were examined: the

country's policy and legal environment; management of the country programme; access to and quality of services; IEC activities; integration of a gender perspective into all elements of the programme; and the Fund's contribution to implementing the reproductive health approach within the country.

Between October and December, reviews were undertaken of six countries: Burkina Faso, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, the Philippines and Uganda. Separate review teams were assembled for each country study. Each team consisted of three to four national and international experts in health systems management, public health, health education and communication. The teams reviewed documentation; interviewed Ministry of Health managers and service providers at central and local levels, NGOs, donors, and UNFPA country office staff; and collected data according to guidelines prepared by the UNFPA Office of Oversight and Evaluation. A two-day meeting of the team leaders of the country studies was held to synthesize the issues to be included in a global report, which will be reviewed by the Fund's Policy and Planning Committee in spring 1999. The country-level findings will be summarized in the global report.

Preliminary analysis of the findings of the country studies indicates there are strengths as well as weaknesses in the Fund's efforts to implement the reproductive health approach. The Fund's close ties to governments and its excellent relationship with counterparts within those governments ensures that its inputs are in concordance with national objectives. Its field presence, coupled with its direct involvement with implementing agencies, usually enables the Fund to forge a strong collaborative working relationship with its partners. Moreover, UNFPA is sensitive to local circumstances and open to exploring different modalities for programme implementation and backstopping.

At the same time, the Fund's country offices are small and generally lacking in technical reproductive health skills. For various reasons, insufficient use has been made of national experts or institutions to provide technical backstopping. Technical support provided by UNFPA Country Support Teams has not always been sufficient, due to the short duration of the advisers' visits and the high demands for the teams' reproductive health expertise.

The trend towards increased decentralization within governments has, the country studies found, posed additional demands on UNFPA with respect to programme development and management. The Fund has had to deal with many more implementing units, which are often geographically scattered and staffed with individuals with limited experience in areas like plan formulation, budgeting and monitoring. At the same time, it was found that coordination was better at the local level than at the central level, both among government units and among donors.

The review indicated that monitoring and evaluation efforts were not always strategically planned. There had been a tendency to employ too many indicators at different levels rather than identifying a set of core indicators. While a number of innovative pilot projects were initiated, these were not always designed to serve operations research purposes, thus limiting learning opportunities.

Sustainability of UNFPA inputs tended not to be given due attention in programme planning, although decentralization had led to more participatory approaches. There was an absence of long-term strategies for phasing out external inputs through planned capacity development, gradual cost recovery and formation of partnerships with the private sector or civil society. The review highlighted the advantages of a systems-management approach to implementing reproductive health programmes.

PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS



UN

A United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) assessment noted the importance of the Fund's support to programmes targeting the kind of poverty that forced these youngsters into the labour force.

In light of its comprehensive scope, the review yielded much valuable data. The country studies highlighted many important issues that merit attention in future programming.

UNDAF assessment

The pilot phase of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) was assessed in 1998. This exercise was conducted by an inter-agency team composed of 10 assessors, with two each drawn from five agencies: UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, the World Food Programme (WFP) and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA). The assessment was accomplished through an exhaustive review of the documentation, interviews at agency headquarters and with United Nations country teams, and visits to eight pilot countries. UNFPA contributed substantively to the preparations for the assessment, including the drafting of terms of reference, assessment tools and reports. Its staff participated as assessors in three of the eight country visits, conducted interviews, reviewed documents and contributed to the final assessment report. UNFPA field staff were among the country team members invited to a workshop in Princeton, New Jersey, in late September 1998. Participants reviewed the assessment's various products and reported to the Executive Committee of UNDG, which is deliberating the future of UNDAF.

In August 1998, the Fund conducted an informal survey of the implications of the UNDAF pilot phase for UNFPA programming. The survey was conducted through a documentation review and through interviews with the UNFPA Representative, Deputy Representative and/or Assistant Representative in 16 of the 18 UNDAF pilot countries. The documents reviewed included the country programme documents, the Common Country Assessment, where available, and UNDAF in draft/final form. The findings of the survey are summarized below.

In all cases, country offices reported full participation in the UNDAF process. Apart from attending the many meetings convened for the purpose, UNFPA staff were members of technical committees, theme groups and working groups that contributed to the preparation of CCA and UNDAF. This often entailed the mobilization of the entire programme staff of the country office. Except for two cases, Colombia and Zimbabwe, the workload was reported to be a heavy burden on the country office. In five cases, UNFPA contributed to the cost of consultants. Other offices did not incur any financial costs as such. All offices emphasized the heavy cost in terms of staff time.

The progress towards coordination was more evident than actual collaboration itself. There was a consensus that the UNDAF process had significantly improved information sharing on programme initiatives and enriched United Nations system meetings, which previously tended to focus almost exclusively on administrative, logistic and security issues. The UNDAF process has provided a setting for identifying areas of convergence among organizations and has highlighted the need for harmonization and joint programming. Overall, country offices believed that the stage had been set for collaboration; however, guidance is now needed on how to proceed so that the momentum is not lost.

The majority of country offices reported that the CCA and UNDAF processes had devoted adequate attention to follow-up of the recent United Nations global conferences. For example, the ICPD indicators were used in the preparation of CCAs.

Most country offices reported that the resource framework had not yet been completed and the methodology for preparing the resource framework did not appear to be well understood. There had also been problems reconciling the different terminology, standards and concepts used by the various organizations. However, UNFPA country offices had responded to requests to provide data on programme allocations.

PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS



UN/John Isaac

A UNFPA-supported symposium sought to clarify the effects of population growth on the sustainability of natural resources like clean water.

The UNDAF process provides opportunities for improved information sharing that should help to promote collaboration and to avoid duplication. It has great potential for synergy, particularly in the preparation of a common United Nations system approach. The many meetings and discussions that took place as part of the process enabled UNFPA to raise its profile in the country; to publicize its programme; to validate its programme strategy in regard to broad national development needs; and to engage in substantive dialogue with parties other than its traditional development partners. The meetings also provided a conducive environment for raising population and development issues.

Population issues were in general well reflected in the background sections of the UNDAF document and often in the situation analyses as well. In some instances, this was implicit rather than explicit. Population issues were less prominent in the common framework for future action. UNFPA inputs were mentioned, often under the health, gender and HIV/AIDS sections. The relevance of the Fund's support to poverty reduction and sector investment programmes was also recognized. Reproductive health was not consistently mentioned and, when it was mentioned, it was sometimes not defined. In a couple of cases, family planning was referred to instead. Reproductive rights were not mentioned under human rights or women's rights, except in one instance.

The UNDAF pilot phase has highlighted the value of synergy and complementarity. The UNDAF process presents a golden opportunity for United Nations system organizations to advance collaboration on monitoring and evaluation. It not only provides the context for monitoring the performance of the United Nations system in specific countries, but also enables more coherent monitoring of the follow-up to United Nations global conferences.

UNFPA participated in the updating of the guidelines pertaining to CCA and UNDAF. UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA reached a consensus on the basic principles that should underpin monitoring and evaluation activities relating to the UNDAF.

UNFPA field staff participated in two UNDP training events on results-based monitoring and evaluation in Pakistan and in the Syrian Arab Republic in 1998. In addition, with the concurrence of UNDP, the training module developed by consultants for these courses was adapted for use in two training workshops for UNFPA headquarters staff in November 1998. The Fund participated in a workshop on Performance Management and Evaluation in October 1998. This workshop was convened by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Working Party on Aid Evaluation and organized jointly by the Swedish International Development Agency and UNDP. The presentations and deliberations on the experiences of different organizations with results-based management approaches were very helpful to the Fund's efforts to develop a multi-year, results-based funding framework. Together with UNICEF, UNFPA is participating in the recently launched UNDP EVALNET, a network of staff from both field and headquarters who volunteered to serve as resource persons for evaluation work. The Fund attended the orientation meeting for the first group of volunteers in December 1998.

UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA have agreed to launch two joint evaluation exercises. One will be a joint country programme evaluation to be conducted in 1999 with a particular focus on national capacity-building. The other will be a thematic evaluation on collaboration with NGOs.

During 1998, UNFPA continued to participate in the Inter-agency Working Group on Evaluation, which is the only technical body in the United Nations with a focus on evaluation. The Working Group provides a forum for technical exchange on substantive as well as methodological work in evaluation. At its June 1998 meeting, agenda topics included: capacity development in monitoring and evaluation; results-based management; knowledge and learning; and harmonization of monitoring and evaluation. UNFPA made presentations on its evaluation of modalities for executing country programmes and on the independent study it commissioned on absorptive capacity.

The Fund continued to contribute to the revision of the monitoring and evaluation sections of the Operational Activities Reference Manual of the Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions (CCPOQ). This effort, which is being led by UNICEF, is using the 1996 Joint Consultative Group on Policy (JCGP) common guidelines for monitoring and evaluation as a basis, pending the outcome of the revision of the UNDAF guidelines and the consensus on monitoring and evaluation provisions therein.

REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL OVERVIEW



REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL OVERVIEW

The ICPD+5 process, which evaluated efforts to implement the ICPD Programme of Action, was a major focus of UNFPA's work in 1998. To facilitate this review and appraisal process, the Fund provided technical and financial assistance to countries in all regions of the world. The results indicate that considerable progress has been achieved in most countries in the areas of reproductive health (including sexual health and family planning); adolescent reproductive health; women's empowerment; and partnerships with civil society (including with non-governmental organizations).

However, the review also found a number of obstacles hindering implementation efforts. Constraints included inadequate resources; lack of trained personnel; insufficient advocacy in support of population and reproductive health issues; inadequate quality of care; and minimal involvement of males.

During 1998, UNFPA continued to support programming in its priority areas, namely reproductive health, including sexual health and family planning; population and development strategies; and advocacy. Emphasis was placed on promoting reproductive rights; improving quality of care; training service providers; integrating population and development strategies; encouraging partnerships with the private sector and civil society; and building national capacity. In several countries, attention was focused on adolescent reproductive health and violence against women.

UNFPA continued its collaboration and coordination with other United Nations agencies and organizations, bilateral agencies and groups in civil society. The Fund also continued to be involved in the United Nations Development Group and participated in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and the Common Country Assessment exercises.

In accordance with Executive Board decision 98/4, reporting on the following country and subregional programmes is included below under the relevant region: Algeria, China, Egypt, Nicaragua, the Pacific subregion and Paraguay.

AFRICA (sub-Saharan)

In 1998, UNFPA collaborated with the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) on a review of the achievements made and the constraints encountered in the Africa region since ICPD in 1994. The review showed progress in most countries in the areas of reproductive health (including adolescent reproductive health), women's empowerment and partnerships with civil society. It also found that many countries had adopted or revised their population policies in the light of ICPD.

However, African countries still faced constraints related to economic difficulties, insufficient private-sector involvement, shortages of trained personnel, and ineffective advocacy strategies. In addition, countries faced difficulties in changing gender-related attitudes and behaviour. In most countries, educational opportunities for males and females remained unequal. Moreover, reproductive health services were often compartmentalized, male involvement was minimal, and referral systems left much to be desired.

In 1998, UNFPA worked on creating an enabling environment for the implementation of the Programme of Action at the country level. The Fund also worked to ensure that population is given attention in all United Nations initiatives. To that end, UNFPA negotiated and secured the inclusion of the population sector as the fifth priority area of the United Nations Special Initiative for Africa.

UNFPA also prepared a paper that identified the region's priority population-related issues, which could be effectively addressed by coordinated efforts within the United Nations

AFRICA (SUB-SAHARAN)				
By major sector	In millions of US dollars		Percentage of total programme	
	1997	1998	1997	1998
Reproductive health/ family planning	42.2	41.7	56.7	58.9
Population and development strategies	18.0	17.3	24.1	24.5
Advocacy	14.3	11.8	19.2	16.6
Total	74.6	70.8	100.0	100.0
COUNTRY ACTIVITIES BY GROUP				
A	63.0	60.4	90.2	92.4
B	6.5	4.6	9.3	7.1
C	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.4
Other countries	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total country activities	69.8	65.4	100.0	100.0
Country activities	69.8	65.4	93.6	92.4
Regional activities	4.7	5.4	6.4	7.6
TOTAL REGION	74.6	70.8	100.0	100.0

Figures and percentages may not add up to the totals given due to rounding.

system and with other partners. Such collaborative efforts would add value to the efforts of individual agencies. UNFPA also strengthened its collaboration with the World Bank, agreeing on priority areas and countries for closer collaboration. In addition, the Fund participated in UNDAF exercises in 11 pilot countries.

Continuing its advocacy efforts on behalf of ICPD implementation efforts, the Fund organized a July conference for African women ministers and parliamentarians from 38 countries. The participants committed themselves to work for the elimination of violence against women and the eradication of harmful traditional practices, and they agreed to support initiatives aimed at ensuring the reproductive health of adolescents. Moreover, the women vowed to encourage open discussion of these issues by national leaders.

Recognizing the strong influence that religious leaders have on their constituents, UNFPA has supported efforts to sensitize them to population and reproductive health issues. Many of these religious authorities have a good understanding of the problems faced by their communities and of the concept of reproductive health in a religious context. The Fund sees them as important partners in working towards ICPD goals.

In November of 1988, the Fund organized a conference in Niamey, Niger, for over 80 Muslim leaders and scholars. The meeting, which drew participants from 19 sub-Saharan African countries as well as eight other countries, considered such topics as Islam and reproductive health; Islam and the status of women; and Islam, population and development.

Religious leaders were also increasingly involved in country-level activities. In Ghana, for example, eight religious organizations are currently preparing manuals to incorporate population and family life education into religious activities and to encourage parents to discuss sexuality with their children. The mid-term review of the UNFPA country programme in

REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL OVERVIEW



UN/John Isaac

In Africa, as in many parts of the world, girls do not always enjoy the same educational opportunities as boys.

Uganda in November was attended by religious leaders and other members of civil society. The Muslim leaders in Uganda have developed a set of reproductive health guidelines for the country's imams.

One constraint is the sustainability of these activities. This obstacle might be overcome by creating national and regional networks to facilitate the sharing of information and experiences between religious groups and associations at the country and regional levels. Providing training in the use of information, education and communication techniques would also help make these activities sustainable.

In an effort to offer women and men more contraceptive choice, the Fund, in collaboration with Margaret Sanger International, organized a conference on strengthening reproductive health through emergency contraception. The meeting, held in Malawi from 15-18 November, aimed to identify where and how such contraception might be incorporated into reproductive health services within the countries of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC). The meeting also provided a forum for sharing experiences related to needs, public opinion and the delivery of emergency contraception services. The conference activities were designed to maximize opportunities for South-South exchange of knowledge and experiences through a combination of focused plenary and small group activities. There were 19 presenters from the SADC, East Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States, and action plans for each country were developed by conference participants.

The HIV/AIDS epidemic and the reproductive health needs of youth and adolescents continue to be priority issues in sub-Saharan Africa. In Rwanda, UNFPA provided a "one day HIV/STD prevention and family planning strategy" for couples in Kigali; follow-up activities showed a clear increase in condom use. In Ghana, UNFPA developed playing cards with messages on HIV/AIDS prevention. The cards, which proved to be very popular, have been widely disseminated. In a number of

countries, including Eritrea, Namibia, Senegal and Uganda, reproductive health information and services are offered through youth-friendly multi-purpose centres. Among the services offered are ones targeting HIV/AIDS. HIV/AIDS-prevention modules have already been incorporated into the UNFPA-supported clinical skills training programmes offered at the Mauritius Institute of Health, as well as into the population IEC programmes offered in Nairobi, Kenya, and Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

The Fund participated in and supported the participation of delegates from 28 African countries in the Pan-African Conference on Women and HIV/AIDS. The conference, organized by the Society of African Women against AIDS, was held in December in Dakar, Senegal.

UNFPA also supported an international conference on HIV/AIDS in African prisons. The gathering, held in Dakar in February 1998, attracted participants from 35 African countries.

As with young people throughout the world, adolescents and youth in Africa are confronted by the consequences of early sexual intercourse, marriages and childbirths. Teenage pregnancies often lead to curtailed educations and/or to unsafe abortions. Early sexual intercourse also makes young people more prone to sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS. It is clear that preventable reproductive health problems not only threaten the health of youth and adolescents in Africa, but also negatively affect their educational, occupational and social opportunities. The Fund therefore continued to help African governments address adolescent reproductive health needs. UNFPA-supported interventions include promoting advocacy efforts, sharing lessons learned and best practices, supporting research, assisting in the provision of information and quality reproductive health counselling and services, creating youth-friendly community environments, building skills for adolescents, and providing population and family life education in and out of schools.

REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL OVERVIEW

In Africa, as in other parts of the world, there is often resistance to the idea of providing reproductive health information and services to youth and adolescents. Such resistance may come from parents, health care providers and community members. Another common constraint of youth programmes is the limited coverage of the programmes that are developed.

UNFPA-assisted programmes are working to overcome resistance by supporting community sensitization, mobilization and involvement in youth programmes. Youth-friendly services are often provided at multi-purpose youth centres jointly constructed or renovated by communities and governments with assistance from UNFPA. While government ministries of youth and development usually coordinate the activities at the youth centres, the young people serve as peer mobilizers both at the centres and within the communities. Rather than pay peer mobilizers — a practice that would not be sustainable on a long-term basis — UNFPA supports efforts to offer them skills development training and income-generating activities. In this context, the idea of supporting micro-credit income-generating activities is being explored with other donors.

UNFPA-supported initiatives addressed the reproductive health needs of young people in many African countries. For example, youth-friendly reproductive information and services were provided in Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, Eritrea, Namibia, Senegal and Uganda. In Senegal, reproductive health services and counselling on contraceptives, the prevention of unwanted pregnancies and sexual violence were provided by midwives and psychologists at five youth centres. A compact disc entitled "I Need to Know" was launched in Kenya on World Population Day to create awareness about reproductive health and rights and responsible sexual behaviour. The CD has encouraged open discussions on adolescent reproductive health issues.

At an April conference celebrating the 40th anniversary of ECA, UNFPA joined UNICEF and ECA in organizing a discussion on "Africa's New Generation". The Fund supported the participation of youth and adolescents from 22 African countries. The young people stressed the importance of involving them in the provision of reproductive health information and services, and they underlined the need for governments to offer them employment and education opportunities.

The Fund continued to emphasize national capacity-building. Activities were designed to provide national counterparts with both the technical and managerial skills required to develop, implement and monitor population programmes. In this context, advisers from UNFPA Country Support Teams organized and conducted on-the-job training in a number of countries on the logical framework (logframe) methodology and on subprogramme development. As a result, many country programmes that had experienced implementation delays made important strides in 1998. This was the case, for example, in Ghana, Mauritania, Nigeria and Senegal. However, experience during the year showed that, given the novelty of the logframe approach and the high turnover of personnel in government offices, more training is required.

In some other countries, including Burkina Faso, Chad, Madagascar and Malawi, on-the-job training was carried out by country offices on the Fund's financial procedures. In some cases, this included the participation of auditors familiar with the Fund's procedures and with the most commonly observed weaknesses in audit reports. While weaknesses persist in financial reporting in some countries, consistently good reporting was noted in many others.

Substantively, national capacity-building was pursued in several areas, including operational and sociocultural research,



UN/Peter Mgubane

A South African wedding. Early marriages, pregnancies and childbirths affect the reproductive health of many teenagers in the region.

REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL OVERVIEW



A church in Asmara, Eritrea. UNFPA sees church leaders as important partners in ICPD implementation efforts.

reproductive health and gender. For example, the CST in Harare, Zimbabwe, conducted a one-week training course on operational research in reproductive health for six countries in the SADC subregion — Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The training helped countries identify reproductive health issues requiring further research and assisted them in preparing protocols for such research.

The Fund also collaborated with UNESCO to sponsor research in a number of countries, including Malawi and Mozambique. The research focused on sociocultural factors affecting demographic behaviour and their implications for the formulation and execution of population programmes. The findings were disseminated in Malawi during a workshop attended by managers of the national population programme.

During the year, UNFPA worked on reorienting regional training in population and development strategies. The Fund's purpose was to align the training with ICPD recommendations, in particular as they relate to the integration of population into overall development planning. With a view towards ensuring a readily available critical mass of local experts in this area, the Fund initiated a search of African development institutes that could be strengthened to undertake training in population and development strategies.

During the year, UNFPA organized a consultative meeting on UNFPA assistance in emergency situations in Africa. The meeting included UNFPA Representatives and representatives of NGOs. The meeting's recommendations were used as inputs in the ICPD+5 technical meeting on reproductive health services in crisis situations held in November in Rennes, France. The consultation found that one major constraint in implementing activities in emergency situations was the difficulty in accessing funds.

UNFPA participated in joint assessments of the needs of refugees and displaced persons in a number of African countries during 1998. Assistance for emergency reproductive health services was provided in Angola, Comoros, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau and Lesotho.

Despite the conflict taking place in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, UNFPA continued to collaborate with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to meet the urgent reproductive health needs of Congolese women. Through this undertaking, three centres designed for the care of pregnant women have been established. They are expected to contribute to the improvement of reproductive health services, the reduction of maternal mortality and the prevention of HIV/AIDS. In another UNFPA-assisted project, three teams of psychotherapists were trained by the International Rescue Committee to help victims of sexual violence; the therapists are currently offering counselling at three hospitals.

UNFPA is also providing reproductive health services in refugee camps in the United Republic of Tanzania, in collaboration with one international and two national NGOs. Evaluations conducted since 1996 indicate a dramatic improvement in the quality of services and a reduction of maternal deaths in the refugee camps.

ARAB STATES AND EUROPE

Arab States

In the Arab States region, activities centred on reviewing progress made towards achieving the goals laid out in the ICPD Programme of Action. Countries in the region, with two exceptions, indicated that their development plans contained references to population goals or programmes. However, only 11 out of the 21 had established clear-cut population policies.

In the area of gender equality, the review found that the participation of women in higher administrative and political positions remained limited. This lack of progress was evident despite the governments' commitment to promoting equality, including the introduction of legal and administrative measures. Most countries, the review noted, still do not have a comprehensive approach to gender analysis as it relates to policy formulation, monitoring and evaluation. Moreover, only three countries in the region have incorporated the concept of gender into their population policies.

On a positive note, the review showed that 11 Arab countries have ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, albeit sometimes with certain reservations. NGOs, it was noted, continue to play an important advocacy role in this area. For its part, UNFPA is collaborating with other United Nations agencies to assist governments in mainstreaming gender concerns into their policies and programmes. Government efforts in this area were aided by the establishment of national committees and by participation in the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women.

During 1998 the Fund devoted greater attention to expanding the array of reproductive health services and integrating those services into primary health care systems. Attention was also focused on measuring achievements and progress in terms of both policy and programme objectives.

Most countries in the region have introduced measures to increase awareness of reproductive health and rights. However, in many countries, adolescents and young people are denied access to information and services. The Arab States continued to promote the involvement of civil society in implementing the ICPD Programme of Action, although to varying degrees in different countries. Sustained progress in this area requires

REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL OVERVIEW

support from governments and international and bilateral development agencies in enhancing the participation of NGOs.

Most UNFPA-supported country programmes in the Arab States region provide significant assistance to upgrade physical facilities, improve the skills of health-care providers, integrate basic counselling services into reproductive health programmes, widen the mix of available contraceptives, and institutionalize quality assurance systems to monitor and upgrade reproductive health services. Access to reproductive health services has been increased through the construction of new primary health care facilities and the provision of a comprehensive package of reproductive health services. This package includes components on safe motherhood and family planning, the prevention and management of STDs (including HIV/AIDS), and female genital mutilation.

There are numerous examples of how the Programme of Action is being translated into reality at the country level. IEC and income-generating activities and integrated reproductive health and women-in-development projects have been undertaken in underserved geographical areas in Jordan, the Sudan and Yemen. Similar efforts have taken place in Morocco, where decentralization was bolstered under a UNFPA-supported project designed for 13 of the most underserved provinces.

Reproductive health services have also been integrated into the assistance provided to populations in special circumstances, such as internally displaced persons and refugees. For example, the second phase of a project supporting the Women's Centre in the Al Burej camp for Palestinian refugees was launched to respond to the need for reproductive health services, social assistance, legal counselling and community education.

To meet the needs of young people, Tunisia and Morocco undertook innovative programming for youth and adolescents, and Bahrain developed a strategic national framework for adolescent reproductive health. In Morocco, puppet shows were used in youth centres to convey messages on STDs, including HIV/AIDS, and on reproductive health and rights. The impact went beyond the intended audiences of the youth centres with a spillover effect on their families and friends.

Addressing the need for accurate and reliable data, a number of countries, with technical assistance from the Fund, undertook efforts to generate meaningful indicators to monitor policy and programme achievements. With assistance from The Population Council, two situation analyses were conducted in Yemen and Jordan. The analyses aimed to help the respective Ministries of Health assess the quality of services in the public health facilities and to design appropriate interventions. Another goal of the studies was to transfer the methodology know-how to the participating national institutions.

As a contribution to a region-wide data bank on demographic and reproductive health indicators, the results of the Morocco survey of the Pan Arab Project for Child Development were disseminated. The results revealed unprecedented achievements in reducing infant and child mortality rates and fertility levels.

Other initiatives were carried out in the Sudan and the Occupied Palestinian Territories. In the Sudan, a complete registration and baseline survey conducted in the catchment areas of UNFPA-funded projects provided reliable indicators for monitoring progress made in achieving ICPD goals. In the Occupied Palestinian Territories, the 1997 census results were made available, providing an up-to-date, reliable picture of the population in terms of size, characteristics and distribution. The CST in Amman, Jordan, assisted the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics in a project aimed at ensuring the effective utilization of census data and at strengthening local capacity for data analysis.

Breakthroughs were made in advocacy with such partners as the International Islamic Centre for Population Research. In February, the Centre organized the International Conference on Population and Reproductive Health in the Muslim World, held in Cairo under the auspices of the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar. Designed to enhance dialogue among Muslim scientists, intellectuals and policy makers on population and reproductive health issues, it drew participants from 42 Muslim countries and representatives from Islamic and other organizations, including NGOs. The conference made recommendations on population, reproductive rights and women's issues and reaffirmed the ICPD Programme of Action and 23 principles it termed consistent with the Shariah.

In-kind assistance and local financial support for UNFPA programmes and projects increased significantly during the year. In Egypt, the Government committed 10 per cent of the finances required for the country programme under a trust fund arrangement. The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic made its third payment under an agreement that increases the funds available for the fifth country programme by approximately 10 per cent. The Lebanese Government continued to demonstrate its strong commitment to population issues by allocating \$2.5 million to the UNFPA-assisted programme.

UNFPA actively supported the CCA and the UNDAF in the region. In Morocco, the CCA and the first UNDAF were completed in 1998. In Turkey, UNFPA contributed to the CCA planning exercise that took place in 1998. In the Syrian Arab Republic, UNFPA started discussions with other United Nations



UN/John Isaac

A young girl from the Arab region, where 11 countries have ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL OVERVIEW



UN/John Isaac

A couple from Croatia, one of several Eastern European countries that hosted a large number of refugees in 1998.

agencies to mainstream the Country Population Assessment within the CCA exercise that will begin in 1999, in preparation for the UNDAF starting in 2001.

Algeria. During 1998, Algeria formulated and consolidated the finalization of the subprogrammes and the component projects under the new approved country programme. The process of relationship-building with government counterparts was strengthened.

Egypt. During 1998, UNFPA continued to collaborate with government counterparts in completing the subprogramme and component project documents, nearly all of which were finalized by year's end. An innovative new project aimed at preventing female genital mutilation was formulated with UNICEF, WHO and the Ministry of Social Affairs. The project's intersectoral approach calls for the provision of information, education and services to women and adolescents who have been affected by FGM or are in danger of being circumcised.

Europe

European countries with economies in transition. The year 1998 was especially challenging for European countries with economies in transition. While some countries in Central Europe and the Baltic region experienced impressive economic growth, others saw a serious deterioration of their economies. Gains that had been made in living standards are now receding, and the overall well-being of the population is declining in many parts of the region.

The year provided several opportunities to review progress made in the area of population and development. An expert group meeting on "Reproductive Health: Implementing the ICPD Programme of Action in Central and Eastern Europe:

Lessons Learnt Post-Cairo", was held in Copenhagen, Denmark, in September, and a regional population meeting was held in Budapest, Hungary, in December. Both meetings provided an opportunity to analyse current trends in the area of population and development and to make recommendations on future actions.

On the demographic front, many countries in the region are experiencing unprecedented demographic change and are in the midst of a health and mortality crisis. Issues such as low fertility and population ageing are perceived as having a profound impact on the economy. In the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Baltic countries, the health status of the population and mortality levels, particularly of men, are deteriorating.

The reproductive health situation in the region remains diverse. The contraceptive prevalence rate is showing a slow but positive trend, and the abortion ratio has decreased. However, there remains a major discrepancy between the low contraceptive prevalence rate and low total fertility rate, suggesting that abortion remains the main method of regulating fertility. Maternal mortality ratios in the region, although improving, are still five to ten times higher than in the rest of Europe. Furthermore, secondary infertility as a consequence of abortion is assessed to be quite high. The integration of reproductive health services into primary health care is the region's most pressing operational issue.

One of the region's major problems is the prevalence of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS. The reported number of syphilis cases has increased 30 to 40 times over the past few years, posing a significant threat of an immediate STD epidemic in the region. In addition, a cumulative rise of new HIV cases has occurred in many parts of the region, particularly in Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine.

REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL OVERVIEW



A day care centre in Egypt, a country in which UNFPA supported a project to prevent female genital mutilation.

Adolescent reproductive health has become a critical issue, particularly in light of deteriorating economic conditions that have left young people exposed to various forms of high-risk behaviour. Teenage fertility rates in the region were roughly three times as high as the average in Western Europe, and there has been an increase in the rate of teenage abortion in the past few years (every 10th abortion in the region was among girls below the age of 19); however, there are signs of stabilization. Although it is clear that reproductive and sexual education in schools plays an important role in preventing unwanted pregnancies and STDs, several countries in the region have been half-hearted in integrating such subjects into curricula, due to strong political opposition.

To address such trends, the Fund initiated numerous activities in 1998. In Albania, for example, a UNFPA country programme was launched. Approved in 1997, the programme focuses entirely on reproductive health. Also in 1998, UNFPA for the first time approved a project to support the development of comprehensive reproductive health information and services in Bosnia and Herzegovina. To respond to the needs in regions hardest hit by the Russian economic crisis, UNFPA approved a six-month project to provide reproductive health services at the district level in the Russian Federation's Republic of Sakha (Yakutia). Continuing to help strengthen national capacity in data collection and analysis, the Fund supported the 1998 publication of the Republic of Moldova's first reproductive health survey.

UNFPA also continued to assist comprehensive reproductive health programmes in Armenia, Georgia, Romania and Ukraine. All these programmes aim to improve the reproductive health status of women and men through training medical professionals and by carrying out IEC activities.

UNFPA supported a number of country-specific activities related to adolescent reproductive health. In Romania and

Armenia, UNFPA provided funds for surveys to better understand adolescent behaviour. Also in Romania, the Fund helped the Youth for Youth Foundation, a youth NGO, carry out an information and awareness-creation programme to reduce the incidence of unwanted pregnancies and STDs. In the Russian Federation, UNFPA is supporting the Russian Family Planning Association's development of a peer-education programme for teenagers.

Eastern European countries continued to host large numbers of refugees and internally displaced persons, in particular in Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia and the Russian Federation. Many of the refugees and internally displaced persons have not been able to return to their countries or homes and face an uncertain future in refugee camps or collective centres throughout the region. The reproductive health situation in these centres and camps is often very difficult, with cervical cancers and other cancers of the reproductive system being on the increase due to lack of proper screening and other preventive measures.

In December 1998, UNFPA fielded a needs assessment mission to the Kosovo province of Yugoslavia. A proposal for providing emergency reproductive health assistance to displaced Kosovars was developed. It was superseded in early 1999 by activities in support of Kosovar refugees in Albania and Macedonia.

Turkey. UNFPA continued to provide assistance for the evaluation and strengthening of national population and reproductive health programmes in Turkey. The Fund has supported two main studies to assist in the updating of major reproductive health indicators. It co-sponsored the 1998 demographic and health survey, whose preliminary findings indicate only a slight increase in the modern contraceptive prevalence rate and an increase in the use of traditional methods. The

REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL OVERVIEW

Fund also supported a survey of males. The findings will be utilized to develop a national IEC strategy, which will include a special emphasis on males and youth. In addition, UNFPA supported a maternal mortality study conducted with technical assistance from WHO.

ARAB STATES AND EUROPE				
By major sector	In millions of US dollars		Percentage of total programme	
	1997	1998	1997	1998
Reproductive health/ family planning	15.2	16.0	63.5	65.5
Population and development strategies	4.7	4.2	19.5	17.2
Advocacy	4.1	4.2	17.0	17.3
Total	24.0	24.4	100.0	100.0
COUNTRY ACTIVITIES BY GROUP				
A	8.1	6.8	37.9	31.9
B	7.5	11.8	35.3	55.4
Economies in transition	3.8	0.8	17.9	3.8
Other countries	1.9	1.9	8.9	8.9
Total country activities	21.3	21.3	100.0	100.0
Country activities	21.3	21.3	88.8	87.1
Regional activities	2.7	3.1	11.2	12.9
TOTAL REGION	24.0	24.4	100.0	100.0

Figures and percentages may not add up to the totals given due to rounding.

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

In keeping with their commitment to implement the ICPD Programme of Action, in 1998 the Asian and Pacific countries worked on reorienting their population and development policies and programmes along the lines of the Programme of Action, according to their own particular demographic, socio-economic and political situations. Political commitment to ICPD goals was maintained, and efforts to gain the support of NGOs and civil society, especially in the area of reproductive health, were strengthened. Operationally, 1998 witnessed approval of new UNFPA country programmes and the development of subprogrammes and projects for Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Maldives, Papua New Guinea, the Pacific subregion and Thailand, as well as approval of programme extensions for the Central Asian Republics, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Pakistan and the Philippines. Furthermore, mid-term reviews were conducted in the Philippines and in countries in Central Asia, and Country Population Assessments were finalized for the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Philippines. As part of the ICPD+5 process, technical and operational reviews on the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action were conducted in several countries.

As in the past, UNFPA assistance in Asia and the Pacific focused on the operationalization of reproductive health services, including ones for adolescents, with an emphasis on national capacity-building. In 1998 UNFPA continued to help countries revise or develop population and reproductive health policies, operational guidelines and reproductive health clinic

and protocol standards and to integrate their reproductive health services.

For example, in Bangladesh, operations research was used in the development of an essential package of services as part of a comprehensive approach to reproductive health services. Forty-seven health centres were renovated, with UNFPA assistance, to provide these services. A similar exercise was undertaken in India.

In Nepal, operational guidelines on reproductive health were prepared, and a new strategy is being developed to tackle maternal morbidity and maternal mortality. The strategy is based on the findings of a 1998 survey.

In the Philippines, an integrated package of 10 components of reproductive health services is being piloted in Nueva Vizcaya province. One of the lessons learned was that even focusing on one province was still very ambitious.

Service integration was a priority in Thailand and the Islamic Republic of Iran. In Thailand, the Government recently announced the integration of reproductive health components into one package of services. The Islamic Republic of Iran has integrated a number of health services, including family planning, prevention of STDs and pre-marriage counselling, into its health network system.

Expansion of reproductive health services to remote, underserved areas was a key feature of programmes in Bangladesh, Cambodia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Papua New Guinea, the South Pacific subregion and Viet Nam. The reproductive health subprogramme in Viet Nam has improved considerably with direct funding to eight provinces, while continuing to strengthen capacity at central levels. UNFPA also helped provide emergency reproductive health services in parts of Afghanistan that were affected by the May earthquake.

Several countries reported encountering obstacles during the course of shifting to a holistic reproductive health approach. These obstacles included a shortage of appropriately trained staff, limited human resources at the local level, inadequate understanding of client needs, and difficulties in operationalizing reproductive health services within the limited existing health infrastructure.

To overcome such barriers, the Fund's support has focused on capacity-building through the training of health professionals. Consequently, extensive training programmes in reproductive health, IEC and counselling skills were mounted in Cambodia, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mongolia, Nepal and Pakistan. For example, in Cambodia over 2,000 health workers were trained; in Mongolia, following a training programme and upgrading of health centres, services were provided to over 5,000 clients during a six-month period; in the Islamic Republic of Iran, services were extended to remote provinces; and in Bangladesh, 75 per cent of the health centres in 64 districts were renovated.

The ICPD Programme of Action called on governments and international agencies to promote effective partnerships with civil society. Exemplifying such partnerships is the Initiative for Reproductive Health in Asia (RHI), the largest cooperation arrangement between the European Commission, UNFPA and the non-governmental sector. The RHI was launched in 1997 and began its activities in 1998 in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam. Twenty-one European NGOs and over 60 national NGOs and other organizations have been involved in the programme development of 38 country projects. During 1998, 20 projects were started, mostly in the area of adolescent repro-

REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL OVERVIEW



UN/John Isaac

Youngsters out for a stroll in China, where the UNFPA-supported programme focuses on reproductive health, women's empowerment, advocacy and South-South collaboration.

ductive health and in promoting inter-linkages and collaboration at the national level.

Successful partnerships with NGOs are exemplified by the activities undertaken in the Philippines, where 34 per cent of UNFPA funding was provided to an umbrella project of 30 NGOs working in 18 provinces to complement services provided by the Government. NGOs worked to provide services to hard-to-reach target groups like commercial sex workers, unmarried women and adolescents. They also included services for poor and marginalized populations that are not adequately served by public or commercial services. By offering gender-sensitive services and IEC activities, NGOs have promoted women's empowerment, increased male participation and addressed adolescent reproductive health concerns.

The Fund continued to promote male involvement and male responsibility. In this context, UNFPA and the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) jointly organized a conference on the role of men in population and reproductive health programmes. The conference, hosted in Baku by the Government of Azerbaijan, concluded with a series of country reviews that discussed the prevailing situation in each of the 10 ECO member states and proposed national operational responses that would enhance men's rights and responsibilities vis-à-vis reproductive health.

Another major focus of UNFPA assistance in Asia and the Pacific was in the area of adolescent reproductive health. High levels of unprotected sexual activity both within and outside marriage were reported in most countries, leaving adolescents at high risk of unwanted pregnancy as well as STDs/AIDS. The prevalence of unsafe abortions has been reported in Asia. In some countries, the belief that sex education and access to services lead to promiscuity is a major obstacle to promoting adolescent reproductive health. The situation is aggravated by the poor quality of adolescent reproductive health services in

many countries. Several countries, including Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand, have started the process of developing pilot activities by conducting an adolescent reproductive health needs assessment. Others, such as Indonesia, Mongolia, the Republic of Korea and Sri Lanka, have established a policy framework for dealing with adolescent reproductive health concerns. However, most countries have no such policy and, even among those countries with adolescent reproductive health policies, services are often not easily accessible for adolescents.

In an effort to create wider awareness of adolescent reproductive health issues among policy makers — and to overcome misconceptions in this area — advocacy efforts were intensified at the country and regional levels. In 1998, a series of high-level international conferences was organized with UNFPA assistance. At the regional level, technical workshops and conferences were organized to assist in the formulation of specific policy and programme strategies for adolescent reproductive health in Bangkok, Thailand, and New Delhi, India. Strategies were formulated to guide planners and policy makers in developing policies and implementing programmes for adolescents, especially for adolescent girls.

At the country level, particularly in Bangladesh, Mongolia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, the South Pacific subregion and Viet Nam, the Fund supported efforts aimed at strengthening national capacity to advocate on behalf of adolescent reproductive health issues. Influential people, including policy makers, religious leaders and parents, were the targeted audience for sensitization efforts. Among the innovative approaches used to reach adolescents were telephone hotlines in India, Mongolia and Viet Nam, peer education in the Philippines, cooperative efforts with religious groups and parents in Papua New Guinea and Sri Lanka, and sexuality education in Bhutan, India and Indonesia. In Pakistan, a "girl-child programme" focused on training in leadership qualities, health and nutrition, women's rights and family life education.

REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL OVERVIEW



UN

Children waiting for a school bus in Afghanistan, where UNFPA helped provide emergency reproductive health services to earthquake victims.

Over the past decade, the Mekong Delta region of South-East Asia has seen significant social transformations brought about in part by rapid and uneven economic and political developments. Governments have become increasingly aware of the complex reality of sexual abuse and youth exploitation through prostitution and the trafficking of women and children. The recent Asian economic crisis has aggravated the situation. In response to the concern expressed by several governments, UNFPA, in collaboration with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Governments of Japan and Sweden, formulated a pilot project in 1998 for six countries of the Mekong Delta region. A training package for social service and health personnel is being developed that would serve as a model for application in other subregions of Asia and the Pacific and could be made available to interested training institutions.

China. In January 1998, the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board approved the Fund's fourth programme of assistance (1997-2000) for the People's Republic of China. The \$20 million programme consists of four different components, focusing on the areas of reproductive health, women's empowerment, advocacy and South-South collaboration.

A major project under the programme is the \$14 million reproductive health and family planning project, which was approved by all concerned parties in September 1998. Activities completed so far include a baseline reproductive health survey, needs assessments, orientation meetings and study tours. The main part of the project is being implemented throughout 32 counties in 22 provinces. The Chinese Government has agreed to lift acceptor targets and birth quotas within these areas, while still pursuing overall national demographic targets. The project seeks to establish a client-oriented reproductive health

approach that will provide a wide range of quality health services, encompassing maternal health care, treatment for reproductive tract infections and STDs, and extensive family planning services that make available a broad range of contraceptive methods. This project also includes two urban-based pilot projects that promote adolescent reproductive health and social marketing efforts.

As confirmation that the acceptor targets and birth quotas have been lifted, IEC materials addressing the qualitative approach towards reproductive health and family planning that was set out at ICPD are to be distributed to households and clinics throughout the project sites. Due to the sensitive nature of these issues in China, considerable time was taken to develop appropriate materials. This slowed down project activities at local levels. It is hoped that the successful experiences from the 32 counties will contribute to the formulation of the Government's reproductive health and family planning strategies for the future.

With regard to the women's empowerment project, which is focusing on 15 counties, progress is being made in the finalization of the project document. The advocacy project will focus on client-centred reproductive health, esteem of the girl child, male involvement and adolescent reproductive health. It will be implemented in the same 15 counties as the women's empowerment project. Some pre-project activities have been approved while the project is being finalized. A South-South project is also in the process of being developed, and discussions are ongoing as to the most appropriate focus.

Pacific subregion. Because the Pacific subregion displays considerable socio-economic and cultural differences, the responses of various countries to the ICPD Programme of Action have varied considerably. Most governments, however, have adopted the reproductive health approach and have accepted the main principles of the Programme of Action. In spite of this, in some countries there are still high levels of

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC				
By major sector	In millions of US dollars		Percentage of total programme	
	1997	1998	1997	1998
Reproductive health/family planning	42.3	44.1	67.8	63.1
Population and development strategies	10.3	17.7	16.5	25.3
Advocacy	9.8	8.0	15.7	11.6
Total	62.4	69.9	100.0	100.0
COUNTRY ACTIVITIES BY GROUP				
A	30.5	37.8	51.8	57.6
B	17.2	17.2	29.3	26.3
C	5.0	3.7	8.5	5.6
Economies in transition	4.9	5.7	8.3	8.7
Other countries	1.2	1.2	2.0	1.9
Total country activities	58.8	65.7	100.0	100.0
Country activities	58.8	65.7	94.3	94.0
Regional activities	3.6	4.2	5.7	6.0
TOTAL REGION	62.4	69.9	100.0	100.0

Figures and percentages may not add up to the totals given due to rounding.

REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL OVERVIEW

maternal mortality and morbidity, as well as high total fertility rates and population growth rates. Furthermore, new reproductive health problems have emerged, such as increasing rates of adolescent pregnancies and a rise in the incidence of STDs, including HIV/AIDS. A major challenge identified by the Pacific island countries is to improve access to quality reproductive health and family planning services, particularly to underserved groups such as adolescents and men and to populations living in rural outer islands.

In 1998, a regional meeting in Fiji afforded Pacific island countries the opportunity to take stock of their experiences in implementing the ICPD Programme of Action. UNFPA assisted countries in identifying the major population-related issues and challenges facing each country and the Pacific sub-region as a whole.

UNFPA is assisting a number of new initiatives that have been started by Pacific island governments and civil society groups. In the Solomon Islands, for example, an integrated reproductive health programme was introduced. In the Marshall Islands, a youth-to-youth health programme is addressing the needs of adolescents in a youth-friendly environment. In Vanuatu, the Wan Smol Bag Theatre Group is using drama to convey reproductive health messages to out-of-school youth and people living in remote rural areas. And in Fiji, non-governmental organizations, such as the Fiji Women's Rights Movement and the Fiji AIDS Task Force, are playing a key advocacy and programming role by addressing women's rights and gender issues and by helping forge a community response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

The second cycle of the Fund's programme of assistance in the Pacific subregion for the period 1998-2001 is addressing many of these issues by focusing on improving national and regional capacities in the delivery of reproductive health services; strengthening national and regional capacities in the planning, management and delivery of reproductive health IEC interventions; contributing to the establishment of an updated and reliable reproductive health database; and expanding reproductive health services to youth and adolescents.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The year 1998 was significant for the Fund's work in Latin America and the Caribbean. Partnerships with other United Nations system agencies and organizations and with NGOs and other groups in civil society were expanded and strengthened; emerging issues such as gender equity and male responsibility in reproductive health were addressed; and innovative and replicable initiatives were supported. Within the context of the ICPD+5 review and appraisal process, a wide range of activities was pursued to consolidate the region's commitment to the ICPD Programme of Action. UNFPA also continued its participation in the UNDAF pilot exercise underway in Guatemala.

Adolescent reproductive health and rights. The reproductive health and rights of adolescents, a key priority for the region, are the focus of various UNFPA initiatives. Poverty, unemployment, lack of training and educational opportunities, early pregnancy, unsafe abortion, high HIV/STD infection rates, and marked gender inequalities from an early age are some of the challenges faced by adolescents.

Nearly all UNFPA-supported country programmes contain advocacy, IEC and service components to promote adolescent health and rights. In September, UNFPA participated in the Eighth First Ladies' Conference held in Santiago, Chile. Santiago was also the site for a regional parliamentary workshop held in March. UNFPA and UNESCO participated in the workshop, which aimed to strengthen support for sexual education.

In Haiti, the Fund supported a campaign on HIV/AIDS awareness, including a peer counselling project. In Peru, an Interministerial Accord for the Promotion of Healthy Lifestyles of Adolescents and Youth was celebrated on Population Day. In Venezuela, UNFPA continued working with a network of NGOs to support legislation and awareness-raising on adolescent reproductive health. In an innovative endeavour in the Dominican Republic, UNFPA supported two youth-serving NGOs in the first-ever collaborative effort on adolescent reproductive health undertaken by the Ministry of Health and NGOs. The project seeks to build youth leadership and self-esteem by strengthening a peer counsellor programme in 36 poor urban neighbourhoods. Using teachers, health providers and Catholic priests, the project links counselling, IEC and referrals to public health services. As follow-up to the 1997 Regional Conference on Adolescent Reproductive Health, UNFPA is supporting a multi-country research project of the Ibero-American Youth Organization on integrating adolescent reproductive health in employment training programmes. UNFPA also secured additional resources for adolescent-friendly reproductive health care initiatives in Ecuador, Haiti, Honduras and Nicaragua.

In Barbados, UNFPA convened an October Caribbean Youth Summit, bringing together youth leaders, youth-serving public and private agencies, and a number of United Nations agencies and institutions from throughout the subregion. The summit provided a unique forum for youth in the Caribbean to voice their own concerns and priorities. The summit, which opened with a keynote address by the UNFPA Executive Director, produced a regional action plan and a declaration negotiated by the youth on their sexual and reproductive health and rights. A UNFPA Youth Goodwill Ambassador scheme was also launched involving young people and NGOs from the Caribbean. In 1998, UNFPA served as chair of the regional Inter-Agency Coordination Committee for the Americas on Follow-Up to the World Summit for Children.

An important lesson learned in the area of adolescent reproductive health is that even in a region where conservative and religious opposition is vocal and public, progress can be made if the right strategies are applied. The principal strategy is based on the knowledge that youth are their own best advocates and are effective in counteracting false charges and misrepresentations. A risk to keep in mind as programmes expand is that traditional and narrowly defined approaches may result in conceptual gaps and biases. Close monitoring will be needed to ensure the adoption of a rights-based, gender-sensitive programme strategy that truly corresponds to adolescent reproductive health and development needs.

Quality of care. A central programming concern in 1998 was quality of care, with a focus on incorporating gender-related issues and on responding to the needs of poor and indigenous women. All UNFPA-supported programmes in the region focus on building national capacities to improve quality of care and to ensure that both services and service providers are gender- and age-responsive and respectful of clients from all social and cultural backgrounds. The programme in Bolivia, which addresses the needs of the country's indigenous population, is illustrative of this approach. In Ecuador, UNFPA continued to support an innovative project that combines traditional indigenous healing practices with modern medicine. In Bolivia and Peru, indigenous women were empowered through a unique methodology developed by the CST. It provides bilingual literacy (Quechua/Spanish), enabling the women to learn to read and write while simultaneously learning about sexual and reproductive health and rights and gender equality, with a view towards improving their well-being, health and income-earning potential. The success of the methodology has fostered interest in several other countries. A documentary on the methodology's field test in Peru won UNFPA its first-ever international film festival award in Havana, Cuba, in December. In June

REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL OVERVIEW

1998, a regional seminar of indigenous women was convened in Peru by the Center for Amazonian Research and Promotion and UNFPA. The seminar produced a follow-up plan addressing integrated health issues and focusing on the sexual and reproductive health and rights of South American indigenous women.

UNFPA has placed an increasing emphasis on working directly with municipalities to expand access of services to poor and hard-to-reach rural communities. Close collaboration with the ministries of health and education, women's health groups, universities and other institutions working in partnership at the local level has proved to be a difficult undertaking, but the longer-term prospects for sustainability of activities are promising. Under its regional programme, UNFPA supported the International Planned Parenthood Federation, Western Hemisphere Region, in preparing user-friendly self-assessment tools for reproductive health service organizations. The tools focus on quality of care; strategic planning; sustainability; and adolescents. Along with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), UNFPA continued to support a regional training programme on service management to improve service quality, access and coverage. The Fund's regional programme also supported maternal mortality prevention activities, including the safe motherhood advocacy and coalition-building efforts of Family Care International in Bolivia and Colombia.

During the year, UNFPA was invited to join NGOs and regional academic institutions in launching an initiative and follow-up work in the area of male responsibility, gender equality, and reproductive health. In October, a landmark regional conference, supported by UNFPA and organized by IPPF and AVSC International in Mexico, brought together over 100 experts and programme professionals from throughout the region. UNFPA continued to support the formation of national networks and strategies to involve men in a positive way in

reproductive health and in the gender equity agenda. In Bolivia, Ecuador, Nicaragua and Paraguay, UNFPA, in collaboration with the armed forces, collaborated on developing awareness-raising activities focusing on gender sensitivity, human rights and reproductive health. Messages were developed to reach the primarily male audiences of the armed forces.

ICPD+5. Advocacy and other activities related to the ICPD+5 review and appraisal process were an important focus during the year. All UNFPA country offices mobilized to assist counterparts in preparing national reports and in responding to surveys undertaken for the ICPD+5 review and appraisal. The Fund provided support for the regional five-year review process undertaken by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, including meetings held in Aruba in May, in Trinidad and Tobago in November, and in Santiago, Chile, in December. Two regional events focusing on advocacy strategies for the ICPD+5 review and appraisal were supported in Mexico: a workshop on reproductive health and rights and on the broader issues of gender, population and development was organized bringing together journalists from the region; and a meeting of the regional representatives of the Latin American Council of Churches (Protestant denominations) was held. The meeting produced a declaration supportive of reproductive health and rights and the ICPD Programme of Action.

UNFPA also continued to support a multi-country initiative developed by the Latin America and Caribbean Women's Health Network. The initiative focuses on monitoring the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action. The monitoring is carried out by women's groups and includes the preparation of national progress reports.

In Peru, the multi-country project led to the creation of the National Tripartite Commission on Population and Development, which brings together various ministries, United



UN/Eskinder Debebe

Young people from a poor neighbourhood in Haiti, where UNFPA is supporting adolescent-friendly reproductive health care initiatives.

REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL OVERVIEW

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN				
By major sector	In millions of US dollars		Percentage of total programme	
	1997	1998	1997	1998
Reproductive health/ family planning	17.3	13.4	63.0	54.1
Population and development strategies	5.0	5.9	18.3	23.9
Advocacy	5.1	5.4	18.7	22.0
Total	27.4	24.7	100.0	100.0

COUNTRY ACTIVITIES BY GROUP				
A	4.5	4.9	17.7	22.1
B	17.9	14.2	71.5	63.6
C	2.0	1.6	7.8	7.3
Other countries	0.8	1.6	3.0	7.0
Total country activities	25.1	22.3	100.0	100.0
Country activities	25.1	22.3	91.6	90.6
Regional activities	2.3	2.3	8.4	9.4
TOTAL REGION	27.4	24.7	100.0	100.0

Figures and percentages may not add up to the totals given due to rounding.

Nations agencies, universities and women's groups. UNFPA support at the country level played a key role in the establishment of the commission, which helped to forge a national consensus and monitor quality-of-care concerns in the wake of public outcry and media publicity over alleged forced sterilizations. The commission is considered a model for other countries as it brings together, on an equal footing, all necessary partners from government, civil society and multilateral organizations to promote quality of care and safeguard reproductive rights in the spirit of the ICPD Programme of Action. In 1998, Peru also finalized the National Population Plan 1998-2002.

The United Nations Inter-Agency Campaign Against Violence Against Women. Coordinated by UNIFEM with a leadership role played by UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF, the United Nations Inter-Agency Campaign Against Violence Against Women mobilized an impressive level of press coverage, sensitization activities, legislative initiatives and, most importantly, political commitment at all levels. The campaign, directly or indirectly, contributed to a series of important results: the Brazilian Government announced additional funds for safe houses; in Peru, a national multi-agency task force was established and developed a five-year action plan; in Nicaragua, forums were held in poor communities to raise women's awareness of their rights; in Venezuela, the pending bill against domestic violence was finally approved after two years of inaction; in Ecuador, schoolchildren's lunch bags and public transportation carried the campaign's logo and slogan; and in Haiti, UNFPA supported advocacy for legislation on rape. The key lesson learned was that the United Nations, speaking in one voice while reaching out to national partners, can be highly effective in making progress on critical human rights and gender issues. The United Nations Inter-Agency group held several meetings, including with PAHO, to develop follow-up activities and related initiatives for 1999 and 2000. These included fundraising strategies to capitalize on the commitment mobilized and to put programmes and services in place.

Hurricane Mitch. Responding to Hurricane Mitch became a top priority for UNFPA in the last quarter of 1998. UNFPA Representatives from countries in Central America and the Director of the Latin America and the Caribbean Division participated in inter-agency initiatives in Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua; attended a consultative meeting convened by the Inter-American Development Bank focusing on reconstruction; and contributed to the United Nations Inter-Agency Transitional Appeal for Hurricane Mitch, as well as to the development of medium-term reconstruction projects that rebuild health infrastructure and address reproductive health and gender concerns. In Honduras and Nicaragua, UNFPA supported needs assessments in reproductive health among the displaced population, provided emergency kits on sexual and reproductive health and supported counselling efforts. The counselling, primarily for female adolescents in shelters, included information on preventing gender-based violence.

Nicaragua. UNFPA provided technical assistance for the development of subprogrammes focusing on reproductive health and adolescents and on the integration of population dynamics into national development strategies. UNFPA supported the Ministry of Health's adolescent programme, as well as services for youth in 17 priority municipalities. In coordination with PAHO, the Fund supported the Ministry of Health in developing norms for the provision of adolescent health services and also continued support to the Bertha Calderon Hospital's Center for Adolescents in the capital. An agreement with the Ministry of Health and the United States Agency for International Development was reached to improve logistics management. In July, the Government formulated a national population policy and a corresponding action plan. The lack of human resources in the area of population is being addressed through UNFPA-supported training and higher education in the relevant disciplines. For example, UNFPA



UNF. Chariton

UNFPA assistance to Bolivia addresses the needs of the country's indigenous population.

REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL OVERVIEW



UN/DPI/Giuseppe Bizzari

Schoolboys in Paraguay, where UNFPA helped organize a regional workshop to prepare for the upcoming round of 2000 censuses.

supported 35 nationals from Nicaragua and other Central American countries who graduated in 1998 with a Master's Degree in reproductive health from the School of Medicine of Nicaragua.

In November 1998, following Hurricane Mitch, the UNFPA country office accorded top priority to rehabilitation efforts. Work plans were revised to focus on the most vulnerable groups and to establish alliances with community representatives close to the affected population. In the area of reproductive health, UNFPA efforts focused on strengthening the primary health care system, including through re-equipping units and training service providers. Mobile information units (two vans) were provided to promote preventive care and health education. Special attention was focused on promoting the sexual and reproductive health and rights of adolescents. UNFPA has been instrumental in developing an innovative inter-agency emergency project with UNDP to meet the most pressing needs, including those of adolescent girls and women, in the 25 most affected municipalities of the northern provinces.

Paraguay. During 1998, the programme in Paraguay focused attention on adolescent reproductive health. Activities included the establishment of specialized clinics providing integrated reproductive health services to adolescents and undertaking education initiatives on sexual and reproductive health. Special clinics, run by NGOs with support from UNFPA, are functioning in the metropolitan area of Asuncion and in the department of Guaira. A sex education project was also initiated in collaboration with Paraguay's armed forces. Every year 12,000 young males, mainly adolescents from the rural areas, are recruited for their mandatory military service. Education on sexual and reproductive health issues has been integrated in their training. In addition, the armed forces are providing selected reproductive health services, including the supply of contraceptives and services for the prevention of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted

diseases. It is believed that the combined effort of educating adolescents and offering them sexual and reproductive health services will bring down the high rate of adolescent pregnancies.

Under the subprogramme on population and development strategies, training was provided at the local level to civil servants and government officials to enable them to integrate population concerns into policy formulation and decision-making. A regional workshop was organized in Paraguay to prepare for the 2000 round of censuses. Efforts are also underway to create a regional network of population and development experts from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile and Uruguay to support upcoming activities.

INTERREGIONAL PROGRAMMES

Reproductive health. Since ICPD, governmental and non-governmental organizations from developing countries have been redesigning and broadening policies to integrate reproductive health components into primary health care systems. The reproductive health component of the interregional programme aids countries in these efforts in a number of ways. For example, it provides support for the development of new and improved contraceptive methods and helps to verify that such methods are safe and effective. Another activity is the development of guidelines, methodologies and operational approaches to integrate and strengthen reproductive health programmes and services. The inclusion of new reproductive health components in family planning programmes requires clear technical instructions on key issues of integration as well as on the content of each component. The development of feasible and cost-effective reproductive health interventions for application at the primary health care level is also essential. In conditions of poverty, for example, basic technology to deal with some reproductive health components is prohibitively expensive. There is therefore a need to develop simpler diagnostic

REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL OVERVIEW

tests and single diagnostic therapies for STDs. Interregional programmes also promote the concept of reproductive health as an overall approach to the health and well-being of women, men and adolescents.

In 1998 UNFPA continued to support the development and assessment of contraceptive methods, contraceptive surveillance and social science research in reproductive health. UNFPA focused its assistance on developing and conducting research on female-controlled methods, such as the vaginal ring, the female condom, emergency contraception, and new methods for males. Support provided by the Fund was instrumental in the development of an information package on the female condom. The status of male contraceptive development is promising, in particular for hormonal methods. UNFPA has begun to fund an innovative initiative that promotes the involvement of industry in developing new contraceptive agents that respond to the needs and perspectives of women. There are a variety of leads in this area, and several potential spermicides and microbicides are in initial clinical trials.

As part of efforts to operationalize reproductive health programmes, UNFPA funded the development of technical guidelines on key reproductive health issues; the development of tools for training NGO professionals in advocacy, gender issues, reproductive health, youth and institution-building; and the enhancement of reproductive health components in emergency situations. Providing support for the reduction of maternal morbidity and mortality is an ICPD goal as well as a UNFPA programme priority. In the context of reproductive health, UNFPA promotes policy and programmatic efforts to ensure that women have ready access to well-equipped and adequately staffed essential maternal health care services, including emergency obstetric services. In this regard, the establishment of twinning arrangements between obstetric and gynaecological professional societies in developed and developing countries has been particularly valuable in helping to improve maternity services in developing countries, especially in the early detection, referral and management of life-threatening complications in pregnancy and childbirth.

There is a broad agreement that the prevention of STDs, including HIV/AIDS, should be an integral component of reproductive health programmes. UNFPA is providing funding to UNAIDS to develop and test strategies for the successful integration of STD- and HIV/AIDS-prevention activities into reproductive health programmes. In this regard, UNFPA last year provided support for the continued development of simple, rapid, diagnostic tests for syphilis, gonorrhoea and chlamydia. Strip tests for these STDs are still in progress. To respond to the issue of how best to address the sexual and reproductive health of adolescents, UNFPA has been supporting activities to promote and underscore adolescent reproductive health issues through research, training, information and advocacy as well as by providing technical support. UNFPA aims to increase the research capacity of institutions so that they can assess the health needs — including sexual and reproductive health needs — of adolescents, identify gaps in programmes, plan interventions to address those gaps and evaluate interventions that are implemented.

Population and development strategies. In its interregional support in the area of population and development strategies, UNFPA has funded the development of sustainable national integrated information systems and the promotion of timely and cost-effective data collection efforts and analyses. It is recognized that continued support for the strengthening of integrated information systems is critical if countries are to be able to monitor programme implementation and to track country progress in reaching the goals of ICPD as well as those of

other United Nations conferences. For example, analytical findings in the form of graphs and maps can be put together at the lowest administrative level and for different thematic areas of country programmes with the use of the Geographic Information System. UNFPA has also supported the development and application of rapid assessment methodologies, which are especially useful in assessing the modalities for operationalizing the reproductive health approach and in carrying out impact assessments.

In the area of population and the environment, the Fund has worked with other United Nations agencies and organizations, NGOs and universities to produce manuals for countries seeking to formulate population and environment policies and interventions. In cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Conservation Union, UNFPA held an expert workshop to train country officials in the application of population and environment frameworks for sustainable development. A memorandum of understanding between UNEP and UNFPA was initiated in 1998 and signed in 1999.

The interregional programme has continued to support sociocultural research methodologies, for example, those that seek to provide frameworks for the study of the impact of sociocultural factors on fertility behaviour and on the role and status of women. It is expected that the typologies developed will be adapted for country-level use. They can also be used for cross-country comparative studies. In supporting research on international migration, UNFPA has emphasized the need to study the situation of women migrants and to collect gender-specific migration data. UNFPA has pursued its work in the area of international migration with such partners as the International Labour Organization, the International Organization for Migration, the United Nations Statistical Division and the United Nations Population Division. The information dissemination projects funded under the interregional population and development strategies programme, such as the Population Information Network, the Annual Review of Population Law, and the Fund's Inventory of Population Projects in Developing Countries Around the World, have continued to be well received. A number of recommendations have been advanced for improving the Fund's interregional activities in the area of population and development. Since many projects on population and development strategies are closely related, there is a need for more cross-area collaboration to enhance the quality of outputs and to widen the dissemination of findings to a broader audience, including policy makers. It has been suggested that the

INTERREGIONAL AND GLOBAL				
	In millions of US dollars		Percentage of total programme	
By major sector	1997	1998	1997	1998
Reproductive health/ family planning	14.2	14.1	54.3	52.7
Population and development strategies	5.8	7.0	22.3	26.0
Advocacy	6.1	5.7	23.4	21.3
Total	26.1	26.8	100.0	100.0

Figures and percentages may not add up to the totals given due to rounding.

REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL OVERVIEW



UNHCR/P. Bambar

UNFPA has worked with other United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and universities to help countries formulate policies on population and the environment.

Internet should be used more extensively to expand the range of potential users of research findings and methodological innovations.

Advocacy. Advocacy is essential to raise awareness, galvanize broad-based political commitment and mobilize resources for population and reproductive health issues. It is also indispensable in placing population concerns on development agendas. Advocacy plays a key role in promoting the goals of the ICPD Programme of Action at the national, regional and global levels. Equally important is the fact that advocacy is essential for raising the profile of UNFPA in countries around the world and for increasing awareness of the Fund's work in the areas of reproductive health, including sexual health and family planning, and population and development strategies. The UNFPA country offices play a crucial role in raising public awareness and government support for the work of UNFPA. To aid them in their work, the country offices use advocacy materials prepared by UNFPA headquarters, along with materials developed at the country level that respond to the social, cultural and language particularities of programme countries.

The Fund's interregional advocacy efforts have been mainly carried out through the production, distribution and dissemination of publications, computer software and audiovisual materials. Most of the projects launched under the current programme cycle were executed by well-established partners who, in carrying out their important advocacy role, have changed the project contents to reflect the ICPD focus. This is verified in an analysis of the outputs (publications and the provision of information databases through CD-ROMs) of 16 projects. It is also notable that a significant number of interregional projects have included technological elements (e.g., Web sites, software packages, multimedia and digital broadcasting components)

that have ensured wider access and dissemination of project findings and outputs.

The Fund's flagship publication, *The State of World Population 1998* report, focused on The New Generations, the largest-ever generation of youth and the growing numbers of elderly people world-wide. The report examined the social implications of these demographic trends, particularly young people's pressing needs for education, job opportunities and health care (including reproductive health information and services). Launched in London and 24 other cities on 2 September 1998, the report and its major messages received extensive coverage in newspapers and leading radio networks around the world. An electronic version of *State of World Population 1998* was the most-visited document on the Fund's popular Web site, <www.unfpa.org>. The Internet site is now a key source of information to the public on the Fund's work and population and reproductive health issues, with an average of 800 visitors a day. In 1998 the variety and volume of information continued to expand. The site was redesigned and was made easier to navigate and use.

In response to the high level of interest generated by the ICPD+5 review and appraisal process, a new section was added to the UNFPA Web site in 1998, and was regularly updated to provide timely information on the full range of activities being organized in connection with the ICPD+5 review and appraisal. The Web site included press releases, photographs and documentation on UNFPA-organized round tables and technical meetings, as well as information on the preparations for the International Hague Forum, held in the Netherlands in February 1999.

Other key publications in 1998 included the *Annual Report*; a revision of the Population Issues Briefing Kit; 10 issues of the news bulletin *Dispatches* and four of the UNFPA magazine *Populi*; and a new booklet in the Fund's advocacy series, *UNFPA at Work: Five Country Profiles*, which describes the Fund's country-level operations in Burkina Faso, Eritrea, India, Nicaragua and the Syrian Arab Republic. In addition, UNFPA produced posters, exhibits and multimedia materials including: the 1998 UNFPA CD-ROM containing 30 Web sites, with more than 84,000 cross links and 50 software applications; an institutional video, *UNFPA Is Making a Difference*; and six video news releases on issues including safe motherhood, UNFPA Goodwill Ambassadors and the launch of *The State of World Population* report. A poster competition and poster production were organized for World Population Day.

The UNFPA "Face to Face" advocacy campaign was expanded in 1998. Launched in 1997, the campaign uses celebrity Goodwill Ambassadors to raise awareness of reproductive health and population issues. Film stars and celebrities from Africa, Asia, the Arab States, Europe and the United States of America have been appointed UNFPA Goodwill Ambassadors. For example, Japanese Goodwill Ambassador Keiko Kishi, an actress and television personality, travelled to Senegal to produce three 30-minute documentary programmes for three Japanese television stations. Film actress Shabana Azmi, UNFPA Goodwill Ambassador from India, is helping to expand the "Face to Face" campaign to regions beyond Western Europe. The recent appointment of renowned Nigerian author Chinua Achebe as UNFPA Goodwill Ambassador will increase the roster of the Fund's Goodwill Ambassadors from developing countries.

Public awareness of population- and reproductive health-related issues has been steadily increasing since the 1994 ICPD. As a result of successful media outreach efforts through, for example, video news releases, press conferences and the work of Goodwill Ambassadors, UNFPA is increasingly well known among the general public in both developed and developing countries, and is known among journalists as a reliable source

REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL OVERVIEW



UN/John Isaac

UNFPA's interregional programmes promote safe motherhood.

of information on population-related issues. However, despite these successes, UNFPA continues to face the challenge of convincing the public in developed countries of the importance of development and population issues, and in particular reproductive health. Opinion polls show that while citizens consider these issues important, they do not necessarily see direct connections between achieving ICPD goals and other issues that they regard as very important, such as the environment, poverty, migration and war.

The outputs from the major interregional projects managed by UNFPA are of high quality in terms of presentation, content and coverage of ICPD issues. Assessment of the outputs of these projects was undertaken through content analysis of publications, videos and public service announcements; a study of the size and composition of mailing lists; and a review of such feedback as clippings, independent reports and surveys. Publications with extensive circulations that are supported by UNFPA, such as *Studies in Family Planning*, *Population and Development Review*, *People and Planet* and *Entre Nous*, the European magazine for reproductive and sexual health, have generated sustained interest and support for ICPD and its goals.

The Fund's experience has shown that working with partners in the population and development field with extensive networks and outstanding track records is essential to generate significant and sustained interest and support for the ICPD Programme of Action. To achieve the full value-added potential of interregional advocacy projects, there is a need to establish linkages among them. In addition, attention needs to be given to improving the use of materials developed through some of the projects and to maximizing the use of project outputs.

South-South cooperation. UNFPA continued its support to technical cooperation among developing countries through its South-South initiatives. In 1998, South-South cooperation continued to be an important mode for transferring skills,

resources and capabilities among developing countries. Five South-South Centres in China, Indonesia, Mexico, Thailand and Tunisia have facilitated the sharing of best practices and experiences in the field of population and reproductive health in a systematic manner. Another important South-South initiative in which UNFPA has been participating is the Partners in Population and Development, an inter-governmental alliance that promotes South-South cooperation not only in member countries, but in other countries as well. The Partners in Population and Development is focusing attention on increasing the role and involvement of NGOs in South-South cooperation, including through the East African Reproductive Health Network and the PROFAMILIA Project on South-South Training in Sexual and Reproductive Health in Latin America.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS	Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
CCA	Common Country Assessment
CPA	Country Population Assessment
CST	Country Support Team
DESA	Department of Economic and Social Affairs
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council
FGM	Female genital mutilation
GCCP	Global Contraceptive Commodity Programme
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus
ICOMP	International Council on Management of Population Programmes
ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development
IEC	Information, education and communication
IPPF	International Planned Parenthood Federation
IUD	Intra-uterine device
IUSSP	International Union for the Scientific Study of Population
JOICFP	Japanese Organization for International Cooperation in Family Planning, Inc.
MCH/FP	Maternal and child health/family planning
NGO	Non-governmental organization
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization
REACH	Reproductive, Education and Community Health Programme
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
STD	Sexually transmitted disease
TBA	Traditional birth attendant
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDG	United Nations Development Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UNIFOS	UNFPA Integrated Field Office System
WHO	World Health Organization

UNFPA MISSION STATEMENT

UNFPA extends assistance to developing countries, countries with economies in transition and other countries at their request to help them address reproductive health and population issues, and raises awareness of these issues in all countries, as it has since its inception.

UNFPA's three main areas of work are: to help ensure universal access to reproductive health, including family planning and sexual health, to all couples and individuals on or before the year 2015; to support population and development strategies that enable capacity-building in population programming; to promote awareness of population and development issues and to advocate for the mobilization of the resources and political will necessary to accomplish its areas of work.

UNFPA is guided by, and promotes, the principles of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (1994). In particular, UNFPA affirms its commitment to reproductive rights, gender equality and male responsibility, and to the autonomy and empowerment of women everywhere. UNFPA believes that safeguarding and promoting these rights, and promoting the well-being of children, especially girl children, are development goals in themselves. All couples and individuals have the right to decide freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children as well as the right to the information and means to do so.

UNFPA is convinced that meeting these goals will contribute to improving the quality of life and to the universally accepted aim of stabilizing world population. We also believe that these goals are an integral part of all efforts to achieve sustained and sustainable social and economic development that meets human needs, ensures well-being and protects the natural resources on which all life depends.

UNFPA recognizes that all human rights, including the right to development, are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, as expressed in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Vienna Declaration and the Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women and in other internationally agreed instruments.

UNFPA, as the lead United Nations organization for the follow-up and implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, is fully committed to working in partnership with governments, all parts of the United Nations system, development banks, bilateral aid agencies, non-governmental organizations and civil society. UNFPA strongly supports the United Nations Resident Coordinator system and the implementation of all relevant United Nations decisions.

UNFPA will assist in the mobilization of resources from both developed and developing countries, following the commitments made by all countries in the Programme of Action to ensure that the goals of the International Conference on Population and Development are met.

APPENDIX B

UNFPA INCOME AND EXPENDITURES 1998

1. Resources available		millions US\$
Government contributions		269.2
Adjustments to prior periods - net		0.2
Cost-sharing		3.6
Contributions - net		273.0
Interest income		5.9
Other income		1.7
Total Income		280.6
2. Expenditures		
Project expenditures		
Country activities		174.7
Intercountry activities		41.9
<i>Total</i>		216.6
Operational costs		
Management and administration		20.1
Programme support		
Country offices		31.2
Headquarters		12.5
[Less: income to the budget		- 8.3]
Technical support services		22.3
Administrative and operational support		9.1
Other expenditure		0.6
<i>Total</i>		87.5
Total expenditures		304.1

APPENDIX C

GOVERNMENT PLEDGES AND PAYMENTS 1998*

(Net general contributions in US \$)

Government	Pledged	Paid
Algeria	5,104	5,104
Andorra	6,000	6,000
Australia	1,267,702	1,267,702
Austria	571,315	571,315
Bangladesh	25,000	25,000
Barbados	3,500	3,500
Belgium	1,752,022	1,752,022
Benin	2,500	2,500
Bhutan	4,405	4,405
Bolivia	4,000	4,000
Botswana	1,538	1,538
Brazil	15,000	--
British Virgin Islands	505	505
Bulgaria	74*	--
Burkina Faso	6,515	6,515
Canada	6,453,901	6,453,901
Chile	6,000	6,000
China	820,000	820,000
Colombia	40,000	39,929
Côte d'Ivoire	5,000	--
Czech Republic	65,359	--
Denmark	33,299,773	33,299,773
Djibouti	1,000	--
Egypt	103,245	103,245
Ethiopia	4,286	4,286
Fiji	2,577	--
Finland	14,151,197 ¹	14,151,197
France	1,005,025	1,005,025
Germany	23,866,878	23,866,878
Ghana	10,000	--
Iceland	7,441	6,997
India	212,967	212,967
Indonesia	145,744	145,744

Ireland	421,860	421,860
Italy	1,432,665	1,432,665
Japan	48,920,000 ²	48,920,000
Jordan	48,023*	48,023
Kenya	5,000	--
Lao People's Democratic Republic	1,000	--
Lesotho	825	--
Luxembourg	368,066	368,066
Malawi	2,302	--
Malaysia	15,000	15,000
Maldives	2,000	2,000
Mali	3,435	3,435
Mauritania	2,469	--
Mauritius	4,250*	4,250
Mexico	50,000	50,000
Mongolia	4,000	--
Morocco	8,000	--
Myanmar	172*	--
Namibia	1,000	1,000
Nepal	5,056	5,056
Netherlands	39,004,779	39,004,779
New Zealand	747,370	747,370
Nicaragua	5,000	5,000
Niue	575	575
Norway	27,223,414 ³	27,223,414
Pakistan	500,000	473,341
Palau	2,000	2,000
Panama	9,169	9,169
Philippines	50,891*	--
Poland	23,214	23,214
Portugal	55,000	40,000
Republic of Korea	394,000	394,000
Romania	653*	--
Russian Federation	150,000	150,000
Rwanda	1,302	1,302
Samoa	5,000	2,500
Saudi Arabia	30,000	30,000
Seychelles	100	--
Slovenia	938	--
South Africa	17,945	17,945
Spain	431,270	431,270
Sri Lanka	15,000	15,000
Sudan	30,000	--
Sweden	16,053,942	16,053,942
Switzerland	7,194,245	7,194,245
Syrian Arab Republic	1,804	1,804
Tanzania, United Republic of	898	--
Thailand	95,580*	95,580
Trinidad and Tobago	5,000	5,000
Tunisia	24,343	24,343
Turkey	108,000	108,000
Turks and Caicos	4,804	4,804
United Kingdom	21,850,282	22,850,282
United States	20,000,000	20,000,000
Venezuela	9,906	9,906
Viet Nam	3,536	--
Yemen Arab Republic	10,000	10,000
TOTAL	269,220,656	268,916,188

* Part or whole of this pledge/payment has been made in non-convertible currency.

** The dollar equivalent of unpaid pledges made in national currencies is calculated at the UN operational rate of exchange in effect on 31 December 1998.

1. Includes 1,774,273 additional contribution.

2. In addition, \$18,700,000 for IPPF.

3. In addition, \$329,815 for Population Council; \$131,926 for IUSSP; and \$79,156 for ICOMP.

APPENDIX D

PROJECT EXPENDITURES IN 1998 (in thousands of US \$)

Group A indicates countries most in need of assistance to realize ICPD goals.

Group B countries have made considerable progress towards achieving ICPD goals.

Group C countries have demonstrated significant progress in achieving all ICPD goals.

Group T indicates countries with economies in transition.

Group O indicates "other" countries, including those with populations under 150,000 or that are net contributors to the Fund.

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA:		ASIA AND THE PACIFIC:			
A	Angola	2,243.8	A	Afghanistan	338.2
A	Benin	2,606.5	T	Azerbaijan	677.6
B	Botswana	512.9	A	Bangladesh	6,909.9
A	Burkina Faso	1,169.5	A	Bhutan	919.9
A	Burundi	1,263.8	A	Cambodia	6,735.4
A	Cameroon	960.3	C	China	1,326.7
A	Cape Verde	971.9	T	Central Asian countries	920.0
A	Central African Republic	459.8	O	Cook Islands*	(20.8)
A	Chad	1,217.6	C	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	627.3
A	Comoros	739.5	C	Fiji*	(109.5)
A	Congo	660.2	A	India	8,305.4
A	Côte d'Ivoire	1,243.8	B	Indonesia	5,385.1
A	Democratic Republic of the Congo	158.2	B	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2,030.1
A	Equatorial Guinea	731.0	T	Kazakhstan*	1,080.0
A	Eritrea	1,497.0	A	Kiribati	20.6
A	Ethiopia	1,815.2	T	Kyrgyzstan	850.9
B	Gabon	353.0	A	Lao People's Democratic Republic	747.7
A	Gambia	294.2	B	Malaysia	138.2
A	Ghana	4,707.0	A	Maldives	434.9
A	Guinea	800.4	O	Marshall Islands	60.0
A	Guinea-Bissau	271.3	B	Micronesia (Federated States of)	19.5
A	Kenya	1,622.0	A	Mongolia	1,445.5
A	Lesotho	46.1	A	Myanmar	999.8
A	Liberia	682.7	A	Nepal	6,587.8
A	Madagascar	2,393.4	O	Niue	3.7
A	Malawi	3,237.4	O	Pacific Multi-Islands	724.1
A	Mali	1,780.1	A	Pakistan	4,262.9
A	Mauritania	843.2	O	Palau	6.0
C	Mauritius	247.5	B	Papua New Guinea	704.6
A	Mozambique	3,939.5	B	Philippines	3,473.3
B	Namibia	1,765.3	O	Republic of Korea	146.6
A	Niger	3,568.8	A	Samoa*	(8.0)
A	Nigeria	3,541.9	A	Solomon Islands	67.1
A	Rwanda	861.1	C	Sri Lanka	1,711.1
A	Sao Tome and Principe	246.9	T	Tajikistan	391.9
A	Senegal	973.9	C	Thailand	102.0
O	Seychelles	105.5	O	Tokelau	11.0
A	Sierra Leone	633.2	O	Tonga*	(89.1)
B	South Africa	722.8	T	Turkmenistan	667.1
B	Swaziland	300.6	A	Tuvalu	27.0
A	Togo	966.7	T	Uzbekistan	1,507.6
A	Uganda	6,041.8	A	Vanuatu	28.3
A	United Republic of Tanzania	3,651.8	B	Viet Nam	5,492.6
A	Zambia	1,577.3			
B	Zimbabwe	966.9			
Country and Territory Projects Total		65,423.5	Country and Territory Projects Total		65,660.3
Regional Projects Total		5,405.3	Regional Projects Total		4,205.2
Sub-Saharan Africa Total		70,828.8	Asia and the Pacific Total		69,865.5

* Parentheses are negative numbers, indicating adjustments or credits to project expenditures.

APPENDIX D

PROJECT EXPENDITURES IN 1998 (cont'd) (in thousands of US \$)

ARAB STATES:

B	Algeria	530.5
O	Bahrain	14.8
O	Cyprus	19.0
A	Djibouti	390.5
A	Egypt	1,469.9
B	Iraq	806.6
B	Jordan	155.0
B	Lebanon	361.0
O	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	0.0
B	Morocco	4,636.5
O	Occupied Palestinian Territories	765.8
O	Oman*	(4.2)
A	Somalia	928.1
A	Sudan	2,487.9
B	Syrian Arab Republic	2,737.4
B	Tunisia	1,273.6
O	United Arab Emirates	6.6
A	Yemen	756.9
Country Projects Total		17,335.5
Regional Projects Total		1,497.1
Arab States Total		18,832.6

EUROPE:

T	Albania	558.7
T	Armenia	347.1
T	Belarus	42.0
T	Bosnia and Herzegovina	164.5
T	Bulgaria	4.8
T	Croatia	0.0
T	Estonia	25.2
T	Georgia	158.0
T	Latvia	50.7
T	Lithuania	16.7
T	Republic of Moldova	49.0
T	Poland	139.8
T	Romania	432.5
T	Russian Federation	231.0
B	Turkey	1,268.7
T	Ukraine	449.7
Country Projects Total		3,938.3
Regional Projects Total		1,664.2
Europe Total		5,602.5
Arab States and Europe Total		24,435.1

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN:

O	Antigua and Barbuda	12.1
O	Argentina	50.9
O	Barbados	0.5
B	Belize	38.9
B	Bolivia	1,416.6
B	Brazil	2,380.0
O	Caribbean Islands	1,493.4
C	Chile	185.1
B	Colombia	400.5
C	Costa Rica	177.8
C	Cuba	639.1
O	Dominica*	(5.0)
B	Dominican Republic	1,295.4
B	Ecuador	1,266.0
B	El Salvador	586.6
O	Grenada	15.4
B	Guatemala	544.0
B	Guyana	168.6
A	Haiti	2,708.0
B	Honduras	1,142.6
B	Jamaica*	(35.9)
B	Mexico	1,950.3
A	Nicaragua	2,239.7
C	Panama	342.0
B	Paraguay	615.8
B	Peru	2,024.5
B	Saint Lucia	8.0
B	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	4.1
C	Suriname	21.3
B	Trinidad and Tobago	20.3
C	Uruguay	256.4
B	Venezuela	374.9
Country and Territory Projects Total		22,338.1
Regional Projects Total		2,320.0
Latin America and the Caribbean Total		24,658.1

TOTAL PROJECT EXPENDITURES:

Country Projects	174,695.8
Regional Projects	15,091.8
Interregional Projects	26,815.5
Grand Total	216,603.1

* Parentheses are negative numbers, indicating adjustments or credits to project expenditures.

APPENDIX E

EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISIONS 1998

98/4. ITEM 3: UNFPA COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

Approved the following country and subregional programmes:

Paraguay (DP/FPA/CP/195)

China (DP/FPA/CP/196)

Nicaragua (DP/FPA/CP/197)

Egypt (DP/FPA/CP/198)

Algeria (DP/FPA/CP/199)

Pacific subregion (DP/FPA/CP/200)

Requested the Executive Director to report regularly to the Executive Board on the implementation of significant elements of the above programmes, including progress in meeting the principles and goals of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.

23 January 1998

98/5. UNDP/UNFPA REPORTS TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

1. **Takes note** of the reports to the Economic and Social Council (DP/1998/14 and Corr.1 and DP/FPA/1998/2 and Corr.1 (French only)) and of the recommendations therein and decides to transmit them to the Economic and Social Council, together with the comments made by delegations and statements and answers given by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund at the present session;
2. **Calls on** the Administrator and Executive Director to provide in future reports to the Economic and Social Council: a thorough analysis of problems encountered and lessons learned in the field; a focus on issues that will permit the Council to fulfil its coordinating role; and, in this context, to present relevant statistical data in a consolidated manner;
3. **Invites** the Administrator and Executive Director to consult with other members of the United Nations Development Group on a consolidated list of issues central to the improved coordination of operational activities for submission to and consideration by the Economic and Social Council during its 1998 substantive session;
4. **Also invites** the Economic and Social Council to recommend, at its 1998 substantive session, actions intended to increase the usefulness of these reports as inputs to the deliberations of the Economic and Social Council, as called for in General Assembly resolution 48/162, by, *inter alia*, considering whether any issues in the current format are suitable for joint recommendations by the funds and programmes.

24 April 1998

98/6. UNFPA TECHNICAL SUPPORT SERVICES

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

1. **Takes note** of the *Report on an Assessment of the Technical Support Services (TSS) Specialist Posts at Headquarters and Regional Levels* (an independent evaluation report prepared for the United Nations Population Fund in 1997) and of the report of the Executive Director on the UNFPA technical support services system (DP/FPA/1997/16), submitted to the Executive Board at its third regular session 1997, and in light of Executive Board decision 97/27;
2. **Authorizes** the continued funding of the TSS specialist

posts until 31 December 1999 as proposed in document DP/FPA/1997/16;

3. **Requests** the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund to continue actively to seek workable solutions to the concerns raised in the independent evaluation report in dialogue with partner organizations, in particular on coordination, accountability, the communication between the three levels of the system and advocacy function of TSS specialists in the partner organizations;
4. **Also requests** the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund to submit at the second regular session 1999 a brief progress report on the effectiveness of the improvements that have been implemented in the operation of the TSS system since the third regular session 1997;
5. **Invites** the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund, in light of the recommendations arising from the ICPD+5 process and in consultation with partner agencies, to develop future options for
 - (a) providing specialist support and advice to country support teams and country programmes through arrangements that utilize the best expertise available within the United Nations system and from other sources and
 - (b) enhancing the involvement and contribution of relevant United Nations specialized agencies in taking forward and promoting the ICPD agenda;
6. **Requests** the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund to present these proposals in a report, including an analysis of the financial and budgetary aspects, to the Executive Board at its third regular session in 1999.

24 April 1998

98/7. RESOURCE MOBILIZATION STRATEGY FOR THE UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

1. **Takes note** of the report of the Executive Director on *Mobilizing Resources Now and for the Future: UNFPA's Strategy* (DP/FPA/1998/CRP.2);
2. **Invites** the Executive Director to update the conference room paper on *Mobilizing Resources Now and for the Future: UNFPA's Strategy* (DP/FPA/1998/CRP.2) and to report to the Executive Board at its annual session 1998;
3. **Requests** the Executive Director to organize informal intersessional meetings of the Board with a view to reviewing various funding mechanisms for the United Nations Population Fund and also requests the Executive Director to report to the Board on progress made in the informal intersessional meetings with a view to adopting at its third regular session 1998 a decision on a sustainable funding strategy that will place the funding of the United Nations Population Fund on a predictable, assured and continuous basis so as to enable it to play a central role in the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.

24 April 1998

98/8. APPROVAL OF RECRUITMENT OF COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

1. **Recalls** Executive Board decision 97/26;
2. **Takes note** of the Executive Director's comments together with the comments made by delegations on this matter;
3. **Authorizes** the Executive Director of UNFPA to begin recruitment of seven country representatives, as proposed in decision 97/26, in line with the availability of resources;
4. **Requests** the Executive Director to table in writing a financial update to the Board at its annual session.

24 April 1998

98/9. ITEM 4: UNFPA COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

Approved the following country programmes:

I

Assistance to the Government of Botswana (DP/FPA/BWA/3);
Assistance to the Government of Cameroon (DP/FPA/CMR/3);
Assistance to the Government of Equatorial Guinea (DP/FPA/GNQ/3);
Assistance to the Government of Ethiopia (DP/FPA/ETH/4);
Assistance to the Government of Gabon (DP/FPA/GAB/3);
Assistance to the Government of Guinea-Bissau (DP/FPA/GNB/3);
Assistance to the Government of Lesotho (DP/FPA/LSO/3);
Assistance to the Government of Mali (DP/FPA/MLI/4);
Assistance to the Government of Mauritania (DP/FPA/MRT/4);
Assistance to the Government of Mozambique (DP/FPA/MOZ/5);
Assistance to the Government of Niger (DP/FPA/NER/4);
Assistance to the Government of Rwanda (DP/FPA/RWA/4);
Assistance to the Government of Sao Tome and Principe (DP/FPA/STP/3);
Assistance to the Government of South Africa (DP/FPA/SAF/1);
Assistance to the Government of Swaziland (DP/FPA/SWZ/3);

II

Assistance to the Government of Jordan (DP/FPA/JOR/5);
Assistance to the Government of Yemen (DP/FPA/YEM/2);

III

Assistance to the Government of Bangladesh (DP/FPA/BGD/5);
Assistance to the Government of Bhutan (DP/FPA/BTN/3);
Assistance to the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DP/FPA/PRK/3);
Extension of assistance to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran (DP/FPA/IRN/2/EXT1);
Assistance to the Government of Maldives (DP/FPA/MDV/2);
Assistance to the Government of Papua New Guinea (DP/FPA/PNG/2);
Assistance to the Government of Thailand (DP/FPA/THA/7);

IV

Assistance to the Government of Bolivia (DP/FPA/BOL/2);
Assistance to the Government of Brazil (DP/FPA/BRA/2);
Assistance to the Government of Colombia (DP/FPA/COL/3);

24 April 1998

98/10. UNFPA: ABSORPTIVE CAPACITY

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

1. **Takes note** of the report of the Executive Director on absorptive capacity and financial resource utilization in programme countries (DP/FPA/1998/4);
2. **Also takes note** of the importance of South/South cooperation in enhancing absorptive capacity;
3. **Further takes note** of the need to enhance, where appropriate, the role of civil society organizations and the private sector;
4. **Endorses** the actions already taken to increase the absorptive capacity and resource utilization in programme countries, including, *inter alia*, training and the issuance and implementation of the new *UNFPA Policies and Procedures Manual*;
5. **Endorses** the recommendations for further developing absorptive capacity and resource utilization in programme countries contained in document DP/FPA/1998/4;
6. **Urges** the Executive Director to take the steps necessary to implement the recommendations contained in document DP/FPA/1998/4, bearing in mind the comments made by delegations at the 1998 annual session;

7. **Requests** the Executive Director to report to the Executive Board on follow-up to the recommendations contained in document DP/FPA/1998/4 at its third regular session 2000.

12 June 1998

98/11. UNFPA WORK PLAN FOR 1999-2002 AND PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

1. **Notes** programme resource planning proposals of the Executive Director as set out in document DP/FPA/1998/5 and as revised by the Deputy Executive Director at the annual session 1998;
2. **Approves** the request for 1999 programme expenditure authority at a level equal to expected new programmable resources for 1999, currently estimated at \$263 million, and requests the Executive Director to report to the Executive Board on any significant increases or shortfalls in estimated income for the year 1999;
3. **Notes** the following estimates of new programmable resources from regular resources for programme planning for the period 2000-2002: \$283 million for 2000; \$303 million for 2001; and \$325 million for 2002;
4. **Requests** the Executive Director to take steps to evolve the work plan into a more focused, analytical and outcome-orientated document;
5. **Invites** the Executive Director in formulating the work plan for 2000-2003 to increase the proportion of programmable resources.

12 June 1998

98/12. UNFPA: EVALUATION

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

1. **Welcomes** the report of the Executive Director on United Nations Population Fund evaluation activities (DP/FPA/1998/6) and the progress made by the United Nations Population Fund in revising its monitoring and evaluation guidelines, which emphasize effectiveness and outputs;
2. **Encourages** the United Nations Population Fund to continue its efforts to enhance the analytical content of the periodic report on evaluation activities, particularly in regard to outcomes, achievements and lessons learned;
3. **Requests** the Executive Director actively to seek opportunities to undertake joint evaluations, where appropriate, with partner organizations and governments;
4. **Also requests** that efforts be made to increase further the percentage of external evaluations and to continue to report to the Executive Board on progress made towards this objective in the periodic report on evaluation activities;
5. **Requests** the Executive Director to include in the periodic report on evaluation activities, starting in the year 2000, an annex providing a record and analysis of evaluation compliance for all country programmes completed in the previous biennium in line with the evaluation work plan of the United Nations Population Fund.

12 June 1998

98/21. UNFPA: REVISIONS TO THE FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

- Approves** the revisions to the United Nations Population Fund Financial Regulations as contained in paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of document DP/FPA/1998/10, with amendments to Regulation 4.14(g) and Regulation 5.4, as follows:
- (a) **Regulation 4.14(g)**: Amounts otherwise designated to be credited to the biennial support budget, including, *inter alia*, income derived from UNFPA support costs and net

income relating to procurement services provided to third parties;

- (b) **Regulation 5.4:** Funds received by UNFPA under Regulation 14.6 for procurement of supplies, equipment and services on behalf and at the request of Governments, specialized agencies or other intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations shall be treated as trust funds. The income relating to procurement services provided to third parties shall be used to meet the direct cost of these services. At the close of a biennium, any excess of income shall be credited to the biennial support budget.

16 September 1998

98/22. UNFPA MULTI-BILATERAL TRUST-FUND ARRANGEMENTS

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

1. **Welcomes** the report on the review of multi-bilateral trust-fund arrangements prepared in response to Executive Board decision 97/26 (DP/FPA/1998/11);
2. **Reaffirms** the principle of additionality and complementarity of multi-bilateral funding on the understanding that it will not impinge on the general resources of the Fund;
3. **Endorses** the principle of full cost-recovery for multi-bilateral assistance based on charges for managerial and support services and administrative and operational support;
4. **Also endorses** the establishment of a managerial and support services charge to be levied at a rate of 5 per cent on all multi-bilateral activities, as set out in document DP/FPA/1998/11;
5. **Accepts**, as an interim measure, the proposed increase in administrative and operational support costs from the present rate of 5 per cent to the proposed rate of 7.5 per cent;
6. **Requests** the Executive Director to develop a methodology for full cost identification and recovery;
7. **Also requests** the Executive Director to quantify the level of charges for administrative and operational support, as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Operations in its report contained in document DP/1998/37-DP/FPA/1998/14, and to report thereon to the Executive Board with a view to adopting a final decision on administrative and operational support costs at its third regular session 1999;
8. **Decides** that the new cost-recovery arrangements shall be effective from 1 January 1999 and shall apply to new agreements as of that date.

22 September 1998

98/24. UNFPA FUNDING STRATEGY

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

1. **Reaffirms** the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities of the United Nations Development system, which are, *inter alia*, universality, neutrality, multilateralism, and its voluntary and grant nature, fully respecting the priorities of programme countries and responding to the needs of developing countries in a flexible manner;
2. **Welcomes** the effective role of UNFPA in advocating for and implementing programmes and activities in full accordance with its mandate and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and emphasizes the need for predictable, timely payments and increased funding to enhance the capacity of UNFPA to contribute to the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action;
3. **Stresses** the need for a funding strategy based on a concept of collective ownership, partnership and shared interests with differentiated responsibilities that is programme-driven and that encourages a collective partnership with programme and donor countries, lending institutions, the private sector and foundations;
4. **Also stresses** the important opportunity offered by the five-year review of the implementation of the ICPD

Programme of Action in reinvigorating international commitment to the Programme of Action, including to mobilize financial support, based on an analysis of progress made, lessons learned and obstacles encountered, and recalls the resource goals as foreseen in the ICPD Programme of Action;

5. **Recognizes** the clear and focused mandate and programme priorities of UNFPA and the Fund's clear and focused resource allocation system, which is based on a country's level of achievement of ICPD goals and gives special attention to least developed countries, low-income countries and Africa;
6. **Reiterates** that core resources are the bedrock of UNFPA and are essential to maintaining the multilateral nature of the Fund's assistance;
7. **Recognizes** that an effective and visible programme is essential for resource mobilization and, while recognizing the commendable efforts of UNFPA to date in this area, urges the Fund to continue to expand its advocacy and institutional profile at the national and international level in order to illustrate better the importance of its work and of the impact and effectiveness of its programmes;
8. **Also recognizes** the importance for UNFPA of non-core resources and the work of non-state actors in mobilizing resources;
9. **Adopts** for UNFPA a programme-driven total resource goal of \$400 million for 1999; requests the Executive Director, with the support of all the members of the Fund, to make every effort to reach this goal by mobilizing resources from all sources, including donor and programme countries, foundations, and the private sector; and decides to review this goal in September 1999 with a view to deciding goals for future years;
10. **Recognizes** that overdependence on a limited number of donors carries risks for the long-term financial sustainability of UNFPA and urges all donors and programme countries in a position to do so to increase their contributions to core resources;
11. **Decides**, in this context, that UNFPA shall:
 - (a) Develop a multi-year funding framework that integrates programme objectives, resources, budget and outcomes, with the objective of increasing core resources, taking into account the following principles:
 - (i) This framework shall maintain the order of priorities and the mandate of UNFPA as determined by the Executive Board;
 - (ii) This framework shall not introduce any conditionality nor result in distortions in priorities or changes in the current system of resource allocation;
 - (iii) The allocation of additional core resources that may be mobilized by the multi-year funding framework shall be consistent with programming guidelines determined by the Executive Board, and priority must be given to programmes;
 - (b) Designate the second regular session of the Executive Board, starting tentatively with the second regular session 1999, as the time when all member countries would:
 - (i) Announce their voluntary core contributions to UNFPA as follows: a firm funding commitment for the current year; for those in a position to do so, a firm contribution or indication of the contribution for the following year and a firm or tentative contribution for the third year;
 - (ii) Announce payment schedules for the current year; early payments should be encouraged;
 - (iii) Review the record of actual core contributions as well as the timing of payments made in the previous calendar year;
12. **Decides** to initiate a fully participative, transparent, open-ended consultative process between the UNFPA secretariat and the States members of UNFPA for designing a multi-year funding framework based on the principles as outlined in paragraph 11 of the present decision and on the modalities for the announcement of

contributions with a view to holding the first such meeting as stipulated in paragraph 11(b) of the present decision;

13. **Requests** the Executive Director, on the basis of these consultations, to submit to the Executive Board a report on the multi-year funding framework for consideration at its second regular session 1999.

23 September 1998

98/25. ITEM 10: SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

Took note of the progress report on UNFPA support to Partners in Population and Development (DP/FPA/1998/13) and approved the continuing working relationship between UNFPA and the Partners in Population and Development as contained in the report.

ITEM 11: UNFPA COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

Approved the extensions of the following country programmes:

Extension of Assistance to the Government of Pakistan (DP/FPA/PAK/5/EXT 1);

Extension of Assistance to the Government of the Philippines (DP/FPA/PHI/4/EXT 1);

Extension of Assistance to the Governments of Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan (DP/FPA/KATTUK/1/EXT 1);

Took note of the oral report on the UNFPA Global Initiative on Contraceptive Requirements and Logistics Management Needs in Developing Countries, including the private sector initiative.

ITEM 12: COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

Took note of the report on the first meeting of the WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA Coordinating Committee on Health (DP/FPA/1998/CRP.4) and the comments thereon, and endorsed the Committee's terms of reference as contained in the report.

23 September 1998

APPENDIX F

GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ECOSOC RESOLUTIONS

2815 (XXVI) UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1084 (XXXIX) of 30 July 1965 on the work programmes and priorities in the population fields,

Recalling further its resolution 2211 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, in response to which a trust fund, subsequently named the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, was established in 1967 by the Secretary-General,

Bearing in mind the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, contained in General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, with particular reference to the demographic objectives and policy measures set forth in paragraphs 13 and 65 of the Strategy,

Recognizing the responsibility of the Population Commission to assist the Economic and Social Council in accordance with its terms of reference, as defined in Council resolution 150 (VII) of 10 August 1948,

Noting that the Secretary-General has requested the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to administer the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and that an Executive Director of the Fund has been appointed,

Further noting with satisfaction the progress made to date by the Fund to which, so far, thirty-two countries have contributed,

Aware that the Fund has now become a viable entity in the United Nations system,

Convinced that the Fund should play a leading role in the United Nations system in promoting population programmes, consistent with the decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on the problem of fast population growth as well as on the problem of under-population, which could, among other things, hamper rapid economic development,

Recognizing the need for the executing agencies of the Fund to implement with dispatch, in close co-operation with the Fund, population programmes requested by developing countries in order that such programmes may have the desired impact,

Expressing its appreciation of the efforts of the Secretary-General, which have resulted in the unprecedented growth and expansion of the Fund, and of the support extended by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme,

1. **Invites** Governments which are in a position to do so and whose policies would allow it to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities;
2. **Requests** the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, to take the necessary steps to achieve the desired improvements in the administrative machinery of the Fund aimed at the efficient and expeditious delivery of population programmes, including measures to quicken the pace of recruiting the experts and personnel required to cope with the increasing volume of requests, as well as to consider the training of experts and personnel in the developing countries;
3. **Further requests** the Secretary-General to inform the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-third session and the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session of the steps he has taken in the implementation of the present resolution and of any recommendations he may wish to make in this regard.

2017th plenary meeting, 14 December 1971

3019 (XXVII) UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Recalling its invitation and the requests set forth in its resolution 2815 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971,

Welcoming the Secretary-General's note with interim recommendations requiring urgent action to achieve improvements in the administrative machinery of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities aimed at the efficient and expeditious delivery of population programmes,

Expressing its appreciation to the fifty-two Member States which, to date, have responded to that invitation and have pledged financial support to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities,

Noting from the information given by the Secretary-General that the administration of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities has been reorganized over the past year in order to make even more effective use of its staff and resources,

Noting further that the resources of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and its scope of operations have now grown to a size which makes its supervision by an inter-governmental body desirable,

Expressing further its appreciation to the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and to the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities for their efforts, which have achieved the significant results of the past year,

Noting also the recommendation of the Secretary-General to change the character of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities from a trust of the Secretary-General into a fund established under the authority of the General Assembly,

1. **Decides** to place the United Nations Fund for Population Activities under the authority of the General Assembly;
2. **Decides further**, without prejudice to the overall responsibilities and policy functions of the Economic and Social Council, that the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, subject to conditions to be established by the Economic and Social Council, shall be the governing body of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and invites the Governing Council to concern itself with the financial and administrative policies relating to the work programme, the fund-raising methods and the annual budget of the Fund;
3. **Invites** the Governing Council to organize itself in such a way that it can exercise effectively these functions, taking into account the separate identity of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and its need to operate under the guidance of the Economic and Social Council, in close relationship with interested Governments and with appropriate international and national bodies, governmental and non-governmental, interested in population activities;
4. **Authorizes** the Governing Council, at its fifteenth session, to apply to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities funding principles similar to those of the United Nations Development Programme and to establish the necessary financial rules and regulations, subject to consideration by the Governing Council of a report, prepared by the Executive Director of the Fund in consultation with the Administrator of the Programme, and of the full implications thereof;
5. **Requests** the Governing Council to consider further steps necessary to achieve improvements in the administrative and operational machinery of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, to inform the Economic and Social Council in its annual report of those further steps taken to

implement General Assembly resolution 2815 (XXV) and the present resolution and to submit annually a report on the activities of the Fund to the Economic and Social Council;

6. **Renews** its invitation to interested Governments to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities without prejudice to the agreed level of growth of contributions to the United Nations Development Programme and development assistance in general.

2113th plenary meeting, 18 December 1972

1763 (LIV) UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2815 (XXV) of 14 December 1971 with its requests to the Secretary-General regarding the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, and the note by the Secretary-General in response to that resolution,

Welcoming General Assembly resolution 3019 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972, which placed the United Nations Fund for Population Activities under the authority of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme as the governing body, subject to the conditions to be established by the Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind the important work undertaken by the regional economic commissions and their specialized organs concerned with population matters,

Aware of the fact that there are considerable differences in the population and demographic situations in each country and that it is therefore necessary to adopt different approaches and solutions for each country,

Expressing its desire that the Fund, in the elaboration of its plans and programmes, should take into account the resolutions adopted by the regional economic commissions and their specialized organs dealing with population matters,

Reiterating the importance of maintaining the separate identity of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities under the general arrangements provided for in General Assembly resolution 3019 (XXVII),

Recalling the willingness with which the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme and the Administrator of the Programme assumed their responsibilities in regard to the Fund,

Noting the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities,

Noting further in the annex to the report the recommendations to the Secretary-General from the Review Committee of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities,

Expressing its appreciation for the initiative and leadership which has characterized the development of the Fund,

Mindful that in taking action on this resolution the Council is fully cognizant of the fact that the World Population Conference will mark a new development in population policy for the world community of nations and for the population activities of the United Nations system,

1. **States** that the aims and purposes of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities are:
 - (a) To build up, on an international basis, with the assistance of the competent bodies of the United Nations system, the knowledge and the capacity to respond to national, regional, interregional and global needs in the population and family planning fields; to promote co-ordination in planning and programming, and to co-operate with all concerned;
 - (b) To promote awareness, both in developed and in developing countries, of the social, economic and environmental implications of national and international population problems, of the human rights aspects of family planning, and of possible strategies to deal with them in accordance with

the plans and priorities of each country;

- (c) To extend systematic and sustained assistance to developing countries at their request in dealing with their population problems, such assistance to be afforded in forms and by means requested by the recipient countries and best suited to meet the individual country's needs;
- (d) To play a leading role in the United Nations system in promoting population programmes and to co-ordinate projects supported by the Fund;
2. **Decides** that the United Nations Fund for Population Activities should invite countries to utilize the most appropriate implementing agents for their programmes, recognizing that the primary responsibility for implementing rests with the countries concerned;
3. **Requests** the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme to submit annually to the Economic and Social Council a report on the activities of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities.

1858th plenary meeting, 18 May 1973

34/104 UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Recalling its resolution 3019 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972, in which it decided to place the United Nations Fund for Population Activities under the authority of the General Assembly and established the respective roles relating to the Fund of the Economic and Social Council and the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1763 (LIV) of 18 May 1973, in which the Council called upon the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to play a leading role in the United Nations system in promoting population programmes,

Recalling further its resolution 31/170 of 21 December 1976, in which it endorsed the general principles to be applied by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities in allocating resources,

Expressing its appreciation of the role the Economic and Social Council and the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme have played in furthering the aims of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities,

Noting with satisfaction that the United Nations Fund for Population Activities has become a fully viable entity within the United Nations system in the population field, owing in particular to its level of resources and its increasing assistance to the developing countries,

Taking note of the fact that the Colombo Declaration on Population and Development issued by the International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development on 1 September 1979 calls, *inter alia*, for the strengthening of the role and functions of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities,

1. **Affirms** that the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, which was placed under the authority of the General Assembly by resolution 3019 (XXVII), is a subsidiary organ of the Assembly in terms of Article 22 of the United Nations Charter, without prejudice to section V of the annex to Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977 or to the mandates of other organizations of the United Nations system concerned with population;
2. **Invites** the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme to consider devoting a specific period of time during its sessions to adequate and separate consideration of items relating to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities;
3. **Invites** the Secretary-General to arrange, in consultation with the members of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, for the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to participate in all aspects in that body and its subsidiary machinery;

4. **Reaffirms** that the United Nations Fund for Population Activities should continue to avail itself of the services of the United Nations Development Programme, including those of its resident representatives;
5. **Invites** Governments to continue and increase their contributions to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities in view of the rapidly growing needs of developing countries for population assistance;
6. **Requests** the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

**34th session of the General Assembly,
14 December 1979**

36/201 ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS POPULATION AWARD

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Recalling the World Population Plan of Action, adopted by the United Nations Population Conference, held in 1974, and noting with satisfaction the significant contributions made by the United Nations to the implementation of the Plan,

Recognizing the economic and social implications of the population trends, particularly related to development, as described in reports prepared by the United Nations and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, which indicate that world population is projected to grow from 4.4 billion in 1980 to approximately 6.1 billion by the year 2000,

Recognizing the need to promote better awareness and understanding of population issues, especially at the individual and community levels of each country and in accordance with national plans and priorities,

Further recognizing the special significance of establishing an award in order to promote that objective,

1. **Decides** to establish an annual award, to be named the United Nations Population Award, for the most outstanding contribution to the awareness of population questions or to their solutions, by an individual or individuals, or by an institution, to be presented through the United Nations;
2. **Adopts** the Regulations governing the United Nations Population Award, annexed to the present resolution;
3. **Requests** the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements, under the Regulations, for the commencement of the Award in 1983, in consultation with the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities;
4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to establish a Trust Fund for the United Nations Population Award to receive voluntary contributions for the Award;
5. **Decides** that all costs related to Award should be borne out of the Trust Fund for the United Nations Population Award.

103rd plenary meeting, 17 December 1981

39/228 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION, 1984

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/87 of 25 November 1981 on the convening of an International Conference on Population, 1984.

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 1982/7 of 30 April 1982, 1982/42 of 27 July 1983 and 1983/6 of 26 May 1983.

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 38/148 of 19 December 1983.

1. **Endorses** the report of the International Conference on Population, 1984, containing the recommendations for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action;
2. **Welcomes** and strongly supports the Mexico City Declaration on Population and Development, adopted by

the Conference on 14 August 1984;

3. **Expresses** its appreciation to the Government and people of Mexico for their generous hospitality, co-operation and support;
4. **Commends** the Secretary-General and the Secretary-General of the Conference for the successful organization of the Conference;
5. **Affirms** that the principal aim of social, economic and human development, of which population goals and policies are integral parts, is to improve the standards of living and quality of life of the people;
6. **Also affirms** that population growth, high mortality and morbidity and migration problems continue to be causes of great concern requiring immediate action;
7. **Emphasizes** the need, in implementing the recommendations of the Conference, to respect national sovereignty, to combat all forms of racial discrimination, including apartheid, and to promote social and economic development, human rights and individual freedom;
8. **Reaffirms** the importance attached by the Conference to the formulation and implementation of concrete policies which will enhance the status and role of women in the area of population policies and programmes, and to the need to pay attention to specific problems of population structures;
9. **Invites** Governments to consider the recommendations for action at the national level and to implement appropriate population policies and programmes, in the context of their national plans, needs and requirements;
10. **Emphasizes** that international co-operation in the field of population is essential for the implementation of recommendations adopted at the Conference, and in that context calls upon the international community to provide adequate and substantial international support and assistance for population activities, particularly through the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, in order to ensure more effective delivery of population assistance in the light of growing needs in the field and the increasing efforts being made by developing countries;
11. **Invites** the Population Commission, at its twenty-third session, to review, within its area of competence, the recommendations of the Conference and their implications for the activities of the United Nations system, and to transmit its views to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1985;
12. **Requests** the Economic and Social Council to examine, at its first regular session of 1985, the recommendations of the Conference for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action, in order to provide overall policy guidelines within the United Nations system on population questions, and to undertake or to continue, on an appropriate basis, the review, monitoring and appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action, in accordance with the Plan and relevant recommendations of the Conference;
13. **Requests** the Secretary-General to take, without delay, appropriate steps regarding the relevant recommendations, in particular recommendation 83, for further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action concerning the role of international co-operation, taking note also of the suggestions offered by various delegations and benefiting, in the process, from the deliberations of the Economic and Social Council, and to report to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, on their implementation as soon as possible but not later than 1986.

104th plenary meeting, 18 December 1984

1986/7 POPULATION QUESTIONS

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 39/228 of 18 December 1984 on the International Conference on Population,

- Recalling also** Council resolution 1985/4 of 28 May 1985,
1. **Takes note** of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to Assembly resolution 39/228¹, suggesting steps to be taken on the relevant recommendations of the International Conference on Population² in particular recommendation 83 relating to the further strengthening of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities so as to ensure the more effective delivery of population assistance, taking into account the growing needs in the field of population;
 2. **Requests** the Secretary-General to implement those recommendations that fall within the competence of the United Nations Secretariat, bearing in mind the need to strengthen and improve, within their respective mandates, existing institutions and arrangements and to secure more effective interaction between them in an effort to reinforce international co-operation in the field of population;
 3. **Decides** to consider the report of the Population Commission and relevant parts of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, together with relevant inputs from the regional commissions, at its second regular sessions, under an item entitled "Population questions", bearing in mind the overall responsibilities and policy function of the Economic and Social Council in population matters;
 4. **Reaffirms** the importance of the research activities and policy analysis of the United Nations in the field of population;
 5. **Invites** the Population Commission to act upon the recommendations contained in paragraph 70 of the report of the Secretary-General;¹
 6. **Invites also** the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, as the governing body of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities:
 - (a) To use reports of the Population Commission for greater exchange of information on population questions;
 - (b) To give adequate consideration to Fund matters, bearing in mind the importance of population issues and the separate identity of the Fund as stated in paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 3019 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972;
 - (c) To continue to organize its work programme in a manner that will facilitate the consideration of Fund matters before relevant budgetary and administrative issues are taken up in the Budget and Finance Committee of the Governing Council;
 7. **Reaffirms** the aims and purposes of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities as set out in Council resolution 1763 (LIV) of 18 May 1973;
 8. **Urges** the international community to strengthen further the resource base of the Fund through greater contributions, in order to meet the increasing needs of the developing countries for assistance in population activities;
 9. **Emphasizes** the need to bring about a co-ordinated, effective and efficient strategy for the United Nations and the United Nations system in addressing population issues;
 10. **Stresses** that effective co-ordination in the field of population can be achieved through efforts of Governments at the national level and through improved inter-agency collaboration at all levels;
 11. **Requests** the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly at its forty-second session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution;
 12. **Also requests** the Secretary-General to keep under review the follow-up to General Assembly resolution 39/228 and to include a separate section on the subject in the overview report requested in paragraph 6 of council resolution 1985/4, taking into account the comments made by delegations at the first regular session of 1986 of the Council, the thirty-third session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme and the forty-first session of the General Assembly.

16th plenary meeting, 21 May 1986

¹ A/41/179-E/1986/18.

² *Report on the International Conference on Population, Mexico City, 6-14 August 1984* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.XIII.8 and corrigenda), chap. 1.

42/430 UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES: CHANGE OF NAME

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Having noted Economic and Social Council decision 1987/175 of 8 July 1987 to recommend to the Assembly the changing of the name of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to the United Nations Population Fund, while retaining the abbreviation UNFPA, it being understood that this change of name in no way changes, nor will change, the present mandate, aims and purposes of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, or the role and functions of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly with respect to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, decided to approve the change in the name of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to the United Nations Population Fund.

96th plenary meeting, 11 December 1987

44/210 FUTURE NEEDS IN THE FIELD OF POPULATION, INCLUDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL POPULATION ASSISTANCE

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Reaffirming the principles and objectives of the World Population Plan of Action, adopted in Bucharest in 1974,¹ and affirmed and expanded at the International Conference on Population in Mexico City in 1984,²

Recalling decision 87/30 of 18 June 1987 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, in which the Governing Council welcomed the intention of the United Nations Population Fund to conduct a wide-ranging review and assessment of accumulated population experience in key areas within its mandate,

Recalling also its resolution 43/199 of 20 December 1988, in which it welcomed the review and assessment being conducted by the United Nations Population Fund of its experience in the field of population and requested that an appropriate summary of the main findings, conclusions and recommendations be submitted to the Assembly at its forty-fourth session,

Mindful of the diversity in culture and traditions as well as in social, economic and political conditions among countries and respectful of the national sovereignty of all countries to formulate, promote and implement their own population policies,

1. **Takes note** of the report prepared by the United Nations Population Fund containing the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the review and assessment of population programme experience;³
2. **Takes note with appreciation** of the Amsterdam Declaration on a Better Life for Future Generations, adopted by the International Forum on Population in the Twenty-first Century, held at Amsterdam from 6 to 9 November 1989;⁴
3. **Stresses** the importance of taking duly into account the outcome of the Forum in the preparations for and the deliberations of relevant forthcoming United Nations conferences, particularly the proposed international meeting on population in 1994, and in the preparations of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade;

4. **Requests** the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund:
 - (a) To bring the results of the Forum to the attention of Governments, United Nations organizations and non-governmental organizations;
 - (b) To examine, in particular, the implications for population programmes of the Declaration and to develop further the analysis of resource requirements for international population assistance;
 - (c) To submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session, through the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme and the Economic and Social Council.

85th plenary meeting, 22 December 1989

1. *Report of the United Nations World Population Conference, Bucharest, 19-30 August 1974.*
2. *Report of the International Conference on Population, Mexico City, 6-14 August 1984* (United Nations publication, Sales No.E.84.XIII.8 and Corr. 1 and 3).
3. A/44/432, annex.
4. A/C.2/44/6.

45/216 POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Recalling its resolution 44/210 of 22 December 1989, in which it requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund to examine, in particular, the implications for population programmes of the Amsterdam Declaration on A Better Life for Future Generations,¹ to develop further the analysis of resource requirements for international population assistance and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session, through the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme and the Economic and Social Council,

Noting decision 90/35 of 23 June 1990 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on the United Nations Population Fund,²

Also noting Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/82 of 27 July 1990,

Noting that the report of the United Nations Population Fund entitled *The State of World Population 1990* stressed that population growth and distribution are closely linked with environmental and development issues,

Reaffirming the principles and objectives of the World Population Plan of Action,³ which were affirmed and expanded at the International Conference on Population,⁴

Recognizing that socio-economic development is conducive to the success of population policies,

Reaffirming also that assistance to developing countries in the area of population should be substantially increased during the 1990s and that developing countries should also intensify their efforts to allocate adequate resources to population programmes,

1. **Emphasizes** the national sovereignty of all countries to formulate, adopt and implement their population policies, mindful of their cultures, values and traditions, as well as of their social, economic and political conditions, and also consistent with human rights and with the responsibilities of individuals, couples and families;
2. **Takes note** of the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund on the implications for population programmes of the Amsterdam Declaration and on efforts to develop further the analysis of resource requirements for international population assistance,⁵ which outlines the unmet and expanding resource needs for population activities;
3. **Encourages** the Fund to sustain the momentum generated by the International Forum on Population in the Twenty-first Century, held at Amsterdam from 6 to 9 November 1989, through continued follow-up to the recommendations contained in the Amsterdam Declaration;

4. **Stresses** the need to take into account all economic and social factors in integrating demographic objectives in population strategies and in the formulation of development strategies in general;
5. **Emphasizes** the importance of mobilizing and increasing the resources required for population activities and, in this context:
 - (a) **Urges** all Governments, each according to its capacity, concerned international and regional organizations, including the World Bank, and non-governmental organizations to make every effort to mobilize the resources required for population activities, which are estimated at \$9 billion per year by the year 2000, taking into account the potential for user contributions, where feasible and advisable;
 - (b) **Notes** the crucial importance of resource investments in health and education, especially for women, for the success of population programmes, and urges Governments of developing countries to strengthen, according to their economic and social capacities and conditions, their political and financial commitments to investments in the social sector; and also urges Governments of developed countries, as well as concerned international, regional and non-governmental organizations, to strengthen their financial and technical support, in the areas of health and education, to respond positively to requests for population assistance and to increase significantly the proportion of their development assistance destined for population activities;
 - (c) **Stresses** the desirability of concentrating Fund resources, in accordance with the criteria established by the United Nations Population Fund, on countries most in need of assistance in the population field in view of their population problems, taking into account the special needs of the low-income countries, particularly the least developed countries;
6. **Encourages** the Fund, in conformity with General Assembly resolution 44/211 of 22 December 1989, to strengthen and utilize national capacities through national execution, to enhance accountability, to adopt a programme-oriented approach and decentralize capacity and authority to the field level and to support coordination of the United Nations system at the country level through the Resident Coordinators, and, in this context, encourages the Fund to increase the utilization of available national expertise in the formulation and implementation of population assistance activities;
7. **Further encourages** the Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations organizations and specialized agencies to strengthen their cooperation in the field of maternal and child health care and family planning, each within its own mandate;
8. **Emphasizes** the importance of addressing the relationship between demographic pressures and unsustainable consumption patterns and environmental degradation during the preparatory process of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, taking into account the subsequent decisions of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 44/228 of 22 December 1989;
9. **Reaffirms** the importance attached to the role of population policies in relation to development, as emphasized, *inter alia*, in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, adopted by the General Assembly at its eighteenth special session,⁶ the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s and the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade;⁷
10. **Welcomes** the willingness of the nineteen members of the

Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, as expressed in the December 1989 policy statement by Committee aid ministers and heads of aid agencies for their aid policies for the 1990s, and reiterated at Committee meetings on population and development matters held in April and June 1990, to assist developing countries to establish, fund and implement effective population strategies and programmes as a matter of priority;

11. **Stresses** the primary role of Governments in the formulation, implementation and coordination of population policies and programmes at the national level and the role of the United Nations Population Fund, upon request, in supporting the development of national capacities in that respect;
12. **Stresses also** the need for coordination at the regional and interregional levels to focus on issues related to the attainment of specific population goals and objectives;
13. **Recommends** that the Fund continue to focus attention on the importance of population issues in the context of overall development plans and programmes, in particular those oriented towards the reactivation of economic growth and development of developing countries, and on the need to find and mobilize adequate resources to address these issues, and in this context, urges the Fund to continue to undertake activities aimed at building up better awareness of population issues, including, *inter alia*, their relation to environment and development issues and World Population Day;
14. **Invites** the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund to give specific information, in the section on policy and programme coordination of the annual report, on the co-operation of the Fund with other relevant United Nations organizations and specialized agencies.

71st plenary meeting, 21 December 1990

1. A/C.2/44/6, annex.
2. Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1990, Supplement No. 9 (E/1990/29), annex I.
3. *Report of the United Nations World Population Conference, Bucharest, 19-30 August 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.XIII.3), chap. I.
4. *Report of the International Conference on Population, Mexico City, 6-14 August 1984* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.XIII.8) and corrigenda.
5. See A/45/529.
6. Resolution S-18/3, annex.
7. Resolution 45/199.

1991/93 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 3344 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974 on the United Nations World Population Conference, 37/14 B of 16 November 1982 on Secretariat organization for United Nations special conferences, 39/228 of 18 December 1984 on the International Conference on Population, 44/210 of 22 December 1989 on future needs in the field of population, including the development of resource requirements for international population assistance, S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, containing the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, 45/199 of 21 December 1990, containing the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 45/206 of 21 December 1990 on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s and 45/216 of 21 December 1990 on population and development,

Recalling also its resolution 1989/91 of 26 July 1989, in which it decided to convene an international meeting on population in 1994, under the auspices of the United Nations,

Noting with satisfaction the appointment of the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund as Secretary-General of the 1994 international meeting on population and of the Director of the Population Division of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs as the Deputy Secretary-General of the meeting,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on preparations for a 1994 international meeting on population¹ and the progress made in the preparations for the meeting,

Emphasizing the national sovereignty of all countries in formulating, adopting and implementing their population policies, mindful of their culture, values and traditions, as well as of their social, economic and political conditions, and consistent with human rights and with the responsibilities of individuals, couples and families,

1. **Decides** that the meeting should henceforth be called the International Conference on Population and Development;
2. **Invites** the Secretary-General of the Conference and all concerned organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in carrying out the preparatory activities of the Conference, to draw on the guidelines provided in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries,² and the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade,³ as well as on the results of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,⁴ the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the International Forum on Population in the Twenty-first Century,⁵ and to draw on other recent major intergovernmental instruments and meetings;
3. **Decides** that the objectives of the Conference should be:
 - (a) To contribute to the review and appraisal of the progress made in reaching the objectives, goals and recommendations of the World Population Plan of Action⁶ and to identify the obstacles encountered;
 - (b) To identify instruments and mechanisms in order to ensure the operational implementation of the recommendations;
 - (c) To maintain and strengthen the level of awareness of population issues on the international agenda and their linkage to development;
 - (d) To consider the desired focus of intensified action at the global, regional and national levels, as well as all necessary ways and means of treating population issues in their proper developmental perspective during the forthcoming decade and beyond;
 - (e) To adopt a set of recommendations for the next decade in order to respond to the population and development issues of high priority identified in paragraph 4 below;
 - (f) To enhance the mobilization of resources needed, especially in developing countries, for the implementation of the results of the Conference; resources should be mobilized at the international and national levels by each country according to its capacity;
4. **Emphasizes** that population, sustained economic growth and sustainable development will be the overall theme of the Conference and identifies within that theme the following groups of issues, which are not listed in any order of priority, as those requiring the greatest attention, during the forthcoming decade, from the international community and from the Conference:
 - (a) Population growth, changes in demographic structure, including ageing of population, and the regional diversity of such changes, with particular emphasis on the interaction between demographic variables and socio-economic development;
 - (b) Population policies and programmes, with emphasis on the mobilization of resources for developing countries, at the international and national levels by each country according to its capacity;

- (c) The interrelationships between population, development, environment and related matters;
 - (d) Changes in the distribution of population, including socio-economic determinants of internal migration and the consequences for urban and rural development, as well as determinants and consequences of all types of international migration;
 - (e) Linkages between enhancing the roles and socio-economic status of women and population dynamics, including adolescent motherhood, maternal and child health, education and employment, with particular reference to the access of women to resources and the provision of services;
 - (f) Family-planning programmes, health and family well-being;
5. **Stresses** the need, in connection with foregoing issues, to take account of the particular circumstances of the least developed countries;
 6. **Authorizes** the Secretary-General of the Conference to convene six expert group meetings corresponding to the six groups of issues identified in paragraph 4 above, in order to provide the required input for consideration by the Conference, ensuring the participation of a full range of relevant disciplines and of geographical regions;
 7. **Requests** the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation to provide overall guidance, orientation and coordination of the input from the appropriate secretariats of the United Nations system to the preparatory activities of the Conference;
 8. **Requests** the Secretary-General of the Conference to make use of the substantive contribution of all organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system concerned, as well as of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, in the preparatory activities for the Conference;
 9. **Also requests** the Secretary-General of the Conference to make full use of the existing resources of all units of the United Nations system concerned, in particular the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs and the United Nations Population Fund;
 10. **Invites** the regional commissions to convene as soon as possible meetings or conferences to review the experience gained in population policies and programmes in their regions, in the light of paragraphs 3 and 4 above, bearing in mind the relationship between such policies and programmes and development issues, and to propose future action, as part of their contribution to the preparatory activities for the Conference;
 11. **Requests** the Secretary-General of the Conference to report to the Economic and Social Council at its regular sessions of 1992, 1993 and 1994 on the progress made in all aspects of the preparatory activities for the Conference;
 12. **Also requests** the Secretary-General of the Conference to report to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development on the status of the preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development;
 13. **Decides**, in principle, to hold the second session of the Preparatory Committee in August 1993, immediately following the rescheduled twenty-seventh session of the Population Commission, to review the state of the preparatory work, including the reports of the expert groups on their meetings;
 14. **Also decides**, in principle, to hold the third session of the Preparatory Committee early in 1994 to review the documentation for the Conference, including the draft recommendations;
 15. **Recommends** that the General Assembly consider establishing a voluntary fund for the purpose of supporting the developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, in participating fully and effectively in the Conference and its preparatory process and that it invite

Governments to contribute to such a fund;

16. **Requests** the Conference to report to the Economic and Social Council and to the General Assembly.

32nd plenary meeting, 26 July 1991

1. E/1991/5.
2. General Assembly resolution S-18/3.
3. General Assembly resolution 45/199.
4. A/45/695.
5. *Report of the International Forum on Population in the Twenty-first Century, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 6-9 November 1989* (New York, United Nations Population Fund, 1989).
6. *Report of the United Nations Population Conference, Bucharest, 19-30 August 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.XIII.3), chap. I.

1992/37 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,

Recalling its resolutions 1989/91 of 26 July 1989 and 1991/93 of 26 July 1991,

1. **Takes note** of the report of the Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population and Development on the status of preparatory activities for the Conference;
2. **Accepts with gratitude** the offer of the Government of Egypt to host the Conference;¹
3. **Decides** to convene the Conference in Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994.

41st plenary meeting, 30 July 1992

1. E/1992/60.

47/176 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Recalling its resolutions 3344 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974 on the World Population Conference, 39/228 of 18 December 1984 on the International Conference on Population, 44/210 of 22 December 1989 on future needs in the field of population, including the development of resource requirements for international population assistance, S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, the annex to which contains the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, 45/199 of 21 December 1990, the annex to which contains the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 45/206 of 21 December 1990 on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, 45/216 of 21 December 1990 on population and development and 40/108 of 13 December 1985 on the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/91 of 26 July 1989, in which the Council decided, in principle, to convene in 1994, under the auspices of the United Nations, an international meeting on population,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/93 of 26 July 1991, in which the Council decided that the international meeting on population should thenceforth be called the International Conference on Population and Development,

Endorsing fully the objectives of the Conference as decided in Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/93, and its overall theme of population, sustained economic growth and sustainable development, as stated in that resolution,

Recognizing the important contribution that regional conferences will play in preparations for the Conference, particularly through evaluation and updating of regional population plans of action,

Noting with satisfaction the appointment by the

Secretary-General of the United Nations of the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund as Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population and Development, and of the Director of the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Development of the United Nations Secretariat as the Deputy Secretary-General of the Conference,

Emphasizing the national sovereignty of all countries in formulating, adopting and implementing policies relating to population, mindful of their cultures, values and traditions, as well as of their social, economic and political conditions, and consistent with human rights and with the responsibilities of individuals, couples and families,

Conscious of the important contribution made by research and information dissemination institutions to a clear understanding of the interrelationship of population and development,

Recognizing the importance of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, including those sections of Agenda 21¹ concerning population, in the preparation for the International Conference on Population and Development,

1. **Emphasizes** the need for comprehensive national population policies based on national priorities and compatible with sustained economic growth and sustainable development;
2. **Also emphasizes** the need to increase and strengthen the level of awareness of population issues in the international agenda and their treatment as an integral part of sustained economic growth and sustainable development;
3. **Endorses** Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/37 of 30 July 1992, in which the Council decided to convene the International Conference on Population and Development at Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994;
4. **Accepts with deep appreciation** the generous offer of the Government of Egypt to act as host to the Conference;
5. **Recommends** that the Conference be convened at the ministerial level;
6. **Stresses** the importance of the active participation of Member States in the Preparatory Committee for the Conference and, in this context, invites the Preparatory Committee at its second session to elect its bureau, with due regard to equitable geographical representation;
7. **Decides** that the host country to the Conference, Egypt, shall be *ex officio* a member of the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee;
8. **Invites** the Economic and Social Council, at its organizational session for 1993, taking fully into consideration the views expressed during the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, to consider the possibility of adjusting the proposed timing and duration of the second and third sessions of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference within existing budgetary resources and without prejudice to the utilization of resources available through voluntary contributions to the trust funds, taking fully into account the need to ensure the success of the Conference in fulfilling its mandate and for this purpose to ensure an adequate intergovernmental preparatory process for it;
9. **Calls upon** all organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as other relevant inter-governmental organizations, to contribute fully to the preparations for the Conference;
10. **Welcomes** the decision of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to ensure the necessary coordination of contributions within the United Nations system through the Administrative Committee on Coordination;
11. **Invites** all States to take an active part in the preparations for the Conference and to promote broad-based national preparatory processes;
12. **Recognizes** the importance of the participation in the Conference and its preparatory process of all relevant non-governmental organizations from developed and developing countries;

13. **Requests** the Economic and Social Council at its organizational session for 1993 to formulate and adopt modalities to ensure the participation in and contribution to the Conference and its preparatory process of relevant non-governmental organizations, in particular those from developing countries, taking into account the procedures followed in the process for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the experiences gained in this matter in previous United Nations population conferences;
14. **Stresses** the significance of the various regional perspectives that exist on issues of population and development, and welcomes in this context the convening by the regional commissions and the United Nations Population Fund of regional population conferences, whose outcome will contribute significantly to the preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development;
15. **Notes** the establishment of voluntary trust funds for support of the Conference and for the purpose of assisting developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, to participate fully and effectively in the Conference and in its preparatory process;
16. **Expresses its appreciation** to contributors to the funds, and invites Governments in a position to do so to contribute generously to those funds;
17. **Calls upon** the Secretary-General of the Conference to continue to make every effort to raise extrabudgetary resources for the Conference;
18. **Requests** the Secretary-General of the Conference, in the light of the need for thorough preparations for the Conference, to ensure the timely circulation of the documentation for the regional conferences, expert meetings and Preparatory Committee;
19. **Requests** the Secretary-General of the United Nations to take appropriate steps, as part of the preparatory process, to ensure that the Conference and the issues to be discussed at it are widely publicized;
20. **Also requests** the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in close consultation with the Secretary-General of the Conference, to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution;
21. **Decides** to include an agenda item entitled "International Conference on Population and Development" in the provisional agenda of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly.

93rd plenary meeting, 22 December 1992

1. See *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development*, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26, vols. I and II and Corr.1 and III).

1993/76 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,

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

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

Reaffirming also General Assembly resolutions S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, containing the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, 45/199 of 21 December 1990 on the International

Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 45/206 of 21 December 1990 on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, 45/217 of 21 December 1990 on the World Summit for Children, 46/151 of 18 December 1991 on the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development¹ and Agenda 21,² adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992,

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

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

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

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

1. **Recommends** that the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population and Development become a subsidiary body of the General Assembly, without prejudice to current arrangements for participation in the International Conference on Population and Development and its preparatory process, and in that context, decides that the report of the Preparatory Committee on its second session will be submitted, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, to be considered under the item entitled "International Conference on Population and Development", stipulated in General Assembly resolution 47/176,
2. **Requests** the Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population and Development to prepare by February 1994, for the information of delegations, the first draft of the final substantive document of the Conference, taking into account the views expressed by participants during the second session of the Preparatory Committee and the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly;
3. **Decides** to extend the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference by one week, starting on 4 April 1994, and to ensure that adequate facilities are available for it, all within the approved budget limit set by the General Assembly for the biennium 1994-1995;
4. **Decides also** to convene two-day pre-Conference consultations at the venue of the Conference;
5. **Expresses its appreciation** for the extrabudgetary contributions to the trust funds established to assist developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, in preparing for and participating fully and effectively in the Conference and its preparatory process, and invites all Member States and organizations in a position to do so to support these trust funds further;
6. **Reaffirms** the significance of the media, and requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to promote the objectives and activities of the Conference;
7. **Requests** the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in collaboration with the Secretary-General of the Conference, to include in the report referred to in paragraph 20 of General Assembly resolution 47/176, an annotated outline of the final document of the Conference, as well as information on the implementation of the present resolution.

46th plenary meeting, 30 July 1993

1. *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.1.8), resolution I, annex I.
2. *Ibid.*, annex II.

48/186 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Recalling its resolution 47/176 of 22 December 1992 on the International Conference on Population and Development, to be held in Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994,

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 and 1993/4 of 12 February 1993,

Recognizing the importance of population issues in the context of sustained economic growth and sustainable development and the need to treat population issues in their proper development perspective,

Noting the report of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population and Development on its second session,¹

Emphasizing the importance of a thorough intergovernmental preparatory process for the subsequent success of the Conference,

1. **Takes** note with appreciation of the progress report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development² and the accompanying annotated outline of the draft final document of the Conference;³
2. **Endorses fully** Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/76 of 30 July 1993 on the preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development;
3. **Decides** that the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population and Development shall become a subsidiary body of the General Assembly, without prejudice to current arrangements for participation in the Conference and its preparatory process;
4. **Expresses its appreciation** to States and organizations for the extrabudgetary contributions made so far to the three trust funds that have been established to support preparatory activities, including national activities, as well as to support the participation in the Conference and its preparatory process of developing countries, particularly the least developed among them, and calls upon all States and organizations in a position to do so to support those trust funds further;
5. **Requests** the Secretary-General of the Conference, in preparing the draft final document of the Conference, to be guided by the views expressed by the delegations and groups of delegations on the annotated outline, including those expressed at the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly;
6. **Also requests** the Secretary-General of the Conference, in recognition of the importance to the preparations for the Conference of the regional and subregional population conferences, to submit to the Preparatory Committee at its third session a report synthesizing the results of those conferences;
7. **Further requests** the Secretary-General of the Conference to convene, within existing resources, informal consultations at United Nations Headquarters in the period prior to the third session of the Preparatory Committee, to exchange views in preparation for negotiations on the draft final document of the Conference;
8. **Reaffirms** the importance of the participation in and contribution to the preparatory process and the Conference itself of non-governmental organizations in accordance with the relevant provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/4;
9. **Emphasizes** the particular importance of immediate action in widely publicizing the objectives of the

Conference and the issues to be discussed at it;

10. **Requests** the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in close consultation with the Secretary-General of the Conference, to ensure implementation of the present resolution;
11. **Decides** to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session an item entitled "Report of the International Conference on Population and Development."

86th plenary meeting, 21 December 1993

1. E/1993/69.
2. A/48/430.
3. A/48/430/Add.1.

49/3 TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Recalling its resolution 2211 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, in response to which a trust fund, subsequently named the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, was established in 1967 by the Secretary-General,

Taking note that the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, renamed in 1987 as the United Nations Population Fund, began operations in 1969,

Recalling also its resolutions 3019 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972, 31/170 of 21 December 1976, and 34/104 of 14 December 1979, in which it, *inter alia*, recognized the leading role and effectiveness of the Fund in the United Nations system in the population field and affirmed the Fund as a subsidiary body of the General Assembly,

Reaffirming Economic and Social Council resolutions 1763 (LIV) of 18 May 1973 and 1986/7 of 21 May 1986 stating the aims and purposes of the Fund,

1. **Congratulates** the United Nations Population Fund on the occasion of its twenty-fifth anniversary;
2. **Notes** with satisfaction the positive contributions the Fund and its dedicated staff have made during its first 25 years in promoting better understanding and awareness of population and development issues, in improving the quality of human life, and in extending systematic and sustained assistance to developing countries, at their request, to undertake appropriate national programmes to address their population and development needs.

39th plenary meeting, 20 October 1994

49/128 REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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, ¹ 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 ² 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; ³
2. **Endorses** the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, ⁴ 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 systemwide 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 interagency 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".
- 92nd plenary meeting, 19 December 1994**

1. A/CONF.171/13 and Add.1.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid.
4. Ibid., chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

1995/55 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 49/128 of 19 December 1994 on the report of the International Conference on Population and Development, in which the Assembly endorsed the Programme of Action of the Conference, and taking note of the Commission on Population and Development decisions 1995/1 and 1995/2 of 2 March 1995.

1. **Takes notes** of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/128;
2. **Notes** the action taken so far by Governments and the international community to implement the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and encourages them to strengthen their efforts in this regard in a concerted and coordinated manner;
3. **Endorses** the terms of reference proposed by the Commission on Population and Development in its report on its twenty-eighth session, which reflect the comprehensive and integrated nature of population and development, and decides that, in addition to those terms of reference, the Commission should review the findings of research and analysis pertaining to the interrelationship between population and development at the national, regional and global levels and advise the Council thereon;
4. **Decides** that Government representatives nominated to serve on the Commission should have the relevant background in population and development;
5. **Also decides**, bearing in mind the new terms of reference, new mandate and work programme of the Commission, to enlarge the Commission's membership at a resumed session of the Council no later than 31 December 1995, recognizing the importance of adequate representation;
6. **Further decides**, bearing in mind the new terms of reference, new mandate and work programme of the Commission, to enlarge the Commission's membership at a resumed session of the Council no later than 31 December 1995, recognizing the importance of adequate representation;
7. **Endorses** the multi-year work programme proposed by the Commission in its report on its twenty-eighth session;
8. **Recalls** that the General Assembly, in paragraph 28 (c) of its resolution 49/128, requested the Council to consider 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;

9. **Notes** that the Secretary-General has established an inter-agency task force, with the United Nations Population Fund as the lead agency, for the implementation of the Programme of Action and welcomes the intention of the Secretary-General to report through the Commission to the Council on the work of the task force, so as to ensure system-wide cooperation in the implementation of the Programme of Action;
10. **Further notes** that the work programme of the Commission set out in its report contains a request that the work of the Inter-Agency Task Force be expanded to include migration issues;
11. **Invites** the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis of the Secretariat and other relevant organizations and bodies, in particular the United Nations Population Fund, to work closely in the preparation of reports for the Commission;
12. **Also invites** the Department, in its report to the Commission, to analyse and evaluate relevant comparative international information on population and development issues, to focus on issues that need further clarification and to submit suggestions for recommendations by the Commission;
13. **Recommends** that the General Assembly at its fiftieth session consider further, in the context of the comprehensive review of the implementation of its resolution 48/162 of 20 December 1993, the establishment of a separate executive board for the United Nations Population Fund, taking into account the role of the Fund in the follow-up of the implementation of the Programme of Action and bearing in mind the administrative, budgetary and programme implications of such a proposal.

57th plenary meeting, 28 July 1995

50/124 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Recalling its resolutions 49/128 of 19 December 1994 on the report of 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 decision 1994/227 of 14 July 1994, by which the Council approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-eighth session of the then Population Commission, including discussion of the implications of the recommendations of the ICPD,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/55 of 28 July 1995 on the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, by which the Council endorsed the terms of reference proposed by the renamed Commission on Population and Development in its report on its twenty-eighth session, which reflect the comprehensive and integrated nature of population and development,

Acknowledging fully the integrated approach taken during the International Conference on Population and Development, which recognizes the interrelationship between population, sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/128 on the report of the International Conference on Population and Development,

Recognizing that the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Programme of Action 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,

Reaffirming the importance of the principles and concepts set out in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and Agenda 21 for the purpose of implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, and in that regard recognizing that chapter 5 of Agenda 21 and chapter III of the Programme of Action reinforce one another and together form a comprehensive and compelling up-to-date account of what needs to be done about the interface between population, environment and sustainable development,

Noting with satisfaction the contribution that the outcome of the International Conference on Population and Development has made to the World Summit for Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women, and expressing its belief in the contribution that the outcome of the International Conference on Population and Development will make to the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (HABITAT II) and in the elaboration of an agenda for development, in particular with regard to the call for a greater investment in people,

1. **Notes** the action taken so far by Governments and the international community to implement the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, and encourages them to strengthen their efforts in that regard;
2. **Reiterates** its commitment to the full implementation of the Programme of Action, and reaffirms that Governments should continue to commit themselves at the highest political level to achieving its goals and objectives, which reflect a new integrated approach to population and development, and to take the lead role in coordinating the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the follow-up actions;
3. **Takes note with appreciation** of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/128 and of the proposals continued therein;
4. **Takes note** of the following proposals made by the United Nations Population Fund in the above-mentioned report:
 - (a) To replace the biennial report of the Fund to the Commission on Population and Development on multilateral population assistance by an annual report on the amount of financial resources allocated for the implementation of the Programme of Action at the national and international levels;
 - (b) To refine and improve further, where necessary, the current system devoted to monitoring the amount of international assistance for programmes dealing with population and development so as to render it more accurate;
5. **Endorses** Economic and Social Council decision 1995/320 of 12 December 1995, by which it enlarged the membership of the Commission on Population and Development from 27 to 47 members, elected by the Council from among the members of the United Nations and members of its specialized agencies, in time to take part in the twenty-ninth session of the Commission, and that the regional representation would be 12 for African States, 11 for Asian States, 5 for Eastern European States, 9 for Latin American and Caribbean States and 10 for Western European and Other States, bearing in mind that the representatives of Governments that are to serve on the Commission should have a relevant background in population and development, in order to ensure that it fulfils its functions as reflected in its updated and enhanced comprehensive approach of the Programme of Action and the membership of the other functional commissions of the Council;
6. **Takes note** of the report of the Secretary-General on monitoring world population trends and policies, and of the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund on monitoring multilateral population assistance;

7. **Renews its call** to all Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and other major groups concerned with population and development issues, including inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations, parliamentarians and other community leaders, to continue to give the widest possible dissemination to the Programme of Action, including the use of electronic data networks, to seek public support for its goals, objectives and actions, and to maintain and enhance partnership between Governments and non-governmental organizations so as to ensure their continued contributions and cooperation concerning all aspects of population and development;
8. **Urges** Governments that have not yet done so 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;
9. **Reaffirms** that the follow-up to the Conference, at all levels, should take fully into account that 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;
10. **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 thereof and the economic constraints faced by developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, and 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 continue 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;
11. **Reiterates** the importance of South-South cooperation for the successful implementation of the Programme of Action;
12. **Reaffirms** 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 to 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;
13. **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 those countries at present;
14. **Urges** the international community to promote a supportive international economic environment by adopting favourable macroeconomic policies aimed at promoting sustained economic growth and sustainable development;
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. **Invites** the Secretary-General to ensure that adequate resources are provided for the Conference follow-up activities to be carried out by the Secretariat during 1996;
17. **Invites** the regional commissions, other regional and sub-regional organizations and the development banks to continue to examine and analyse the results of implementation of the Programme of Action at the regional level under their respective mandates;
18. **Welcomes** the work undertaken by the Inter-Agency Task Force on the Implementation of the Programme of Action, chaired by the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund, and 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, and, in this context, notes the establishment of new inter-agency task forces for the follow-up to conferences, which could be relevant for the implementation and follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development;
19. **Emphasizes** the need to maintain the momentum of the 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 Commission on Population and Development, the Population Division of the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis of the Secretariat and the United Nations Population Fund, other organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations and the specialized agencies whose continued support and commitment are required for the successful implementation of the full range of activities outlined in the Programme of Action, and invites them to work closely in the preparation of reports for the Commission on Population and Development;
20. **Requests** the specialized agencies and all related organizations of the United Nations system, to continue to take appropriate measures to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action, taking into account the specific needs of developing countries, and welcomes the intention of the Secretary-General to report through the Commission on Population and Development to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1996 on the work of the Inter-Agency Task Force, for coordination purposes, and to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session, for policy implications;
21. **Requests** the Economic and Social Council:
 - (a) To consider relevant reports and give guidance on matters concerning harmonization, cooperation and coordination within the United Nations system regarding the implementation of the Programme of Action;
 - (b) To consider, as appropriate, the reports submitted by the different bodies and organs on various matters related to the Programme of Action;
 - (c) To consider the proposed report on the work of the Inter-Agency Task Force;
22. **Requests** the funds and programmes of the United Nations system and the regional commissions and funds to continue to provide their full and active support to the implementation of the Programme of Action, in particular at the field level, through the United Nations resident coordinator system, and invites the relevant specialized agencies to do the same;
23. **Requests** the Secretary-General to report, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution;
24. **Decides** to include in the agenda of its fifty-first session, within existing clusters, the item entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development."

96th plenary meeting, 20 December 1995

1. A/50/615/Add.1, para. 27.
2. See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 14 (E/1995/34).

50/438 UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND: INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

At its 96th plenary meeting, on 20 December 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee,¹ noted Economic and Social Council decision 1995/231 of 13 July 1995 and decision 95/20 of 14 June 1995 of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund,² and endorsed the agreement between the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund to designate Fund resident country directors as Fund representatives, on the understanding that the Fund would take measures to enhance cooperation with and active support for resident coordinators for operational activities of the United Nations, bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 47/199 of 22 December 1992, and on the understanding that the agreement would not result in increased administrative expenditure for the Fund.

96th plenary meeting, 20 December 1995

1. A/50/615/Add.1, para. 27.
2. See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 14 (E/1995/34).

1997/42 FOLLOW-UP TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 49/128 of 19 December 1994 and 50/124 of 20 December 1995 on the follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development and 51/176 of 16 December 1996, in which the Assembly reiterated that the Commission on Population and Development had the primary responsibility for monitoring, reviewing and assessing the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,

1. **Takes note** of decision 97/14 adopted by the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund on 16 May 1997;
2. **Recommends** that the General Assembly, at its fifty-second session, decide on the process and modalities, including the possibility of convening a special session of the Assembly in 1999, for reviewing and appraising the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, under agenda item 97 (c), entitled "Population and development";
3. **Further recommends** that the report of the Secretary-General to be submitted to the General Assembly under that agenda item contain consolidated recommendations from the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations Population Fund, the regional commissions and other relevant United Nations entities on activities to be undertaken in preparation for the review.

37th plenary meeting, 22 July 1997

52/188 POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Recalling its resolutions 49/128 of 19 December 1994, 50/124 of 20 December 1995 and 51/176 of 16 December 1996 on the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,¹

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/42 of 22 July 1997, in which the Council recommended

that the General Assembly, at its fifty-second session, decide on the process and modalities, including the possibility of convening a special session of the Assembly in 1999, for reviewing and appraising the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,¹

Stressing the need to pursue further the implementation of the Programme of Action and for Governments to recommit themselves at the highest political level to achieving its goals and objectives,

Recognizing the important contributions made by actors of civil society, particularly non-governmental organizations, to the Conference, its follow-up and the implementation of its Programme of Action,

1. **Takes note** of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the process and modalities for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development;²
2. **Decides** to convene a special session for a duration of three days from 30 June to 2 July 1999, at the highest possible level of participation, in order to review and appraise the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development;
3. **Reaffirms** that the special session for the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action will be undertaken on the basis of and with full respect for the Programme of Action, and that there will be no renegotiation of the existing agreements contained therein;
4. **Welcomes** the operational review of the implementation of the Programme of Action to be undertaken under the auspices of the United Nations Population Fund, in cooperation with all relevant organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations, and notes that the report and outcome of the international forum in 1999 will be submitted to the Commission on Population and Development at its thirty-second session and to the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund;
5. **Decides** that the Commission on Population and Development, which is currently scheduled to consider at its thirty-second session a comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the quinquennial review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action, should serve as the preparatory body for the final preparations for the special session for the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action, reporting through the Economic and Social Council, and in that regard notes that the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General should also contain an overall assessment of the progress achieved and constraints faced in the implementation of the Programme of Action, as well as recommendations for future action;
6. **Encourages** Governments to undertake reviews of the progress achieved and the constraints faced therein in the implementation of the Programme of Action at all levels, particularly at the national level and at the level of international cooperation, with a view to contributing to the preparations for the special session;
7. **Invites** Governments of developed and developing countries to provide information in order to establish a useful factual basis for the review of the mobilization of resources made available – bilateral, multilateral and domestic – for population and development activities with a view to strengthening the implementation of the Programme of Action;
8. **Decides** that the thirty-second session of the Commission on Population and Development shall be open-ended to

- allow the full participation of all States;
9. **Invites** all other relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to contribute as appropriate to the special session as well as to its preparation;
 10. **Decides** to invite States members of the specialized agencies that are not members of the United Nations to participate in the work of the special session in the capacity of observers;
 11. **Stresses** the need for the effective participation of actors of civil society, particularly non-governmental organizations, in preparation for the special session, as well as the need to ensure appropriate arrangements, taking into account the practice and experience gained at the International Conference on Population and Development, for their substantive contributions to and active involvement in the preparatory meetings and the special session, and in that context invites the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, to propose to Member States appropriate modalities for their effective involvement in the special session;
 12. **Requests** the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session a progress report on the preparations for the special session;
 13. **Decides** to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session a sub-item entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development".

77th plenary meeting, 18 December 1997

1. *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. S.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.
2. A/52/208/Add.1.

53/183 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Recalling its resolutions 49/128 of 19 December 1994, 50/124 of 20 December 1995, 51/176 of 16 December 1996 and 52/188 of 18 December 1997 on the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,¹

Noting that, in paragraph 2 of its resolution 52/188, the General Assembly decided to convene a special session for a duration of three days, from 30 June to 2 July 1999, at the highest possible level of participation, to review and appraise the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/8 of 23 July 1998 on the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action,²

1. **Takes note with appreciation** of the report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development;²
2. **Reaffirms** that the special session will be undertaken on the basis of and with full respect for the Programme of Action and that there will be no renegotiation of the existing agreements contained therein;
3. **Stresses** the need for the effective participation of actors of civil society, particularly non-governmental organizations, in the preparations for the special session, as well as the need to ensure appropriate arrangements, taking into account the practice and experience gained at the

- Conference, for their substantive contributions to and active involvement in the preparatory meetings and the special session, and invites the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, to propose to Member States appropriate modalities for their effective involvement in the special session;
4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to seek extrabudgetary resources to assist developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, in sending representatives to the thirty-second session of the Commission on Population and Development, which is to serve as the preparatory meeting for the special session of the General Assembly, and to the special session of the Assembly from 30 June to 2 July 1999 on the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action;
5. **Decides** that the thirty-second session of the Commission on Population and Development, meeting as the preparatory committee for the special session, shall be open-ended to allow the full participation of all States;
6. **Invites all** other relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to contribute, as appropriate, to the special session as well as to its preparation;
7. **Decides** to invite States members of the specialized agencies that are not members of the United Nations to participate in the work of the special session in the capacity of observers;
8. **Requests** the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session a report on the special session;
9. **Decides** to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development".

91st plenary meeting, 15 December 1998

1. *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95XIII.18) chap. I, resolution 1, annex.
2. A/53/407.



UNFPA

**United Nations
Population Fund**

220 East 42nd Street
New York, NY 10017
USA

UNFPA World Wide Web Site:
<http://www.unfpa.org>

ISBN 0-89714-506-2