

**Administrative Committee
on Coordination**ACC/1996/13
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REPORT OF THE JOINT UNITED NATIONS INFORMATION COMMITTEE
ON ITS TWENTY-SECOND SESSION

(Geneva, 3-5 July 1996)

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INTRODUCTION

1. The twenty-second session of the Joint United Nations Information Committee (JUNIC) was convened at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 3 to 5 July 1996. The agenda for the session, which was adopted during the opening meeting, is contained in annex I to the present report. In preparation for the session, the JUNIC secretariat collected, processed and disseminated in advance the necessary documentation, a list of which is provided in annex II. Annex III contains the list of participants.

2. In his introductory statement, the Chairman of JUNIC, the Assistant Secretary-General for Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat, reviewed the follow-up activities on the JUNIC decisions reached at the twenty-first session and noted that during the past year, JUNIC had not been able to hold an ad hoc session or several proposed technical meetings owing to the financial crisis of the Organization, which also affected the implementation of several ongoing proposals for system-wide cooperation in the field of public information. The Chairman recalled that the members had indicated through correspondence their agreement with his proposals aimed at the more efficient use of the limited time available during the annual sessions to concentrate on consideration of important aspects of public information policy, while other issues, including those of a technical nature, would be, to the extent possible, discussed and decided upon in smaller groups of interested members and/or through correspondence. He said that in this difficult period for the Organization, it was of crucial importance to look into the ways and means of promoting better public understanding of the role and achievements of the United Nations in order to correct misperceptions and generate broader public support for the important work being done by the United Nations system as a whole. He thought that JUNIC was the appropriate forum to take up such policy issues and develop proposals for joint action. He suggested that JUNIC might also consider the establishment of a standing working group in New York to meet periodically, with the participation of New York representatives of the members of JUNIC and others who might be at Headquarters at the time, to strengthen coordination of joint activities, in particular in follow-up to the recently concluded cycle of international conferences on major development issues, and also to take up other issues of system-wide interest. He also suggested that the members of JUNIC take advantage of every opportunity to meet and discuss informally matters of mutual concern with a view to strengthening the cooperation and coordination of information activities and ensuring cost-effective use of ever-decreasing resources available system-wide for public information activities. He recalled several recent examples of cooperation among members of JUNIC, including successful system-wide coordination of information activities related to the cycle of international conferences on global development issues, and suggested that every effort should be made to strengthen public outreach and take advantage of the existing grass-roots support for the Organization. He also noted the mutually beneficial cooperation in the field between the Department of Public Information and several members of JUNIC, including the working mechanism at the country level with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); the cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Nairobi, where the Director of Information of UNEP served concurrently as Director of the United Nations Information Centre; and the ongoing arrangements with the United

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Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in the preparation of regional seminars on the development of free and independent media.

I. MATTERS BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE
COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION

3. The attention of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) is drawn in particular to the following:

(a) The discussion of the ways and means of promoting better public understanding of the role and achievements of the United Nations (paras. 4-8);

(b) The action taken regarding the Non-Governmental Liaison Service (NGLS) (paras. 9-11);

(c) The discussion on a system-wide publication on development issues (paras. 12 and 13);

(d) The discussion regarding the participation in the international exposition Lisbon 1998 entitled "The oceans, a heritage for the future" (para. 14);

(e) The discussion regarding participation in the international exposition Hannover 2000 entitled "Mankind, nature, technology" (para. 15);

(f) The discussion and decision on the follow-up to the cycle of international conferences on development issues (1994-1996) (para. 19);

(g) The discussion on the public information aspects of the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa (para. 26);

(h) The decision on the dates and venue of the twenty-third session of JUNIC (para. 28);

(i) The decision regarding the consolidation of the 1992 ACC Guidelines for participation by the United Nations system in international expositions and the 1994 addendum thereto (para. 29);

(j) The decision regarding the revival of the JUNIC Information Exchange Network (para. 30).

II. DISCUSSIONS HELD BY JUNIC

A. Discussion of the ways and means to promote better
public understanding of the role and achievements
of the United Nations

4. JUNIC had before it three papers on this issue, namely, the report of the Working Group on public information activities of the United Nations convened at

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the initiative of the Meeting of Senior Officials; the public information strategy of the United Nations prepared by the Department of Public Information; and a paper prepared by the Assistant Secretary-General for Public Information (JUNIC/1996/1 and Add. 1 and 2). A number of members of JUNIC expressed their concern that in the current situation of dwindling financial resources throughout the United Nations system, there was a tendency in many organizations to cut the funding for public information activities, as public information work was difficult to define in quantitative terms. It was also felt that such an approach was at least to some degree a result of the lack of a media culture in the system. This certainly underscored the need to promote such a culture at all working levels in member organizations and also to bring this question to the attention of ACC. It was noted that the Secretary-General had time and again expressed his keen interest in this issue. Members also stressed the importance of internal communication as a means of ensuring that all representatives of a given organization convey identical messages in all their public contacts.

5. It was agreed that the United Nations system as a whole needed to strengthen public outreach both to its traditional supporters and to new audiences as a means of broadening the support for its objectives and activities. To this end, it was necessary to develop a simple joint message of the United Nations system with global appeal that would stress the interrelationship among the members of the system and their common objectives, while at the same time preserving the diversity and identity of its different components. Such a message should be developed on the basis of a critical analysis of both the positive and negative feedback from the recent coverage and public debate about the role and achievements of the United Nations that took place during the observance of the fiftieth anniversary of the Organization. JUNIC agreed that the joint United Nations message needs to take into account the sensitivities of traditional supporters of the United Nations, such as non-governmental organizations, while at the same time reaching out to new audiences and potential supporters, such as youth, local authorities and other levels of civil society.

6. Among potential new audiences and allies of the United Nations, JUNIC recognized in particular the importance of the business community as a partner in the promotion of socially friendly sustainable development as the policies promoted by the United Nations were geared towards strengthening the private sector and its active participation in the development process. Some members of JUNIC also expressed their interest in the business community as a possible source of funding for public information activities. Several members related the experiences of their organizations in dealing with the business community and expressed their interest in coordinating the approach and developing a joint set of guidelines for reaching this important audience. JUNIC decided that interested members of the Committee circulate to the JUNIC secretariat, by 30 September 1996 at the latest, their views and/or information on the experiences of their organizations in this area. On the basis of this information, the JUNIC secretariat would in due course compile and circulate a discussion paper on relations with the business community.

7. It was agreed that, in addition to sharpening its message, the system needed to look into the development of a methodology of media outreach that

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would take into account the existing information overload and, accordingly, identify target countries and information outlets that would be most valuable in spreading the desired key message. It was noted, however, that such a "boutique approach" required not only profound knowledge of the target country, but also larger resources. It was suggested that the effect of this approach could be multiplied through closer coordination among the members of the system and the sharing of resources. JUNIC stressed the importance of the network of United Nations information centres and other field offices, both as information outlets for the system as a whole best suited to assess the information needs in the countries and regions around the world which they served, and as repositories of the wide and diverse body of knowledge accumulated within the United Nations system. JUNIC agreed on the need to maintain regular liaison and coordination of information activities in the field among JUNIC members represented at particular duty stations. It also agreed on the need to strengthen the ability of United Nations information centres to better serve the information needs of all organizations of the system, and urged all members to provide those offices, on a regular basis, with their public information materials and also notify them in advance of upcoming visits by senior officials, as well as scheduled events and observances in their countries of accreditation.

8. Several members of JUNIC noted the value of sharing mailing lists of information professionals and media outlets with particular interest in different areas of concern to the United Nations as a means of ensuring more effective targeting of media outlets likely to cover issues of interest to the Organization. The representative of the Department of Public Information invited the members of JUNIC to provide information for inclusion in the World Media Handbook and suggested that the Department could consider the preparation of an addendum to the Handbook that would contain more specialized information on media professionals and outlets with particular interest in different aspects of United Nations work. He also expressed the readiness of his Department to share with the members of JUNIC the results of the Department's surveys and evaluations on various aspects of its public information activities.

B. Review of ongoing JUNIC projects

1. Non-Governmental Liaison Service

9. JUNIC had before it a report prepared by NGLS (JUNIC/1996/2). The representative of UNESCO, in her capacity as Rapporteur of the meeting of the NGLS Sponsors Group that had taken place the previous day, informed JUNIC that the Group had adopted the NGLS programme of work and budget for 1996 and had reviewed the institutional and financial arrangements for the Service. The Sponsors Group had decided to correct the anomaly in that JUNIC approved each July the programme of work of NGLS for the current year, and agreed accordingly that the NGLS programme of work for 1997 would be circulated to the Sponsors by 30 November 1996 for their consideration and comments before 5 January 1997 as a one-time exception. Thereafter, the programme of work for 1998 would be circulated to Sponsors by 31 May 1997 for consideration at the combined yearly one-day programme and Sponsors meeting, to be held on the day before the opening of the twenty-third session of JUNIC. This procedure would be followed in all subsequent years, and such annual meetings would be entitled "NGLS Programme and

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Coordination" meetings. The meeting also reviewed the serious financial situation of NGLS resulting from the reductions in financial contributions for 1996 from a number of NGLS Sponsors. It suggested that NGLS look into the saleability of some of its products, such as its database, as a means of generating a more secure source of income since in the current prevailing conditions of vulnerability of public information budgets in the United Nations system, which in most cases served as a source of NGLS funding, it could rely on those contributions less than was the case in the past. The meeting also decided to organize a strategic review of NGLS with participation of representatives of the Sponsors, Governments and non-governmental organizations, to clarify the role of NGLS in the United Nations system. UNESCO, UNEP and the Chairperson of the Sponsors Group were asked by the Sponsors to look into the terms of reference for the review, which were to be prepared by the NGLS secretariat.

10. Members of JUNIC expressed the appreciation of their organizations for the work done by NGLS, particularly in connection with the recent cycle of international conferences on major development issues. Several members expressed their interest in continuing active participation in the work of NGLS despite the inability of their organizations to contribute financially at this time. JUNIC noted that, since NGLS was a JUNIC project, it served the needs of all members of the Committee regardless of their ability to pay. It was decided that all members of JUNIC would be entitled to take part in the future NGLS Programme and Coordination meetings starting with the meeting to be held in July 1997. It was also agreed that NGO units of the members of JUNIC meet under the JUNIC flag to discuss matters of mutual concern and thus complement the work done by NGLS. The representative of the Department of Public Information reminded the members that its NGO Resource Centre in New York had the facilities to display and provide to interested non-governmental organizations information materials produced by the members of JUNIC. The Centre was interested in receiving, free of charge, films and videos produced by the members of JUNIC for its loan service to non-governmental organizations.

11. JUNIC endorsed the proposal by the NGLS Sponsors Group and recommended to ACC for its approval that UNDP continue for another year as the lead agency for NGLS and that the Director of the UNDP Office of Evaluation and Strategic Planning serve as the Chairperson of the NGLS Sponsors Group for another one-year term. JUNIC also recommended the endorsement by ACC of the following resolution:

(a) Recognizing the vital role played by NGLS in promoting and facilitating enhanced cooperation between the United Nations system and the non-governmental community, and deeply concerned about the difficulties being faced by NGLS as a result of the financial and budgetary crisis of the United Nations system, JUNIC urges all NGLS Sponsors to maintain their funding levels in the current biennium and to transfer to NGLS as speedily as possible their financial contributions for 1996;

(b) In view of the changing United Nations and global context for international cooperation, including the challenges arising from closer cooperation with non-governmental organizations and the need for the United Nations system to respond collectively and effectively, JUNIC endorses the

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decision by NGLS Sponsors to undertake a strategic review of the role of NGLS in the United Nations system and recommends that the outcome of the review be submitted to ACC through JUNIC as soon as possible.

2. System-wide publication on development issues

12. JUNIC had before it a report prepared by the Department of Public Information (JUNIC/1996/3). The representative of the Department recalled that, in accordance with an ACC decision resulting from the acute financial crisis of the Organization, JUNIC did not hold an ad hoc session to discuss the issue, but continued the discussion of the matter through correspondence, also taking into account the views of the General Assembly contained in resolution 50/31 B of 6 December 1995; due to stringent resource constraints in all member organizations, no funding for that purpose could be identified at that time. This situation was also reflected in the recommendations of the Committee on Information to the General Assembly, adopted at its eighteenth session, held in May 1996.

13. The representative of the Department recalled that its Development Update, funded through the budgets for the recently concluded cycle of international conferences on major development issues, could be continued as an alternative should funding be identified to carry it beyond the end of September 1996. No members of JUNIC were able to commit resources for this purpose at this time.

C. Participation by the United Nations system
in international expositions

1. Lisbon Exposition 1998: "The oceans, a heritage
for the future"

14. JUNIC had before it a report prepared by the secretariat (JUNIC/1996/4). It was noted that since the circulation of that report no further developments had taken place and JUNIC needed to await the establishment of the Trust Fund by the host Government to proceed to the next stage in the preparation for the participation by the United Nations system in this event. It was noted in that regard that in the future, every effort should be made to make it clear to host authorities from the outset that the United Nations could not allocate any financial resources for participation in international expositions or take part in fund-raising activities for the same purpose.

2. Hannover Exposition 2000: "Mankind, nature, technology"

15. JUNIC had before it a report prepared by its secretariat (JUNIC/1996/5). In addition, the secretariat circulated an informal report by the Director of the United Nations Information Centre in Bonn, who represented the Department at the First Planning Meeting for Expo 2000, held at Hannover in June 1996. JUNIC noted that the host Government had not yet made any concrete approaches to the Committee regarding the terms of United Nations participation, including the financial aspects. Several members of JUNIC reported that the host Government

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and the Organizing Committee for Hannover 2000 had made approaches directly to executive heads of their agencies on this matter. JUNIC agreed to remind ACC of its own decision delegating the consideration of the participation by the United Nations system in international expositions to JUNIC in accordance with the 1992 ACC Guidelines and the 1994 addendum thereto.

D. Review of special events calling for JUNIC participation

1. International Year and Decade for the Eradication of Poverty

16. JUNIC had before it a report prepared by the Department of Public Information (JUNIC/1996/6). The representative of the Department recalled that through the regular meetings of the JUNIC Task Force on the Year the members of JUNIC had the opportunity to exchange views and ensure better coordination of planned activities. The representative of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) expressed interest in closer cooperation with the Department and with JUNIC partners in linking IFAD's activities with those planned by JUNIC. The representative of UNDP stressed the duality in approach by his organization as UNDP cooperated closely with the Department of Public Information in the planning and implementation of system-wide activities while, at the same time, pursuing other activities as part of its own mandate for poverty eradication. Several members of JUNIC, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), expressed interest in contributing information to the press kit being prepared by the Department of Public Information for dissemination during the observance of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty on 17 October and the General Assembly's consideration of the issue of poverty eradication at its fifty-first session.

2. World Food Summit

17. JUNIC had before it a report on this issue prepared by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) (JUNIC/1996/7). The representative of FAO indicated the interest of her organization in serving as the lead agency for the system-wide exhibit to be mounted at the site of the Summit. She indicated that the available area measured 80 square metres, but no funding for this purpose had been identified so far. Several members of JUNIC commended the exhibit prepared at short notice by the Department of Public Information for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), after it had become obvious that the space allocated was too small for the JUNIC exhibit from Beijing. It was suggested that, with some modifications, this exhibit could be used at the Summit. The representative of the Department of Public Information agreed to look into this matter. He indicated that all JUNIC funds for this purpose had already been spent, but pledged the assistance of the Department in mounting of the exhibit.

18. Several other members of JUNIC, including UNDP, UNEP, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP), WHO and UNIDO offered to contribute material for the system-wide exhibit. Other members of JUNIC, including UNDP, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS), the

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World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and IFAD expressed interest in displaying their publications and audio-visual materials, while others, including UNDCP, WMO and UNIDO, would contribute material for inclusion in the press kit being prepared by FAO.

3. Follow-up to the cycle of international conferences on development issues (1994-1996)

19. JUNIC had before it a report prepared by the Department of Public Information (JUNIC/1996/8). The representative of the Department introduced the report and reiterated the proposal to establish an open-ended JUNIC working group in New York. The working group would coordinate the follow-up activities on all major themes to take full advantage of the momentum of public and media interest and pursue the results of conferences on such issues as poverty eradication, sustainable development, population and environment. He suggested that at a later stage similar working groups could also be established in other major duty stations. JUNIC decided to establish an open-ended working group as proposed, to meet monthly or bi-monthly, according to the need. Several members of JUNIC also pointed to the need to assess the experience gained from the recent cycle of anniversaries of member organizations, including the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations, as a means of improving public information outreach through the use of those communication techniques that were the most successful.

4. World Day for Water, 1997

20. JUNIC had before it a report on this issue prepared jointly by UNESCO and WMO (JUNIC/1996/9). The representative of WMO introduced the report on behalf of both organizations and stressed the importance of this issue, which had been prominent on the global agenda. She noted that ACC gave high priority to issues relating to water. Also, the Commission on Sustainable Development had requested UNESCO and WMO to prepare for consideration at its 1997 session a report on global water resources. In view of the lack of available resources for public information, it was suggested that information activities piggyback on other issues and activities. She noted that only a handful of JUNIC members with programmes relating to water had responded to an informal recent survey of their interest to take part in the formulation of an information strategy and preparation of the information programme on this issue and suggested that the group meet informally during the current session of JUNIC.

21. Several members of JUNIC expressed interest in contributing to the information programme. UNDP offered to contribute to the press kit, provide pertinent information for the brochure, assist with the speakers' roster and publish relevant articles in UNDP Flash! and Choices, and to make available a special issue of "Azimuths", which has already been produced. UNCHS noted that it served as the lead agency for the observance of the Day in 1996, receiving worldwide coverage for the issue of water in the cities, and pledged support in kind for the UNESCO/WMO programme. WHO and FAO also indicated their interest to participate. IFAD informed UNIC members that in cooperation with the Government of Saudi Arabia and the Arizona State University, it would hold a workshop in

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November 1996 in Saudi Arabia on the use of satellite mapping for water resources. UNIDO offered to contribute features, technical ideas, contacts and success stories and noted that since industry was the third largest user of water worldwide, it could be approached for possible funding of some information activities. The International Atomic Energy Agency also indicated its interest in taking part in activities in view of its involvement in the use of isotope technology in tracing of water resources.

5. Follow-up to the 1992 United Nations Conference
on Environment and Development

22. JUNIC had before it a report on this issue prepared by the Department of Public Information, together with an information strategy for the 1997 special session of the General Assembly to review the implementation of Agenda 21 (JUNIC/1996/10). The representative of the Department introduced the report and circulated for the consideration of members a listing of proposed information activities and products with the estimated cost involved. He invited the members to communicate to the Department, by 30 September 1996 at the latest, which activities they would be interested in co-sponsoring. The representative of UNEP circulated copies of Taking Action, a handbook for use by non-governmental organizations and the public, containing answers to frequently asked questions and suggesting activities that they could undertake to protect the environment. He asked the members of JUNIC to consider contributions to a follow-up issue of this publication. Several members of JUNIC, including UNCHS and UNIDO, indicated the interest of their organizations in taking part in the proposed activities.

E. Inter-agency participation in audiovisual productions

1. New system-wide film and video catalogue

23. JUNIC had before it a report on this issue prepared by the Department of Public Information (JUNIC/1996/12). The representative of the Department circulated at the meeting the guidelines for the preparation of entries for the online version of the catalogue, to be incorporated into the already available listing of its own productions and placed on the Internet. He invited the interested members of JUNIC to submit their contributions to the JUNIC secretariat by 31 July 1996 at the latest.

2. Development of a short-wave radio broadcasting capacity
for the United Nations

24. JUNIC had before it a report on this issue prepared by the Department of Public Information (JUNIC/1996/13). The representative of the Department introduced the report and stressed the importance of this initiative in the context of peace-keeping and other political missions. He noted that several such missions had large budgets for the development of radio capacity that could never be used owing to lack of host Government support, qualified local staff and appropriate frequencies. The Department had received offers of broadcast

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time from several countries that could be used to air taped programmes produced by the Department as well as by other members of JUNIC. He noted that, in view of the importance of radio as an information medium, particularly in the developing countries, this approach could be an efficient means of reaching the public at large. He noted the success of United Nations radio programmes in Brazil, where some 4,500 radio stations transmitted the "United Nations hour", and invited the members of JUNIC to contribute their programmes to take advantage of the available time slots.

25. Several members of JUNIC, including UNDP, UNEP, UNCHS, UNESCO, IFAD and UNIDO, expressed interest in cooperating with the Department in this initiative. Several members agreed on the need to improve the attractiveness of the United Nations programmes through inclusion of music and other features and suggested that this could be a good opportunity to use local journalists, particularly in developing countries, to also project the local angle on the issues. UNEP related its recent initiative of developing a one-hour weekly FM radio programme in Kenya that would rely on young local journalists to present local United Nations stories for young audiences, along the lines of the radio project developed in 1995 in Kenya, in cooperation with UNCHS, to promote the issues before the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II).

F. Political mobilization for the United Nations System-wide
Special Initiative on Africa

26. JUNIC had before it a report on this issue prepared by UNDP (JUNIC/1996/14). The representative of UNDP introduced the report and stressed that the Initiative was an opportunity both for the United Nations system to show that it could work closely together under the leadership of the Secretary-General, and for the African countries themselves to initiate activities and look into their own fund-raising potential. He suggested that, as part of the efforts to raise consciousness of the role of the United Nations in promoting the Initiative, JUNIC should consider the proposals put forward by UNDP, in particular the organization of press tours of African countries and seminars on specific themes in major donor countries. He suggested the establishment of a working group to follow up on proposed activities. JUNIC agreed on the need to coordinate action at the inter-agency level. Several members expressed interest in cooperating in the organization of press tours, which should include African journalists, as well as the emerging independent African media. UNESCO offered assistance in identifying suitable participants. The Department of Public Information recalled the close interest of its Africa Recovery Section in this issue and offered its assistance in all information endeavours. Several members of JUNIC reiterated the need to be informed well in advance of the planned activities in the field in order to be able to assist with appropriate information and contacts in the area. JUNIC decided that its secretariat and UNDP would look into the membership of the Working Group and meet in the context of the new JUNIC machinery to be established at Headquarters.

G. 1996 Development Information Workshop

27. JUNIC had before it a report on this issue prepared by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) (JUNIC/1996/16). The members of JUNIC stressed the importance of regular contacts with information colleagues in bilateral development agencies and expressed their interest in participation, but suggested that the parallel holding of several meetings, in this case the proposed workshop for broadcasters from developing countries, would make it easier for those outside New York to attend.

H. Dates and venue of the twenty-third session of JUNIC

28. The representative of the International Labour Organization (ILO) extended the invitation to JUNIC to hold its twenty-third session at the ILO International Training Centre at Turin, Italy, in the last week of June/first week of July 1997. JUNIC accepted the invitation, subject to endorsement by ACC.

I. Other matters

29. The JUNIC secretariat recalled that on the recommendation of the Committee, ACC adopted in 1992 the revised Guidelines for participation by the United Nations system in international expositions. In 1994, ACC adopted an addendum to the Guidelines to elaborate in particular on the duties of the Technical Director of the United Nations pavilion. It was suggested that in the interest of clarity, it would be useful to combine the two documents for consideration by JUNIC at its twenty-third session. JUNIC requested the secretariat to prepare and circulate the new document prior to the twenty-third session of the Committee.

30. The JUNIC secretariat recalled that at the twenty-first session, the Committee considered the report of its Technical Advisory Group on the use of computer technology in the field of public information and agreed that the Group would meet in Rome in November 1995. Due to the onset of the acute financial crisis of the Organization and other reasons, the meeting did not take place. FAO undertook to reactivate the Group and retain its chairmanship until the twenty-third session of JUNIC.

31. The JUNIC secretariat recalled the discussions held at the last session of the Committee regarding the JUNIC Information Exchange Bulletin and the JUNIC decision to continue the bulletin under the leadership of FAO until the proposed 1995/96 ad hoc session. During the year, the bulletin had ceased publication. JUNIC agreed on the need to revive this important tool, which could prove invaluable as a means of sharing information on upcoming activities and strengthening JUNIC coordination on matters of mutual concern. JUNIC requested its secretariat to coordinate the bimonthly bulletin for the initial year.

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Annex I

AGENDA

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Review of the follow-up action on decisions adopted at the twenty-first session.

I

Discussion of ways and means to promote better public understanding of the role and achievements of the United Nations.

II

1. Review of ongoing JUNIC projects:
 - (a) NGLS;
 - (b) System-wide publication on development issues.
2. Participation of the United Nations system in international expositions:
 - (a) Expo '98: "The oceans: a heritage for the future", Lisbon;
 - (b) Expo 2000: "Mankind, nature, technology".
3. Review of special events calling for JUNIC participation:
 - (a) International Year and Decade for the Eradication of Poverty;
 - (b) World Food Summit;
 - (c) Follow-up to the cycle of international conferences on development issues (1994-1996);
 - (d) 1997 World Day for Water;
 - (e) Five-year review of the implementation of Agenda 21 (1997).
4. Inter-agency cooperation in audiovisual productions:
 - (a) Progress report on arrangements for the joint participation in international film competitions, film festivals and media markets;
 - (b) New system-wide film and video catalogue;

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- (c) Development of short-wave radio broadcasting capacity for the United Nations.
5. Political mobilization for the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa.
 6. 1996 Development Information Workshop for the directors of information of bilateral development agencies and members of JUNIC.
 7. Recommendations of the United Nations Committee on Information relevant to JUNIC.
 8. JUNIC participation at the annual meetings of United Nations editors.
 9. Dates and venue for the twenty-third session.
 10. Other matters.

Annex II

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Symbol	Title or description	Prepared by
JUNIC/1996/1	Report of the Working Group on public information activities of the United Nations	Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat
JUNIC/1996/1/Add.1	United Nations Department of Public Information: strategy for information activities	Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat
JUNIC/1996/1/Add.2	A joint United Nations approach to media: sharpening the focus	Chairman
JUNIC/1996/2	NGLS	NGLS
JUNIC/1996/3	System-wide publication on development issues	Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat
JUNIC/1996/4	Lisbon Expo '98: "The oceans, a heritage for the future"	Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat and UNESCO
JUNIC/1996/5	Hannover Exposition 2000: "Mankind, Nature, Technology"	Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat and UNESCO
JUNIC/1996/6	International Year for the Eradication of Poverty (1996); International Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)	Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat
JUNIC/1996/7	World Food Summit	FAO
JUNIC/1996/8	Follow-up to the cycle of international conferences on development issues (1994-1996)	Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat
JUNIC/1996/9	World Day for Water, 1997	WMO and UNESCO

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Symbol	Title or description	Prepared by
JUNIC/1996/10	Follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and an information strategy for the 1997 special session of the General Assembly to review the implementation of Agenda 21	Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat
JUNIC/1996/11	Progress report on arrangements for the joint participation in international film competitions, film festivals and media markets	Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat
JUNIC/1996/12	New system-wide film and video catalogue	Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat
JUNIC/1996/13	Development of short-wave radio broadcasting capacity for the United Nations	Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat
JUNIC/1996/14	Political mobilization for the system-wide special initiative on Africa	UNDP and UNICEF
JUNIC/1996/15	Recommendations of the United Nations Committee on Information relevant to JUNIC	Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat
JUNIC/1996/16	1996 development information workshop	UNICEF

Annex III

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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Assistant Secretary: Jadranka Mihalić, Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat

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United Nations Environment Programme	Tore Brevik
United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)	Christina Engfeldt
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	Manoel de Almeida e Silva
International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women	Krishna Ahooja-Patel
International Trade Centre	Janice Goertz
World Food Programme	Francis Mwanza
United Nations International Drug Control Programme	Paul Salay

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Specialized agencies

International Labour Organization	Gregory Härtl Niloufer Mukhi
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	Karin-Lis Svarre
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	Hélène Gosselin
World Health Organization	Richard Leclair
World Bank	Klas Bergman
International Monetary Fund	Piritta Sorsa
Universal Postal Union	Gregory Kalicki
International Telecommunication Union	Francine Lambert
World Meteorological Organization	Eirah Gorre-Dale
International Maritime Organization	Roger Kohn
World Intellectual Property Organization	Laurent Manderieux
International Fund for Agricultural Development	Taysir Mustafa
United Nations Industrial Development Organization	Donatella Magliani Streitenberger
International Atomic Energy Agency	David Kyd
