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OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT: UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES

United Nations Population Award

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the members of the General Assembly the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities on the United Nations Population Award, established by the Assembly in its resolution 36/201 of 17 December 1981. The report was prepared in accordance with the request in Economic and Social Council decision 1982/112 of 26 April 1982.

ANNEX

Report on the United Nations Population Award (1984)

United Nations Population Award

1. In order to promote better awareness of and solutions to population problems, the General Assembly adopted resolution 36/201 entitled "Establishment of the United Nations population Award". At its 15th plenary meeting, on 26 April 1982, the Economic and Social Council adopted the rules of procedure of the Committee on the United Nations Population Award (decision 1982/112). At its resumed session of 1982, on 11 November, the Council elected the following countries to serve on the Committee for a period of three years beginning on 1 January 1983: Australia, Bangladesh, Burundi, China, Colombia, Egypt, Japan, Mexico, Tunisia and Yugoslavia (see decision 1982/188). The Secretary-General and the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) serve as ex officio members. The Executive Director of UNFPA acts as the Secretary of the Committee.

2. At its first meeting, in January 1983, the Committee elected Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury of Bangladesh as its Chairman, for one year. Mr. Chowdhury was re-elected Chairman by the Committee for another year in February 1984. The following five eminent individuals were selected by the Committee to serve as honorary members in an advisory capacity for a period of three years: Mr. Kenneth Dadzie, former Director-General, International Economic Co-operation and Development, United Nations; Mr. Nobusuke Kishi, former Prime Minister of Japan; Mrs. Alva Myrdal of Sweden, Nobel Peace Prize laureate; Mr. Raúl Prebisch, former Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; and Professor Emeritus Theodore W. Schultz, University of Chicago, Nobel Economics Prize laureate. To replace Professor Schultz, who resigned from the honorary membership in July 1983, the Committee selected Mr. Robert E. Turner III, President of Turner Broadcasting System, United States of America.

Nominations for the 1984 Award

3. A total of 35 nominations were received for the 1984 Award from qualified nominators in accordance with article 5 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 36/201. There were fewer nominations in 1984 than in 1983 because the Committee decided to limit each nominator to only one nomination, instead of allowing multiple nominations as in the previous year.

Selection of the laureates

4. At its fourth meeting, on 24 February 1984, after a thorough review of the nominations and taking into account the views offered by the honorary advisers, the Committee decided to select two laureates for the 1984 United Nations Population Award: Dr. Carmen A. Miro of Panama and Dr. Sheldon J. Segal of the United States.

5. Dr. Carmen A. Miro is a renowned demographer who for more than 30 years has held responsible positions in a variety of Latin American population institutions which she has helped to create and develop. As Director of the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE) from its inception in 1958 through 1976, she was responsible for the training of hundreds of professional demographers who are now found in positions of responsibility in government and research institutions throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. Through them and through her writings, Dr. Miro has been instrumental in creating an awareness of population problems in Latin America and other parts of the world.

6. Dr. Sheldon J. Segal is a world leader in the field of contraceptive development and in promoting family planning programmes. Through his work at the Population Council, an international non-governmental organization, and the Rockefeller Foundation, he has been responsible for the training of more than 200 scientists from all parts of the world in human reproduction and fertility planning. He has also worked closely with a number of institutions in developing countries to strengthen their capacity to undertake research on human reproduction and contraceptive development. Through the International Committee for Contraception Research, which he helped to establish, new contraceptives are being developed and tested for use throughout the world.

United Nations Population Award presentation ceremony

7. In accordance with the decision of the Committee, the United Nations Population Award was presented to the laureates by the Secretary-General at a ceremony held in the Tlatelolco Centre of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mexico City, on 13 August 1984, in conjunction with the International Conference on Population. Statements were made by the Secretary-General, the Chairman of the Committee and by the laureates. The award consisted of a diploma, a gold medal and a monetary prize of \$12,500 for each of the laureates.

United Nations Population Award for 1985

8. Nominations for the 1985 United Nations Population Award have been invited from qualified nominators in accordance with General Assembly resolution 36/201. The laureate(s) for 1985 will be selected at the Committee's meeting in February 1985.

Financial matters

9. By the end of 1983, the Trust Fund for the United Nations Population Award, established by the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 36/201, amounted to \$454,654. All costs relating to the Award are financed from the investment income of the Trust Fund, which is administered on behalf of the Secretary-General by the Executive Director of UNFPA. Expenditures in 1983 (including printing costs, costs relating to the award ceremony and the prize) totalled \$42,388. The Trust Fund thus stood at \$412,266 at the beginning of 1984.