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FOR WESTERN ASIA

8 APR 1985

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Social Development and Population Division

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E/ECWA/SDP/84/7

8 July 1984

Original: ENGLISH

Progress report of ECWA to the Sixteenth Session
of Consultative Committee of the Voluntary Fund
for the UN Decade for Women; Covering the Period
January to June 1984

84-0476

3. As part of the Forward-Looking Assessment, the programme officer, as in other commissions had to prepare a report on:

- a) Survey of manuals
- b) VFDW support to Development Planning Projects
- c) VFDW support to the regional commissions

All these required assignments placed heavy output demands on the Women programme Officer. However, it is to be stressed that the FLA is a most important activity that will certainly place the VFDW in its proper futuristic perspective. It would guide its activities not only at the global level but also at the regional, and thus at the national level.

All the above has made the period of the report full of activities that were parallel to the normally heavy workload of the Volfund activities.

Project Status of Implementation:

Project number : 23

Project title : Role of Rural Women in Economic Development in ECWA Region

Year approved : 1980

Total budget : US \$ 82,100

Executing agency : ECWA

Activities : 1) Assessment of self-help modalities undertaken by women in rural areas of Egypt, Jordan, Syria and PDRY.

Expected output : Guidelines/ model for rural self-help activities for women for technical assistance and for replicability.

Status : In progress

- 1) Contacts have been made with the research team in Egypt which will constitute the major thrust in these case studies. The plan of work is being formulated.
- 2) Contacts will be undertaken for the remaining studies in October 1984.

Project number : 24

Project title : Technical Assistance in National Planning for Women (Regional)

Year approved : 1980

Executing agency : ECWA/INSTRAW

Activities :

- 1) Analysis of the position of women in the national plans of Egypt, Syria, Iraq, and democratic Yemen.
- 2) Formulation of relevant planning model for women as priority planning target
- 3) Technical advice to governments regarding results of studies and the relevant national plan.

Expected output: Improved planning for women as participants and beneficiaries of development.

Status : Completed

- 1) A consultation meeting was held in Baghdad 18-19 March 1984 for consultants of the case studies. Detailed discussions of the papers were undertaken ending with proposals for adjusting the studies on PDRY, Egypt and Iraq.
- 2) Nominations from governments for candidates for fellowships have been requested.
- 3) INSTRAW has been informed of the status of the project.
- 4) The following constitute the terms of reference for the case studies:
 - Are women in general and specific group of women in particular being considered as targets in the economic and social process of planning?
 - To what extent does the plan identify the needs of women in general and specific women in particular in terms of the allocation of investment in various economic and social sectors, such as
 - 1) employment targets
 - 2) social services (health, education, etc.)
 - What information and data has gone into the process of planning, especially in terms of demographic data?
 - What indicators have been used to assess and plan for women as target group?
 - What are the male/female differentials in terms of income and wage distribution of work performed by women?

- What attempts or experiments are being introduced or adopted to value the work of women in agriculture and house work?
- What policies (national) are there regarding the participation of women in agricultural reforms, land reclamation, housing, schemes, loans, cooperatives, labour unions, decision-making level?
- What policies take into consideration the effects of technology on conditions of life, especially the effect of the introduction of technology on women work?
- What is the role of women organizations in the formulation and evaluation of development plans?

Funds for the workshop have been approved by the 15th Session of the Consultative Committee (See below Volfund 41).

Project number: 29

Project title : Programme for self-reliance and community participation for female industrial workers.

Year approved : 1981

Total budget : US \$ 92,340

Executing agency: UNDP, with ECWA backstopping

Activities : Training in self-help organizational skills, day-care centre for children of working mothers, production of a report on model self-reliance activities for use by workers in other factories.

Expected output: 1) Self-reliance services and skills for female factory workers
2) Model for self-reliance activities for industrial female workers.

Status : Pending release of funds

- The project has been reformulated and adopted by the Government of Egypt and UNDP. The Volfund has been informed of the Project Document, which indicates activities should be initiated 1 July, pending receiving of allotment advice.

Project number : 31

Project title : Women workers in national handicraft (Democratic Yemen)

Year approved : 1981

Total budget : US \$ 4,390

Executing agency : ECWA/General Federation of Yemeni Women.

Activities : Study on needs of women in PDRY

Expected output : Identification of programmes and specific activities

Status : **Completed**

- 1) The consultant visited ECWA, Baghdad during 5-11 May 1984 to discuss the result of the paper since contrary to ECWA's last report to the Fifteenth Session, the mission to PDRY was not undertaken due to the heavy FLA workload.
- 2) The quality of the study, which included field visits indicated a need for an overall assessment of the women in PDRY by a fully qualified external research team who could work with and train national data collectors.
- 3) A project proposal has been formulated for the consideration of the VFDW Sixteenth Session, Sept. 1984.

Project number : 36

Project title : Education and training for income-generation

Year approved : 1983

Total budget : US \$ 50,000

Executing agency : ECWA/Lebanese Association for Popular Action (AMEL)

Activities : Training in alphabetization, commercial sewing and secretarial skills for resources needed by the Lebanese labour market.

Expected output : Trained female labour force; participation in the rehabilitation of Lebanese economy.

Status : Completed

The activities have been completed and a final and financial report was submitted. It is to be noted that AMEL has played an effective role in the activities for the rehabilitation of Lebanon both in terms of relief and human resources development.

Project number: 37

Project title : Identification of priority services for development planning for women (Bahrain).

Year approved : 1982

Total budget : US \$ 98,000

Executing agency : ECWA/Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

Activities : Action - oriented research to identify needs and potential of Bahraini women, and to guide planners to consider women as participants and beneficiaries as planning target group.

Expected output: 1) Study on needs of women
2) Inter-ministerial programmes

Status : 1) Field research completed
2) Study will be submitted to government by Sept. 1984 for comments.
3) Inter-ministerial meeting for discussion of results of study and necessary programming is scheduled by Government for February 1985.

Project number : 41

Project title : Skills of national planning for women

Year approved : March 1984

Total budget : US \$ 30,000

Executing agency : ECWA/INSTRAW

Activities : Workshop to discuss case studies on women in national plans of Egypt, Iraq, Syria and PDRY.

Expected output : Model for planning for women

Status : In progress

- 1) Workshop is scheduled to be held in Baghdad
12 - 15 November 1984
- 2) Invitations to ECWA members have been transmitted with
copies to UNDP for follow-up purposes.



