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NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACC	Administrative Committee on Co-ordination
CELADE	Latin American Demographic Centre
CICRED	Committee for International Co-ordination of National Research in Demography
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECAFE	Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
ECLA	Economic Commission for Latin America
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ICEM	Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IPPF	International Planned Parenthood Federation
IUSSP	International Union for the Scientific Study of Population
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNESOB	United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut
UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
WHO	World Health Organization

I. ISSUES THAT REQUIRE ACTION BY, OR THAT ARE BROUGHT TO
THE ATTENTION OF, THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

1. At its seventeenth session, the Population Commission, apart from discharging the normal functions assigned to it by the Economic and Social Council, also met in its capacity as the intergovernmental preparatory body for the World Population Conference, 1974, and the World Population Year, 1974, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1672 B (LII). The Commission adopted a number of recommendations and decisions that (a) require action by the Economic and Social Council, or (b) appeared to require being brought specifically to the attention of the Council. The recommendations and decisions in these two categories are listed below, under the relevant chapter or section heading of this report.

A. WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE, 1974

(Chapter II)

1. Recommendation requiring action by the Council

Report of the Conference

The Commission noted resolution 1484 (XLVIII) in which the Economic and Social Council requested the Conference to report to it and to the General Assembly in 1975 on the findings and recommendations of the deliberations at the Conference. The Commission agreed with the Secretary-General of the Conference, who had undertaken consultations on the question, that it would be desirable for both the Council and the Assembly to receive the report of the Conference in 1974.

Consequently, the Commission recommends that the Economic and Social Council should decide that the report of the World Population Conference, 1974, should be included in the agenda of the Council's resumed fifty-seventh session in 1974 and should be forwarded to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session (paragraph 37).

2. Actions brought to the attention of the Council

(a) Preparations for the Conference

The Commission was informed that the Agreement between the United Nations and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania regarding the Arrangements for the World Population Conference, 1974, was signed on 18 October 1973 (paragraph 4).

The Commission expressed its appreciation to the Government of Romania and the Secretary-General of the Conference, and its satisfaction with the preparatory arrangements that had so far been made for the Conference (paragraph 55).

(b) Invitations to the World Population Conference, 1974

The Commission noted that invitations to the Conference would be sent to States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies and IAEA as well as to the administrative heads of the specialized agencies and of IAEA. It also noted the arrangements being made by the Secretary-General of the Conference about invitations to non-governmental organizations in categories I and II and on the Roster.

The Commission decided that it would review, at its third special session from 4 to 15 March 1974, the question of the additional intergovernmental organizations which it would recommend that the Council should invite to the World Population Conference, 1974 (paragraph 34).

(c) Preliminary draft rules of procedure of the Conference

The Commission reviewed the preliminary draft rules of procedure for the World Population Conference (E/CN.9/285), introduced a number of changes thereto, and offered commentary on certain of the rules (paragraphs 56 to 66). The Commission decided that, with the changes it approved, it would consider the draft rules again at its third special session in March 1974, and forward them to the Economic and Social Council for transmittal to the World Population Conference (paragraph 67).

(d) Administrative and financial implications of the Conference

The Commission urged that maximum flexibility should be granted to the Secretary-General of the Conference in regard to administrative and financial matters (paragraph 70). The Commission called for a clear and comprehensive statement covering the entire financial picture of the Conference, together with, if feasible, a breakdown of how budget costing was arrived at, to be presented to the Commission at its third special session (paragraph 75).

(e) Consultations with Governments and regional meetings preparatory to the Conference

The Commission was informed that consultations with Governments had been proceeding throughout the year and that the pace of these consultations would be accelerated during the first quarter of 1974. It was also informed of a co-ordinated plan for regional consultations with governmental representatives prior to the World Population Conference. These, however, would not be a substitute for direct consultations with Governments. With regard to the industrialized countries, the Commission expressed hope that some arrangement could be made for consultations before the Conference. The Secretary-General of the Conference reported that he had been exploring possibilities of arranging consultations with the industrialized countries in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Europe, perhaps in May 1974 (paragraph 45).

(f) Activities parallel to the Conference

The Commission reviewed preparations for the activities parallel to the Conference. It noted with appreciation the preparations being made for the Population Tribune and the co-operation that the organizations were receiving

from the Government of Romania. It also noted with interest the preparatory activities of the international youth non-governmental organizations for the International Youth Population Conference, which it regarded as complementary to the World Population Conference.

The representative of Romania announced that the Population Tribune and the International Youth Population Conference would be recognized by his Government as parallel activities (paragraph 101).

(g) Substantive preparations for the Conference

Symposia

The Commission, which received for information in English only the draft reports of the three symposia held in 1973, requested that the reports be translated into the working languages of the World Population Conference at the earliest possible moment and that the language versions be made available to the Commission at its third special session in 1974 (paragraph 118).

Review Committee for background and symposia papers of the Conference

The attention of the Population Commission was drawn to the arrangements for convening a committee to review the background and symposia papers, as approved in principle by the Population Commission at its second special session (E/5264, paras. 53 and 57). Eight experts from various regions and various areas of competence would meet on 12 November 1973 in Geneva, and once again early in 1974, with the Director of the Population Division and a member of his staff assisting the Committee (paragraph 127).

Documentation

The Commission noted that the Secretary-General of the Conference planned to reproduce and distribute in the languages of the Conference, not later than 90 days before the Conference, the five basic Conference documents (E/5264, paras. 46, 53, 54 and 55) and certain other papers listed in paragraph 130.

The second inquiry among Governments on population and development

The Commission noted that the report submitted to it (E/CN.9/282) was an interim report and that the Secretariat would revise it for the third special session of the Commission in March 1974.

The Commission recommended that summary statements (one to two pages in length) to be submitted by Governments by mid-February 1974, should be translated by the Secretariat and made available to delegations to the World Population Conference, 1974, (paragraph 125).

(h) Annotated provisional agenda for the Conference

The Commission considered the annotated draft provisional agenda for the

Conference. A revised text of the draft annotations to the provisional agenda of the Conference, accompanied by a document containing a detailed work chart for programmes of the Conference, would be presented to the Commission at its third special session for approval and for allocation of items to plenary meetings, to the committees and to other sessional bodies (paragraph 141).

(i) World Population Plan of Action

Various recommendations were made by members of the Commission regarding the final structure of the World Population Plan of Action, which under Economic and Social Council resolution 1672 (LII), the Secretary-General of the World Population Conference had been asked to place on the agenda of the Conference. Members were invited to submit detailed suggestions relating to the different aspects of the draft Plan to the Secretariat. These would be brought to the attention of the Advisory Committee and taken into account by the Secretariat in redrafting the Plan (paragraph 177).

(j) Other matters

The Commission, noting that in Economic and Social Council resolution 1484 (XLVIII) and subsequent documents, the word used for the World Population Conference, 1974, is "Conference" in all languages except French, where the word used is "Congrès", recommends that, henceforth, the word in all languages should be "Conference" (paragraph 178).

B. WORLD POPULATION YEAR, 1974

(Chapter III)

Action brought to the attention of the Council

The Commission endorsed in general the preparations being made for the World Population Year, 1974, by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, and expressed its confidence that the over-all objectives were being met as planned. It urged all Governments, non-governmental organizations and institutions to participate fully in that important endeavour (paragraph 200).

C. MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORLD POPULATION YEAR, 1974

(Chapter IV)

African Census Programme

Actions brought to the attention of the Council

The Commission noted the progress on the African Census Programme, and made observations especially on census operations in the Sudano-Sahelian region affected by prolonged drought. The Commission requested the Secretary-General to report on the progress of census-taking in the area, and to report to the Commission on the whole programme at its third special session (paragraph 217).

D. DEMOGRAPHIC PUBLICATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS

(Chapter V)

Action brought to the attention of the Council

The Commission was informed that a questionnaire had been sent in August 1973 to over 100 international users of the United Nations Demographic Yearbook, but that replies, though numerous, were not yet sufficient for the necessary evaluation and recommendation of changes in the Yearbook. Hope was expressed, however, that it would be possible to prepare a report for the third special session of the Commission, in March 1974, on the financial implications of the recommended changes (paragraph 218).

E. PROGRESS OF THE WORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN THE FIELD OF POPULATION

(Chapter VI)

The Commission noted the progress made in the period since its last regular session in the work on population in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and in the other offices and bodies of the United Nations system. It noted that the substantive preparations for the World Population Conference had exerted pressure on the Population Division.

The Commission noted the comprehensive report on interagency co-ordination in the fields of population (E/CN.9/284 and Add.1 and Corr.1), the progress in technical co-operation, interdisciplinary training in population matters, assistance to Governments in various matters relating to planning and policies in population, progress in research and technical work in fertility and mortality, migration, and population policy. Co-ordination with regional economic commissions and with agencies of the United Nations system was noted in the various activities (paragraphs 221-278).

F. TWO-YEAR AND MEDIUM-TERM PROGRAMMES OF WORK FOR 1974-1975, 1974-1977 AND 1976-1979

(Chapter VII)

The Commission noted that the preparations for the Conference had opened up new avenues for research and that now the United Nations work, which had begun with traditional demographic analysis, had been expanded to include the whole field of population, including the discussion of relationships between resources, environment and human rights and demographic factors. The keynote of the present work of the Division was, therefore, the study of the interrelationships of population with economic, cultural and other aspects of society.

The Commission, in paragraph 118, noted the continuing functions of the Population Division in the field of servicing legislative bodies, technical information and substantive support to programmes, such as the World Fertility Survey and co-operation with certain non-governmental organizations.

The Commission considered the long-term objectives in various activities of the programme, particularly the programme for the two-year period 1974-1975, and noted that the Population Division was collaborating closely with the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system (paragraph 307), including UNFPA, in multidisciplinary, policy-oriented programmes aimed primarily at assisting countries not only to understand the salient demographic facts, but also to take population into consideration in their development plans (paragraph 308).

The Commission warmly commended the spirit and general direction of the work programme of the United Nations in the field of population, noting however that some flexibility should be retained in view of the possibility that the recommendations by the World Population Conference might call for change of emphasis and adjustments to the programme (paragraph 284).

The Commission noted inter alia the work programme of the Population Division, and in particular endorsed the idea of a "Population Earth Watch System", the publication of the Population Bulletin on a biennial basis, as well as the expansion of the Population Newsletter to include the activities of the organizations in the United Nations system (paragraph 361).

G. DATE AND PLACE OF MEETING OF THE NEXT SESSION

(Chapter VIII)

1. Recommendation requiring action by the Council

The Population Commission, in light of various practical considerations, recommends that the Economic and Social Council should decide to hold the third special session of the Commission from 4 to 15 March 1974 in New York instead of in Geneva (paragraph 363).

2. Action brought to the attention of the Council

The Commission, in view of the forthcoming World Population Conference, decided to review at its third special session the exact date and place of meeting of its eighteenth regular session, scheduled to be held in 1975 (paragraph 364).

II. WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE, 1974

A. General background

2. At its seventeenth regular session, the Population Commission met also in its capacity as the intergovernmental preparatory body for the World Population Conference, 1974, and the World Population Year, 1974, a role which had been assigned to it by the Economic and Social Council (resolution 1672 B (LII)).

3. The Secretary-General of the World Population Conference submitted 10 reports on the development of Conference preparations since the Commission's second special session in March 1973. The reports were concerned with the administrative and financial implications of the Conference and its organization and management; they further dealt with the substantive preparations and with matters relating to the broader framework of the Conference. The documents are listed in annex III.

B. Statement by the Secretary-General of the Conference

4. The Secretary-General of the World Population Conference, in his opening statement to the Population Commission, reported that the Agreement regarding Arrangements for the World Population Conference, 1974, which would be held at Bucharest from 19 to 30 August 1974, was signed on 18 October 1973 at United Nations Headquarters by the Permanent Representative of Romania and the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Agreement covered all aspects of the arrangements for the Conference; the parallel activities; and attendance by the representatives of the press.

5. The Secretary-General, referring to the symposia held so far, considered that they had fulfilled their purpose satisfactorily and that diverse points of view had been frankly and clearly expressed. The symposia had demonstrated that the scientific community had arrived at an understanding on many aspects of the interrelationship between demographic and other social problems but that much still remained to be learned; since the problems varied from one country or region to another, it would at any rate be impossible to present uniform solutions to them.

6. The Secretary-General said that at the Cairo and Stockholm symposia the point had been made that the growth of population was not the only challenge facing mankind. There was, in relation to the possible exhaustion of natural resources, also the enormous disproportion which existed between the present levels of consumption in the developing and the developed countries.

7. He further noted a tendency by certain respectable organizations in several developed countries to dramatize the catastrophic prospects for the world if the present rate of demographic growth continued unchecked. He referred to the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held at Stockholm in 1972, which had, he said, undoubtedly achieved a lot in affirming the universal desire to halt pollution of the air and the oceans and to preserve and safeguard soil and

other natural resources. The Conference, in its recommendation 12, 1/ stressed the demographic explosion as a threat to the environment, but it could not, because it was not its specific task, pinpoint the responsibility of the developed countries regarding the need to limit or even to refrain from increasing their levels of consumption. As a consequence, it was the feeling of some developing countries that an imbalance existed in the way the three problems of population, environment and resources were sometimes presented.

8. With reference to the preliminary draft rules of procedure for the Conference (E/CN.9/285), the Secretary-General pointed out that the draft contained the usual provisions applicable on similar occasions and that it was flexible enough for the Conference to organize its work in the way it considered most convenient, taking into account the special needs and the participation of non-governmental organizations. He drew the attention of the Commission to rule 14 of the draft rules of procedure, which was included at the request of the United Nations authorities responsible for budgetary and financial matters to reflect the recently adopted United Nations system of programme budgeting.

9. On the annotated draft provisional agenda for the Conference (E/CN.9/286), the Secretary-General said that he would submit to the Commission at its next session more specific proposals and recommendations on the work of the Conference.

10. Turning to the draft World Population Plan of Action (E/CN.9/292), the Secretary-General noted that the sections under "Population in socio-economic perspective" would be completed following the study of the results and conclusions of the Honolulu, Stockholm and Amsterdam symposia.

11. He informed the Commission that, under the leadership of Mr. Philippe de Seynes, Under Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, several intersecretariat consultations involving the Population Division and other relevant units within the United Nations system, including the Office of the Secretary-General of the Conference, had been held and would be held to co-ordinate the ideas and efforts of all those concerned with the preparation for the Conference and other activities of the United Nations related to international co-operation in the broader areas of social and economic development.

12. The Secretary-General noted that document E/CN.9/292 was based on the proposition that there was undoubtedly a close reciprocal relationship between demographic variables and the whole context of the economic and social life of a given country as well as at the levels of the various regions of the world. He said that there was already a consensus that the specific issues outlined under section II.B - namely, population growth, morbidity and mortality; reproduction and family formation; population distribution and internal migration; international migration; and demographic structure (with special reference to sex and age) - should be examined in determining recommendations which the World Population Plan of Action should contain. However, the question of determining to what extent the plan could deal with the so-called "population responsive policies" still remained unclear. He pointed out that the guidelines recommended by the Advisory Committee of Experts on the World Population Plan of Action (E/CN.9/292/Add.1) contained suggestions on the former question and not on the latter. Some of those suggestions might be considered controversial, and were presented to obtain the reaction of the Commission.

1/ See United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14.

13. With reference to the submission of the final draft World Population Plan of Action to the Conference, the Secretary-General informed the Commission that, at his recommendation, the Secretary-General of the United Nations reserved his position on the draft until the results of the relevant preparatory work were known. That included the deliberations of the Advisory Committee of Experts and of the Commission, the suggestions of the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies and the results of the regional and bilateral consultations with Governments.

14. The Secretary-General noted with great satisfaction the presence of observers from the most populous country in the world, the People's Republic of China, at the present session of the Commission. He added that that country had participated in the decisions taken regarding the Conference of 1974 by the Economic and Social Council on the Commission's recommendations.

15. The Secretary-General expressed the hope that no effort would be spared in enlisting the widest possible participation of all countries in the preparation for the first global intergovernmental Conference on population ever convened by the United Nations. At the same time, he stressed the need to respect the position of those countries that might consider it to be in their interest not to play a very active part in this preparation.

16. In conclusion, the Secretary-General informed the Commission that the arrangements for the parallel activities in Bucharest would be a subject of separate agreements between the Romanian Government and the organizers of these activities after consultation with the United Nations. This arrangement, he said, was in keeping with the Commission's recommendation that the United Nations should not assume financial or political responsibility for activities parallel to the Conference.

C. Statement by the Director of the Population Division

17. The Director of the Population Division informed the Commission of the substantive preparations for the World Population Conference that had either been completed or were in progress. These substantive tasks were delegated to the Division by the Secretary-General of the World Population Conference and were undertaken under his general supervision and guidance.

18. Three of the four symposia had already been held: one on "Population and Development" in Cairo; one on "Population and the Family" in Honolulu; and one on "Population, Resources and Environment" in Stockholm. The reports of these symposia had already been drafted and would be distributed as conference room documents for the information of the members of the Commission. The report of the Cairo symposium was already in final form, while those of the other two would still require editorial changes. Among the major substantive preparations still remaining was, of course, the last symposium, on "Population and Human Rights", but preparations for it were well under way.

19. The Director also briefly mentioned the work being done on the preparation of the documentation for the Conference and the convening of the Review Committee which would be charged with reviewing the background and symposia papers and

recommending publication procedures. He promised to come back to all the above points when the appropriate items of the agenda were discussed.

20. Preparations were also under way for holding the regional meetings in 1974 preparatory to the World Population Conference, and it was hoped that the meetings would include not only the four developing regions but also Europe and North America.

21. The Director also recalled that the second meeting of the Advisory Committee of Experts on the World Population Plan of Action had been held and that its report (E/CN.9/292/Add.1) was before the Commission. Also before the Commission was a preliminary draft of the World Population Plan of Action itself (E/CN.9/292). Limiting himself to a few remarks on these documents, he indicated that, as noted by the Secretary-General of the World Population Conference, a broad definition of population policy had been adopted. This definition went beyond family planning into other socio-economic measures and programmes affecting reproduction and family formation and into measures and programmes affecting the other important population variables of morbidity and mortality, population distribution and structure, and international migration.

22. He furthermore noted that the draft World Population Plan of Action rested on a number of internationally accepted principles. Population policy, for example, could not be a substitute for development policy but only a component of it. The variety of national conditions established the need for variety in population policy designs and imperatives. The draft World Population Plan of Action should take into account national values as well as international values, should deal with the long-term as well as the short-term and should place emphasis and set priorities where they were needed.

23. Most importantly, the draft World Population Plan of Action should not be satisfied to enumerate or classify agreements already achieved by the international community but must help achieve new agreements. In the opinion of the Director, it should contain quantified goals and objectives so that at specified times an evaluation of achievements could take place. The style of the World Population Plan of Action should, nevertheless, be simple and understandable to policy-makers as well as the general public.

D. General preparations and co-ordination

24. The Commission considered the reports of the Secretary-General of the Conference on the general preparations for the Conference including consultations with Governments (E/CN.9/280 and Corro.1 and 2) and on the status of plans for the organization and management of the Conference (E/CN.9/287).

25. Introducing these reports to the Commission, the Acting Director of the Office of the Secretary-General of the World Population Conference referred to the Agreement between the United Nations and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania regarding the Arrangements for the World Population Conference, 1974, signed on 18 October 1973. The Agreement, he said, covered all financial and administrative aspects of the arrangements for the Conference, including the obligations which the Romanian Government assumed pursuant to the Conventions on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations and of the Specialized Agencies

and paragraph 10 of the General Assembly resolution 2609 (XXIV) relating to the defraying of additional costs to the United Nations of holding the Conference away from the established headquarters of the United Nations.

26. On the organization and management of the Conference, the Acting Director informed the Commission that document E/CN.9/287 contained an up-to-date account and outline of the status of plans for the Conference following the meeting which had taken place in late September in Bucharest with the Romanian authorities for the Conference and United Nations officials from Headquarters and the European Office (see paragraphs 49 and 52).

27. The Commission was also informed that, in addition to the Joint Working Group that was formed to co-ordinate intersecretariat activities related to both the Year and the Conference, an ad hoc Planning Group representing all United Nations headquarters departments and offices concerned was established by the Secretary-General of the Conference for the purpose of making detailed arrangements for the Conference.

28. The representative of Romania informed the Commission that the Government of Romania attached great importance to the Conference and the Year and that adequate and detailed preparations were being made for the two events by the Government, people in public life, scientists and the Romanian National Demographic Commission. She expressed appreciation to the Secretary-General of the Conference and the relevant United Nations bodies over the arrangements for the signing of the Agreement between the Government of Romania and the United Nations.

29. The Commission expressed its appreciation to the Government of Romania and the Secretary-General of the Conference, and its satisfaction with the preparatory arrangements and organization that had so far been made for the Conference.

E. Invitations

30. The Acting Director of the Office of the Secretary-General of the Conference informed the Commission that invitations to the Conference would now be dispatched to States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies and IAEA, and also to the administrative heads of the specialized agencies and IAEA.

31. Invitations to intergovernmental organizations would be addressed to those bodies in the economic and social field listed in the decision taken by the Economic and Social Council on item 12 (a) at its fiftieth session. 2/ Should the Commission wish to extend this list, given in paragraph 9 of E/CN.9/280, the Council's approval would need to be obtained.

32. Invitations to non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in accordance with Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) would be preceded by a communication to each of them inquiring whether it would wish to receive an invitation to be represented by observers at the Conference.

2/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 1, p. 25.

33. The Commission noted that invitations to the Conference would now be sent to States Members of the United Nations and States members of the specialized agencies and of the IAEA. The Commission also took note of the intention of the Secretary-General of the Conference to inquire from non-governmental organizations in categories I, II and the Roster, whether they would be interested in receiving invitations to send observers to the Conference. On the basis of the replies received, the Secretary-General would be in a position to recommend to the Council what non-governmental organizations should be invited to send observers to the Conference.

34. The Commission further took note of the arrangements under which certain intergovernmental organizations would be invited to send observers to the Conference on the basis of the decision taken by the Economic and Social Council at its fiftieth session and of the fact that the approval of the Council should be sought, in case the Commission wished to have other intergovernmental organizations invited to send observers to the World Population Conference. In the course of the discussion the following intergovernmental organizations were mentioned as being among those that might be considered as being eligible to receive invitations: Maghreb Permanent Consultative Committee, Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration, Organisation commune africaine, malgache et mauricienne, and the Central African Customs and Economic Union. The Commission decided to consider the expediency of sending invitations to such intergovernmental organizations at its third special session. Several delegations opposed an excessive extension of invitations to organizations only remotely connected with population.

35. The Secretary-General assured the Commission that in addition to invitations being addressed to the administrative heads of the specialized agencies, arrangements would be made for the participation of regional economic commissions, of United Nations programmes and offices in the economic and social field including UNICEF, UNDP, UNCTAD, UNIDO, UNFPA and UNEP.

F. Report of the Conference

36. In accordance with the provisions of Council resolution 1484 (XLVIII), the Commission was invited to consider and make recommendations on the conclusion reached by the Secretary-General of the Conference that the report of the World Population Conference should be submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its resumed fifty-seventh session in 1974 and forwarded to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session in the same year.

37. The Commission endorsed the proposal by the Secretary-General of the Conference and recommended that the report of the Conference should be included in the agenda of the resumed fifty-seventh session of the Economic and Social Council and should be forwarded to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session in 1974.

G. Consultations with Governments and regional meetings preparatory to the Conference

38. Consultations with Governments, the Acting Director of the World Population Conference said, had proceeded throughout the year. Visits to Governments had

been on a modest scale due partly to budgetary constraints, but, more particularly, because the work had necessarily still been in a preparatory phase. Consultations would be much more meaningful when the preparations of the basic documents approached a more formative stage. The pace of the consultations would be accelerated during the first quarter of 1974, as preparations for the Conference became more advanced.

39. The Commission was informed of the co-ordinated plan, as reported in paragraphs 30 to 36 of E/CN.9/281, for regional conferences of governmental representatives prior to the World Population Conference. It was intended that the governmental representatives at these meetings should preferably be persons who would be included on their delegation to the World Population Conference itself, and that the meetings would consider the five basic Conference documents, especially the draft World Population Plan of Action, as well as documentation prepared by the regional commissions on positions of Governments of the region on population. It was further proposed that the regional meetings should, if feasible, receive the brief country statements requested from Governments on their position on population matters (see paragraph 136).

40. The Commission welcomed the prospect of an early intensification of visits to Governments by the Secretary-General of the Conference and those designated to represent him. It attached great significance to such consultations as they could assist Governments in their preparations for the Conference as well as give them an opportunity to express their preliminary views on the basic Conference documents when they were not yet at their final stage. It was recognized that this process could be facilitated by holding meetings on a regional or subregional basis in consultation with the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions and the Director of UNESOB.

41. The representative of ECLA confirmed that the regional preparatory meeting would be held in San José, Costa Rica, from 15 to 22 April 1974. A suggestion was made to have also a special consultation in the Caribbean area.

42. The ECAFE preparatory conference was planned for 6-9 May 1974, probably in Bangkok; it would receive, in addition to the World Population Conference basic papers, the report of the Second Asian Population Conference, held in November 1972, and its Declaration of Population Strategy for Development.

43. The representative of ECA said that, in the African region, it had been decided to postpone the Second Conference of African Demographers, which would now meet from 6 to 17 May 1974. A provisional agenda for the meeting had been prepared, and it was proposed that the four days 13 to 16 May would be set aside for the discussion of issues related to the preparation of the World Population Conference, especially the draft World Population Plan of Action. It was planned to invite each country to send a special, additional representative for these four days. The representative of Tunisia foreshadowed a possible invitation from his Government to act as host to the regional meeting preparatory to the World Population Conference and to the Conference of African Demographers.

44. The UNESOB preparatory meeting was set for 21-24 May 1974 and, subject to official confirmation, would meet in Damascus. The meeting would follow up the recommendations of the first regional population conference to be held in Beirut from 18 February to 1 March 1974.

45. In respect of the industrialized countries, the Commission expressed strong hope that some arrangement could be made for consultations before the Conference. The Secretary-General of the Conference reported that he had been exploring the possibilities of effecting this in collaboration with ECE, and letters would shortly be sent to member countries of ECE to ascertain their interest in sending representatives to a meeting, perhaps in May 1974. Bilateral consultations could be held with developed countries which were not members of ECE.

46. The Secretary-General of the Conference shared the views of the Commission on the importance of holding regional preparatory meetings. He considered such meetings as valuable supplements to his consultations with individual Governments, but emphasized that regional consultations were not designed as a substitute for direct consultations with Governments. He said that he would, therefore, try to visit those countries that indicated to him their desire to consult with him on the Conference and their interest in doing so.

47. The Secretary-General agreed with the view of the Commission that the purpose of the regional preparatory meetings was not to reach firm conclusions or to endeavour to form regional blocks but to help to clarify attitudes and positions before the Conference, particularly in respect to the draft World Population Plan of Action as a set of options appropriate to the diverse circumstances of national Governments.

48. Several representatives referred to the desirability of making additional funds available to the Secretary-General of the Conference in order to allow more visits to Governments to take place.

ii. Organization and management of the Conference

49. The Acting Director of the Office of the Secretary-General of the Conference introduced the document relating to the status of plans for the organization and management of the conference (E/CN.9/287), which he said had been prepared in consultation with the Government of Romania at the conclusion of the meeting held in late September between the Romanian Permanent Secretariat of the National Organization Committee for the World Population Conference and the Secretary-General of the Conference. Management and technical arrangements had been agreed at that meeting, which would be followed by further meetings up to the time of the Conference.

50. The Conference Centre would be in the Sala Palatului Republicii where the plenary hall, two committee rooms sufficient to house committees of the whole, the offices of the Secretary-General and most of the Conference facilities would be located. A third committee room and other meeting rooms would be provided close by in the Atheneul Român. The press centre would be housed in the nearby Conservatorul Ciprian Porumbescu. The Faculty of Law of the University of Bucharest, a few minutes walk away from the Conference Centre would be the site of the Population Tribune. They would be linked by closed circuit television with the plenary hall.

51. Those facilities would be made progressively available. The conference rooms would be operational two working days before the Conference convened. They would be available 24 hours a day and for a period after the Conference as proved necessary. Registration of representatives would take place at the Conference Centre, for non-governmental organizations at the Faculty of Law and accreditation

press representatives would be given at the press centre, although it was expected that accreditation would be given by the United Nations in the months preceding the Conference at the United Nations in New York and Geneva.

52. The Government had indicated that all persons attending the Conference could enter Romania according to the Agreement between the Government and the United Nations. Participants in the Conference and parallel activities would, at the time of their departure, be able to reconvert without restriction, into the original currencies, the unexpended portions of the funds they had exchanged in Romania during the Conference.

53. Note was taken that the plenary hall and the three committee rooms large enough to house committees of the whole had facilities, seating and space sufficient to accommodate the large number of representatives and other participants expected to attend the Conference.

54. The Commission noted that hotel and hostel accommodation would be set aside for participants. To assist in planning, a questionnaire on rooms to be reserved would be distributed and was to be returned to the Ministry of Tourism. Transport would be provided between the airport, the main hotels and the Conference Centre.

55. The Commission expressed its satisfaction with the arrangements being made and expressed its appreciation to the Romanian Government for its efforts to make the Conference a success.

I. Rules of procedure

56. In presenting the preliminary draft rules of procedure for the Conference (E/CN.9/285), the Acting Director of the Office of the Secretary-General of the Conference recalled the action taken by the Commission at its second special session (E/5264, paras. 107-108), in which the Commission requested the Secretary-General to prepare preliminary draft rules of procedure to be circulated to Governments by 30 June 1973. Such a draft had been prepared in the five languages of the Conference and forwarded to Governments in June. In preparing the text, special care was taken to observe the guidelines laid down by the Commission at its second special session to take into account the rules of procedure of the Council, those of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm in 1972, and to ensure that adequate provision should be made to meet the specific needs of the World Population Conference, particularly with respect to the role of non-governmental organizations. In preparing the rules of procedure, an attempt had also been made to streamline some of the provisions of rules of previous conferences and to take into account the changing requirements and needs of global conferences of short duration.

57. The Commission recalled that, at its second special session, it had agreed that the final text of the rules of procedure would be before the Commission at its third special session in March 1974 (see E/5264, para. 108). At the same time it noted that in the preliminary annotations to the draft provisional agenda (E/CN.9/286, section II.3), it was stated that the draft provisional rules would be reviewed by the Commission and subsequently approved by the Economic and Social Council prior to being adopted by the Conference itself. The Commission thereupon decided that, rather than make a commentary on the draft provisional rules, it preferred to revise them and to submit them to the Council for its approval at its

fifty-sixth session, at the same time including in its report a statement of its understanding regarding the interpretation of some of the rules and a commentary on certain others. The draft provisional rules of procedure as recommended by the Commission would be forwarded to the Council as a separate document along with the report of the present session of the Commission.

58. The representative of the United States submitted a draft amendment (Conference Room Paper No. 7) to the preliminary draft which would have replaced rule 14 by the following:

"The Conference may approve resolutions or recommendations on any of the items on the agenda. The Conference shall seek to reach agreement on a World Population Plan of Action which contains general and specific recommendations to Governments and to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly."

A proposal to modify this amendment was made by the representative of Brazil.

59. The representative of Romania also proposed an addition to rule 31, which would add a new paragraph 4, to read as follows: "The President may recommend that certain important decisions be adopted by the Conference by consensus rather than by vote."

60. At its 293rd meeting, the Commission decided to set up a working group to review the preliminary draft under the chairmanship of the Second Vice-Chairman. The Group agreed to recommend changes to a number of rules and to record its understanding and its comment on others.

61. The following are the changes, based on the report of the Working Group, which were adopted by the Commission; the changes introduced are indicated by the words underlined.

"Composition of delegations

"Rule 1

"The delegation of each State participating in the Conference shall consist of the head of delegation and no more than five accredited representatives and such alternate representatives and advisers as may be required."

"Submission of credentials

"Rule 3

"The credentials of representatives and the names of alternate representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the Secretary-General of the Conference before the day fixed for the opening of the Conference. Credentials shall be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs."

"Credentials Committee

"Rule 4

"A Credentials Committee shall be appointed at the beginning of the Conference. Its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth regular session. It shall examine the credentials of representatives and report to the Conference without delay."

"Election

"Rule 6

"The Conference shall elect the following officers: the President of the Conference, no more than thirty Vice-Presidents, the Rapporteur-General of the Conference and the Chairmen of the Committees and other sessional bodies established in accordance with rule 42. Each committee and other sessional body shall elect its own Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur."

"Rule 10

"The Secretary-General of the United Nations, or his representative shall act in that capacity in all meetings of the Conference, its committees and other sessional bodies."

"Rule 11

"The Secretary-General of the United Nations or his representative, may make statements concerning any question under consideration."

"Rule 12

"The Secretary-General shall direct the staff required by the Conference."

"Quorum

"Rule 15

"A quorum shall be constituted when a majority of the delegations of the States participating in the Conference is present."

"Proposals and amendments

"Rule 26

"Proposals and amendments shall normally be submitted in writing and presented to the Secretary-General of the Conference, who shall circulate copies to the delegations. As a general rule, no proposal shall be discussed or put to the vote at any meeting of the Conference unless copies of it have been circulated in all languages of the Conference not later than the day preceding the meeting. The President may, however, permit the discussion and consideration of proposals or amendments even though these proposals or amendments have not been circulated in all languages of the Conference or have only been circulated the same day."

"Meetings of working groups"

"Rule 52

"Meetings of working groups will ordinarily be held in private, unless the body concerned decides otherwise."

"Communiqués to the press"

"Rule 53

"At the close of any private meeting, the Conference, committee or other sessional body concerned may decide to issue a communiqué to the Press through the Secretary-General of the Conference."

62. It was explained to the Commission that rule 14 had been incorporated at the request of the financial and administrative authorities of the United Nations as a standard paragraph reflecting the recently adopted practice of programme budgeting as had been agreed upon by the General Assembly and noted by the Economic and Social Council. The Commission found that the draft rule was not appropriate, as it dealt with substance and not procedure, for inclusion in the rules of procedure of the Conference and it recommended its deletion, requiring the renumbering of the subsequent rules. Thereupon the representative of the United States withdrew his amendment quoted in paragraph 58, and the representative of Brazil withdrew his modification of the amendment. However, the Commission agreed to record its understanding that whatever decisions, recommendations and other actions the Conference would take should be transmitted to the Economic and Social Council for its comments and, through it, to the General Assembly for consideration.

63. Intensive discussion took place on the concept of "Secretary-General" in the rules of procedure. It was found that in certain passages the phrase "Secretary-General" applied to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and in others, more specifically to the Secretary-General of the Conference. One representative indicated that he did not agree with that interpretation. It was explained that the phrase which had been used throughout the preliminary draft, "Secretary-General" meant the Secretary-General in a corporate sense, which included the Secretary-General of the Conference and those authorized by him to act on his behalf, as well as the administrative heads of the United Nations departments, programmes and offices and their representatives. The Commission, while agreeing that this concept should be preserved in the preliminary draft, nevertheless agreed that the phrase the "Secretary-General of the Conference" should be introduced in rules 3, 26 and 53 as indicated above.

64. The Commission noted that rule 54 made specific provision for the participation in the Conference of representatives of United Nations specialized agencies and of IAEA, but did not mention United Nations programmes and offices in the economic and social field. A proposal was made to amend rule 54 to include the latter categories, and particularly UNFPA. The legal adviser informed the Commission, however, that United Nations programmes and offices such as UNDP, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNFPA and UNEP were part of the United Nations and arrangements for their participation would be made automatically, and it was, therefore, not necessary to mention them in rule 54. Consequently, the Commission recommended that the title of the subheading of chapter X and of rule 54 should not be modified but that the report should reflect that understanding.

65. Discussion also centred on the amendment to rule 31 quoted above proposed by the representative of Romania and seconded by the representative of Brazil. The Commission expressed the feeling that it would be desirable if certain important decisions were adopted by the Conference by consensus rather than by vote and hoped that its wish in this respect would be made known to the Economic and Social Council. The Commission also learned from the representative of the Secretary-General that no plenipotentiary conference under United Nations auspices had so far included the concept of consensus as a formal rule. While a decision could be taken at the beginning of the Conference that every effort should be made to reach decisions by way of consensus, the Commission thought it was not necessary for such a provision to be included in the rules of procedure. The Romanian amendment to rule 31 was not adopted (12 votes against, 9 in favour, 3 abstentions). Several delegations indicated their understanding that the word "consensus" meant general agreement without a vote, but did not necessarily mean unanimity. It was added that this was the usual understanding of the term in United Nations circles. The legal adviser, however, informed the Commission that there was no legal definition of the word in use in the United Nations.

66. One representative drew attention to the provisions of rules 31 and 32 which he considered should be changed so that, in the event of the number of abstentions in a vote being of the same number or greater than the votes in favour, the motion should not be carried but should be returned for reformulation. Such a provision was not without precedent and would provide for more meaningful voting arrangements. He mentioned rule 723 of the General Regulations annexed to the International Telecommunication Convention, which states that, in the event of abstentions of more than 50 per cent, consideration of the matter under discussion should be postponed until a later meeting. The legal adviser referred to the provisions of the United Nations Charter, inter alia Article 18 concerning the majority of members present and voting and to subsequent rules of procedure of principal organs of the United Nations and to the consistent practice followed by those organs since the second session of the General Assembly, as summarized in the Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs. The practice was that members abstaining from voting were considered as not voting and, consequently, the required majority was established on the number of votes for and against. He stressed that amendments submitted in the past with a view to taking into account the number of abstentions to determine the majority had neither been adopted nor submitted again. Another representative noted that rule 56, which provided for observers for non-governmental organizations, compared unfavourably with the corresponding rule 59 of the rules of procedure of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment. It was agreed after an explanation by the Acting Director of the Office of the Secretary-General of the Conference that the provision in the preliminary draft had been designed to provide a wider participation of non-governmental organizations and to reflect the wishes of the Population Commission as expressed at its second special session.

67. The Commission agreed that, with the changes it approved, a revised preliminary draft of the rules of procedure of the Conference should be presented to the Economic and Social Council for its approval, together with the commentary thereon in the Commission, and should further be presented to the Commission for careful consideration at its third special session.

J. Administrative and financial implications of the Conference

68. The Commission had before it the report of the Secretary-General of the Conference containing a recent account of the administrative and financial implications of the Conference (E/CN.9/272). In introducing the document, the Acting Director, Office of the Secretary-General of the World Population Conference pointed out however, that the document did not contain a reference to the Mexican trust fund, which was being administered as a special account by the United Nations. Reference to supplementary assistance from outside agencies and bodies had also been omitted.

69. At its second special session, the Commission had requested an additional expenditure of \$72,500 to cover the translation, reproduction and distribution of the documents which had to be made available to Governments before the Conference (see E/5264, para. 61). This amount was not included in the present document as the item was currently before the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly as part of the revised budget estimates for 1974. It would not have been appropriate to have included this amount, before its approval in the present document.

70. The Commission urged that maximum flexibility should be granted to the Secretary-General of the Conference in regard to administrative and financial matters relating to all aspects of the preparations for the Conference. The Secretary-General needed greater freedom in deciding how to allocate the funds assigned to the Conference by the United Nations and by UNFPA. He needed to be able to determine the number of staff travelling, and the frequency of such travel. He should have flexibility in meeting staffing requirements and in the use of consultant funds. Moreover, the United Nations services concerned should be prepared to give priority when needed for the translation and reproduction of documents for the Conference and its preparatory meetings. The World Population Conference would involve almost global participation and was one of the most significant ever to be held by the United Nations. While recognizing that, particularly, during a period of financial stringency, financial regulations had to be carefully administered, the Commission expressed its concern with the difficulties being encountered in a situation characterized by a very heavy workload, a small staff and a remarkably demanding time-table.

71. A question was raised on what provision had been made in the budget to meet inflation and currency fluctuation. The Commission was informed that project budgets approved by UNFPA provide for contingencies of up to 5 per cent for cost increases in project components. The United Nations budget was subject to general adjustment to respond to situations of this kind. Consequently, there was no need to build into individual budgets specific provisions for currency fluctuation and inflation.

72. Several representatives inquired whether the amount of \$319,000 (see E/CN.9/272, para. 2), represented savings which could be used to meet the additional activities prior to the Conference and during the Conference itself. These included the increased travel of the Secretary-General of the Conference and his senior staff the possible extension of the Conference itself by two days and the possibility for assisting financially parallel activities, specifically the Population Tribune and the International Youth Population Conference.

73. The Deputy Chief of the Budget Division (United Nations Office, Geneva), stated that his understanding was that the amount of \$319,000 did not represent savings :

the budget which could be so applied, but was merely the difference between the preliminary rough estimate for the Conference (see E/5221, table 4), the revised estimate (see E/CN.9/272) and the amount pledged by UNFPA.

74. The Commission took note of the statement by the Deputy Executive Director of UNFPA that the total contribution of the Fund towards the costs of the Conference amounted to \$1,793,975. This should be regarded as a ceiling, under which the Secretary-General of the Conference, in consultation with the authorities concerned, enjoyed discretion to make adjustments between subitems.

75. Following queries made to the Secretariat regarding the administrative and financial implications, the Commission called for a clear and more elaborate statement covering the entire financial picture of the Conference, together with, if feasible, a breakdown of how budget costing was arrived at, to be presented to the Commission at its third special session.

K. Activities parallel to the Conference

76. The Commission considered the report of the Secretary-General of the Conference on activities parallel to the Conference (E/CN.9/287/Add.1).

77. Introducing the report to the Commission, the Acting Director, Office of the Secretary-General of the Conference, said that the position taken by the Secretary-General of the Conference on parallel activities was that those activities that were welcomed by the Government of Romania would be welcomed by him. In the Agreement between the Government of Romania and the United Nations, recognition had been given to parallel activities on the occasion of the Conference. A degree of shelter was provided in the Agreement for parallel activities.

78. In accordance with the decision taken by the Commission at the second special session, the United Nations would not bear any management or financial responsibility for parallel activities, apart from the \$12,600, which had been approved for the Population Tribune (see E/5264, para. 117).

79. With regard to participation of youth on the occasion of the Conference, the Acting Director stated that three courses had been outlined: first, that the views of young people should be made known through the non-governmental organizations; second, that young people should participate in the Population Tribune; and, third, that a separate youth meeting be held prior to the Conference. The Organizing Committee of the International Youth Population Conference, which held its meeting in Geneva on 1 November, decided to follow all three courses.

80. The Acting Director further outlined plans for certain activities associated with the Conference; e.g., International Children's Drawing and Poster Contest to be organized by UNICEF; WHO's suggested exhibition of a rural health clinic; a multimedia exhibit to be erected in the park within the Conference site to be financed by a voluntary contribution; and for a group of selected cultural events which would place emphasis on the cultural diversity of the world community and offer an opportunity, particularly to groups in the performing arts from developing countries, to appear in the international setting of the Conference. The Commission was also informed about the plans for a pre-Conference seminar for selected journalists from developing countries who would be accredited to the Conference.

81. The representative of Romania told the Commission that, in view of the interest of non-governmental organizations in population matters, the Government of Romania welcomed the organization of certain parallel activities both before and during the Conference. Those activities, she said, were defined in the Agreement with the United Nations as activities undertaken separately on the occasion of the Conference and recognized as such by the Romanian Government and the United Nations. The Agreement also specified that the details of arrangements for parallel activities would be worked out between the representatives of the Romanian authorities and the organizing bodies after consultation with the United Nations.

1. The Population Tribune

82. The President of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations gave the Commission an up-to-date account of the arrangements made for holding the Population Tribune in Bucharest. She stated that, following the recent meeting of the Planning and Management Committee with the Government of Romania, it was decided that the Population Tribune would be held in the Faculty of Law of the University of Bucharest. She added that the Government of Romania would provide the necessary facilities for the Tribune, including simultaneous interpretation equipment.

83. Efforts were being made to ensure the widest possible participation in the Tribune. Consequently, invitations to the Tribune would be sent to non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, participants in the pre-Conference youth meeting, persons from national scientific and academic institutions and local groups concerned with human problems. It was emphasized that geographic and intellectual diversity among the Tribune participants was a prime concern of the Planning and Management Committee of the Tribune.

84. On the topics for the Tribune the Commission was informed that the subjects tentatively selected included: population and social justice; cultural, religious and moral concepts affecting population; the impact of population on international relations; population and the environment; legal and institutional frameworks affecting population policies; the role of non-governmental organizations in population matters and, the discussion of certain specific national policies; e.g., the policies of the countries approaching zero-population growth. Further certain issues related to the broad subjects outlined above would also be discussed e.g., the status of women, the future world for today's children, migration and urbanization. The Population Tribune would also consider the various parts of the World Population Plan of Action with each relevant topic. The Population Tribune was intended to be a forum for the discussion of new ideas and theories and of exchange of experience and understanding of the various population problems.

85. The Executive Secretary of IUSSP informed the Commission that his organization was planning to organize a distinguished lectures series on population and as its contribution to the Population Tribune; the lectures would be followed by discussion. The subjects tentatively proposed were: population and environments; population growth: the role of the developed world; population growth: the role of the developing world; changes in individual reproductive behaviour and cultural values; and a demographer's view on the World Population Plan of Action. It was expected that the lectures would be published in one volume after the Conference.

86. The Commission noted with appreciation the preparations being made for the Population Tribune and the co-operation that the organizers received from the Romanian Government. The Commission also noted with interest the efforts being made by the Planning and Management Committee to ensure the widest possible participation in the Tribune, taking into account an equitable geographical and intellectual representation.

87. With regard to the link between the Population Tribune and the Conference, the Commission stressed that the Tribune should not be held in relative isolation from the Conference. Most members urged that provision be made for a channel of communication between the Tribune and the Conference so that the deliberations of the former could be considered by the latter in drawing up its final conclusions and recommendations. Similarly, the Tribune would be able to benefit from the deliberations in the Conference. On this point, the Secretary-General of the Conference suggested that one such channel of communication could be provided in the rules of procedure for the Conference. Some other members stressed, however, that the Commission at its second special session had agreed "that the United Nations should not bear responsibility for the planning and organization of the forum, although it was expected that the Secretary-General would assist the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations by providing it with information and access to the documents as they were prepared" (E/5264, para. 116).

88. Several members of the Commission stated that additional funds should be made available for organizing the Population Tribune beyond the \$12,600 already provided in the Conference budget. One representative suggested that such additional funds could perhaps be drawn from the apparent savings referred to in paragraph 2 of document E/CN.9/272. Responding to this suggestion, the Secretary-General of the Conference reminded the Commission of its decision taken at the second special session that the United Nations should not bear any responsibility for the planning and organization of the Tribune and that the budget of the Conference would not be able to provide financial assistance, apart from the \$12,600 which was to be made available to the Tribune. However, he would give the organizers the strongest possible moral backing. Several members thereupon expressed the hope that Governments would consider the Population Tribune such an important event that they would respond favourably to requests for financial assistance.

89. On the subjects of discussion at the Tribune, the view was expressed that more emphasis should be placed on the discussion of the socio-economic factors influencing demographic processes. The same members were of the view that the suggested topics for the lecture series were too narrow in scope and should include a discussion of population questions in a much wider economic, social and cultural setting. The Commission recommended that the contributing organizations concerned should be invited to reconsider the topics listed in paragraphs 84 and 85, and expressed the wish to review them again at its next special session.

2. International Youth Population Conference

90. The Commission was informed that the international youth non-governmental organizations had adopted a proposal to organize a youth meeting prior to the World Population Conference, to be known as the International Youth Population Conference.

Following a meeting with the Romanian Government which agreed to act as host to the Conference and contact with the Union of Communist Youth of Romania, which became a member of the Organizing Committee, the International Youth Population Conference would take place between 11 and 15 August 1974 at the Faculty of Law of the University of Bucharest. Student hostels near the Conference site would be available to accommodate participants. It was expected that an agreement would be signed to formalize arrangements between the organizing committee and the Union of Communist Youth.

91. The Commission heard a statement by the Convener of the Organizing Committee of the International Youth Population Conference, who outlined the various activities of international youth non-governmental organizations since 1969. He stated that the concern of young people and the individual international youth non-governmental organizations with population issues had grown markedly in recent years in both developed and developing countries, and that many programmes were currently being organized aimed at stimulating awareness and action among young people.

92. The Convener said that the International Youth Population Conference was aimed at ensuring that young people and youth groups concerned with and actively involved in the field of population were given an opportunity to make their views known in connexion with the agenda items of the World Population Conference, and the proposed World Population Plan of Action. The International Youth Population Conference also aimed at ensuring continuing involvement in the follow-up to World Population Year, the World Population Conference and the proposed World Population Plan of Action.

93. Participation in the pre-Conference youth meeting, the Convener said, would be open to representatives from international youth and youth-serving organizations and national and regional youth organizations active in population work, young field workers involved in population programmes and young members of Government delegations to the World Population Conference. The Youth Conference was expected to produce a final statement that could be presented to the World Population Conference along with other appropriate reports arising from the Conference.

94. One pressing task of the Organizing Committee at present was to raise adequate funds to cover both the travel costs of participants and the preparatory costs of the youth meeting. The international youth non-governmental organizations strongly recommended the inclusion of youth representation in Government delegations to the World Population Conference itself.

95. In a statement to the Commission, the representative of UNESCO said that his agency intended to give all possible assistance to the Organizing Committee of the International Youth Population Conference. He referred in particular to a study of youth attitudes to population problems currently being undertaken by UNESCO, with the financial co-operation of the UNFPA, in six selected countries. He added that the outcome of the study would be reviewed by a small group of young people representing all regions and views prior to its submission to the International Youth Population Conference.

96. The Commission noted with appreciation the preparatory activities of the international youth non-governmental organizations for the International Youth Population Conference which it regarded as complementary to the World Population Conference itself. The hope was expressed by some members of the Commission that Governments would indeed include young people in their delegations to the Conference.

Participants in the youth meeting would be supplied with Conference documents and with other suitable materials to facilitate their work and to enable them to reach conclusions pertinent to the Conference agenda.

97. Some members expressed the wish that participation would not be limited to youth organizations active in the population field and that the final statement would be concerned with broad aspects of social life. One member stated that in order to be widely representative, the pre-Conference youth meeting should not only draw on different geographical regions, but should also reflect the main trends of opinion on population matters. Another member indicated that his country's delegation to the Conference could express the views of its youth quite adequately. The organizers were further urged by some members not to deal too much with the immediate problems facing youth but to concentrate instead on the far more interesting long-term problems.

98. In respect of the Population Tribune, many members of the Commission underscored the need for a channel of communication between the International Youth Population Conference and the World Population Conference. In this regard they requested the Secretary-General of the Conference to consider a way of establishing such a link.

99. The Commission noted with concern the Organizing Committee's immediate problem of raising the \$225,000 required for convening and conducting the International Youth Population Conference. It recommended that all possible assistance and co-operation be extended to the Organizing Committee in this regard. It noted with appreciation the apparent willingness of several Governments and private donors to make contributions to the International Youth Population Conference.

100. Summing up the discussion, the Secretary-General of the Conference said that the youth meeting and the Population Tribune would have full access to the documents of the Conference and would receive all the documentation distributed to Governments. He added that he felt that he would be interpreting the wishes of the Commission correctly if he continued to assist in the development of the parallel activities subject to the constraints referred to above. He also considered that the provisions of the Agreement referred to above by the representative of Romania reflected the wishes of the Commission on the relationship of the Conference Secretariat with the Government and the organizing bodies of the parallel activities.

101. The representative of Romania expressed, on behalf of his Government, his gratification with the arrangements that had been made and their reception in the Commission. He announced that the Population Tribune and the International Youth Population Conference would be recognized by his Government as parallel activities.

L. Substantive preparations for the Conference

1. The symposia

102. The Director of the Population Division reviewed the three symposia which had already been conducted, namely, the Symposium on Population and Development, Cairo, 4-14 June 1973; the Symposium on Population and the Family, Honolulu, 6-15 August 1973; and the Symposium on Population, Resources and Environment, Stockholm, 26 September-5 October 1973. In his view there were three recognized schools of thought represented in the symposia on the general question of the interrelationship between population and the other factors investigated. The first considered population growth as a cause of the structural rigidities of the less developed economies, and reduction of population growth as a first priority for improvement of living standards. Some supporters of this view stressed above all the limits to progress imposed by a finite planet threatened by resource exhaustion. The second school, putting its faith in technological innovation, empty spaces, reserves of resources and substitutability among them, considered that the way to development was by economic rather than demographic paths of action. In the third case, the demographic approach was viewed as one of many leading to the attainment of an economic and social threshold as a stage essential to the reduction of population growth.

103. While there was a clear orientation in the three symposia as a whole towards the third position - more than is reflected in the existing literature on the subject - each symposium had its special character. For example, in Cairo, sustained economic growth was viewed as essential both in the developing and developed countries to create the surplus required to provide the components of higher material living standards, and family patterns were seen as resistant to change unless preceded by changes in economic and social conditions. In Honolulu, it was felt that the achievement of economic and social development must be thought of in terms of decades, while the new contraceptive techniques accompanied by mass communication methods offered the prospect of a modification in fertility in a shorter time-span. In Stockholm, the development concept was not seen as a purely economic one: while a slow-down of population growth was urgently required, radical social changes were also needed to preserve the ecological balance and prevent the exhaustion of non-renewable resources, the greatest threats to which lay in the relatively high consumption standards of the industrialized countries. It was also part of this view that developing countries should restrict their rate of population growth.

104. Whatever the variety of opinions there was a growing consensus that there were limits to the growth of population both in the short and long term, in the latter case because our planet is finite and in the former because of the economic, social, political or international conditions which prevented certain countries from fully utilizing their resources. The interdependence between the developed and the developing countries was another point, and consequently the problem must be viewed at the international level.

105. It was considered that the developing countries should as a matter of urgency pursue industrial growth, modernization of agriculture and a policy on population and environmental preservation within the framework of a development philosophy which took into account the wide diversity of situations and the interdependence amongst factors. At the same time, there was the issue of the use of surpluses generated in the industrialized countries in which increased consumption was no

longer seen as the primary economic objective. The need to control industrial growth in the interests of the environment did not, however, result in a total rejection of the idea of economic progress, but rather in a modification of its direction and purpose.

106. In the Cairo symposium, where population and development were taken in their broadest sense, critical areas of discussion included food, health, education, employment and inequality between groups. The observed relations between economic status and demographic behaviour directed special attention to the fact that the needs of the less privileged were the needs of the majority and, moreover, that they required consideration on both economic and social levels. The major conclusions in Cairo stressed (a) the complexity of the reciprocal relations between demographic and socio-economic variables, (b) the consequent need to integrate demographic planning into socio-economic planning and (c) while population growth was not always an obstacle to development, in many countries of the third world slower population growth was desirable in order to facilitate the solution of some fundamental social and economic problems.

107. In Honolulu, the approach adopted was that the family, as the basic biological unit, remained, as in the past, the primary agent for the socialization, and especially for the education, of children. The family had retained its central role in modern societies as in traditional ones, though with marked variations according to type and level of development. A main question at issue was whether or not the family was a force for social change. It was considered that, because of the reciprocal relation between the structure of the family and that of the society, action on the one would necessarily affect the other. There was further the question of interrelations between kinship patterns and the successive stages of the demographic revolution.

108. While much was still to be learned of the factors determining the level of fertility and of the interrelations between these factors, it was nevertheless clear that participants from developing and developed countries agreed on the principle of birth control. In examining policies which were at the same time family and population-oriented, the symposium noted the need for effective information systems by which families could be made aware of the interrelations of their interests with those of society. The ultimate aim of family policy should be to help families achieve their aspirations and to protect the family, especially women, children and the aged.

109. The Stockholm symposium, as an extension of the United Nations Conference on the Environment, was concerned with the reciprocity of the relations between population, resources and the environment. Many of the issues were highly controversial: for example, the environmental problems of the developing country were seen by one school of thought as primarily the result of the level of development and the poverty consequent upon this. Others affirmed that environmental problems assumed an added dimension over the longer term when the demographic factor was considered. Environmental problems for the third world, where populations were expected to double by the end of the century, with continuing geographical maldistribution and living standards far below those of the industrialized countries of today, would tomorrow be on an altogether different scale from those confronting it at present. Action programmes were of vital importance to counterbalance that threat.

110. Another position taken at the Stockholm symposium was that it would be wrong to concentrate on the technical remedies for the demographic problem or the problem of environmental planning. The causes of pollution could indeed be isolated and solved technically. Similarly, there had been over the last decade a genuine technological revolution in the matter of fertility control. The real problem was that of the organization of societies. A reduction in the rate of growth of consumption in the industrialized countries might be as effective as a reduction in the population growth of the developing countries.

111. Latent in many of the discussions was a concept of development as a transformation of social structures which would permit surpluses to be devoted to ends specified by the international community, notably for the benefit of the developing countries.

112. Having heard the review of the three symposia as reflected above the Commission was informed of the status of preparations for the fourth and final symposium, namely the Symposium on Population and Human Rights, which was to be held in Amsterdam, 21-29 January 1974. The Division of Human Rights was actively collaborating in the preparation of the meeting. The preliminary agenda presented to the Commission at its second special session in E/CN.9/275 had been considerably developed. Twenty-nine participants had accepted invitations which had been issued with geographic representation and diversity of disciplines in mind. Documentation, some of it already completed, included specially commissioned expert papers, contributions from United Nations agencies and the regional commissions, and background papers prepared for the World Population Conference. The report, which would be available in draft for the information of the Commission at its third special session in March 1974, would be of special relevance to revision of the draft of the World Population Plan of Action.

113. The Commission noted with satisfaction the way in which the Secretary-General of the Conference had carried out his over-all responsibility for the preparations. Further, the Commission recorded its appreciation of the achievement of the Population Division in organizing the symposia, under stringent restraints of time, on an intellectual level which augured well for the quality of the Conference documentation.

114. In the general discussion on the findings of the three symposia which had already been held, it was noted that a major contribution of the meetings to the documentation for the Conference had been the recognition of the importance of population and of the interrelations of all aspects of development, in the past and the present, in traditional economies and in industrialized countries, and in national and international contexts. The consideration of policies and programmes directly affecting population, such as family planning programmes, might have been more explicitly examined in the symposium on the family. Further observations on the symposia would be made when the members of the Commission had had more time for the study of the reports. Consequently at the next session further comments could be made.

115. Food and nutrition were emphasized as meriting the greatest possible attention because a large part of the world continued to live in unbearable conditions of deprivation, and the Conference was concerned with these as fundamental requirements not only for development as such but for the quality of life.

116. The Commission affirmed the desirability of greater efforts on the part of the developed countries to honour the undertaking in the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade to give financial support to the developing world: differences in income between countries at different levels of development were crucial elements of the international problem. The gaps in knowledge of demographic processes and their interrelations with other factors posed the problem of decision-making under uncertainty, and this implied international and national obligations to intensify research in the relevant fields.

117. The Secretary-General of the Conference reminded the Commission of the difficulties that were to be faced in the succeeding stages in preparing Governments, on the basis of the scientific findings and their implications for policy formulation and action programmes, to reach political decisions in the Conference at regional and world levels. There remained also the question of human rights, to be discussed in the Amsterdam Symposium in January 1974, and its fundamental importance to the Conference.

118. As the Commission had received the reports of the first three symposia in English only (for information, as requested in E/5264, para. 29), it requested that they be translated into the languages of the Conference at the earliest possible moment and that the language versions be made available to the third special session of the Commission in March 1974.

2. The status of documentation for the Conference

119. The Commission had before it a report on the substantive preparations for the Conference (E/CN.9/281), paragraphs 42 to 50 of which gave a summary of the status of the documentation.

120. A list of 38 background papers, available to the Commission in Conference Room Paper No. 4, indicated the contributions which were being made by the regional commissions, the agencies of the United Nations system, CICRED and IUSSP. Five papers had been added since the last session of the Commission; they were entitled "Protein deficiency and child health" (to be retitled "Protein/calorie malnutrition and child health"); "Biological aspects of migration"; "Genetic aspects of demographic evolution"; "Population policy of China"; and "Demographic research in relation to international migration". It was also proposed, if data could be obtained, to extend one of the background papers to deal with the statistical and health aspects of illegal abortion because of the importance of this problem both as a health factor and a demographic factor. Of the five additional papers, two were already available and the others under preparation.

121. The background paper on activities and programmes of the United Nations system in the population field (E/CONF.60/BP/23), which had been proposed by the Secretary-General of the Conference and endorsed by the second special session of the Population Commission (see E/5264, paragraph 51), was under preparation. Because of the particular interest of this paper to Governments in their preparation for the Conference, it was considered desirable that the paper should be included among those circulated to Governments before the Conference (see paragraph 130).

122. The reports of the three symposia available to the Commission in Conference Room Papers Nos. 1, 2 and 3 contained lists of the papers prepared for these

meetings. These and the papers to be presented to the Symposium on Population and Human Rights would, like the background papers, be used as inputs to the basic Conference documents, including the draft World Population Plan of Action.

123. Of the 38 background papers, 26 had been submitted, some of which were subject to revision in co-operation with the authors; nine would be ready by the end of the year; three would not be available until spring 1974 because they depended upon inputs which could not be ready until the end of the year or very early next year.

124. The following additional papers would cover areas not adequately covered in other papers: "World comprehensive demographic projections, incorporating projections by the United Nations, ILO, FAO and UNESCO"; the paper under preparation by UNESCO entitled "Educational development: World and regional statistical trends and projections till 1985"; the paper on "Population and the family" prepared for the Symposium on Population and the Family; a paper on climate and its effects on population and health; and a paper on law and population (which would not be limited to legislation affecting family planning). The Population Division was in consultation with UNEP on the fourth of these, and with UNFPA on the fifth paper.

125. The Commission requested that the authors of background papers be asked to prepare a summary of one to two pages of their papers and that the Secretariat should have these summaries translated into the languages of the Conference; these should be dispatched to Governments to help them in deciding which papers they wished to consider in detail in the light of their own needs and their interest in particular items of the Conference agenda.

126. The Commission discussed the current status of and future proposals for developing the draft World Population Plan of Action (see paragraphs 163 to 177). In respect of the other four basic documents, it was noted that consultants were already working on the texts; that they should be completed by 31 December 1973 in order to be submitted by early January 1974 for translation and distribution to the representatives attending the third special session of the Commission, which would meet from 4 to 15 March 1974; however, the paper on population resources and environment might be slightly delayed because of the later timing of the symposium on that subject. The Commission was assured that the texts would conform to its wishes regarding length (each of the first four would be approximately 100 pages in length); all would be non-technical in presentation and would be policy and action oriented; moreover, the Commission's emphasis on youth would be taken into account. The premises for policy proposals were to be indicated to facilitate exchange of views and decisions by Governments in the Conference.

3. Review Committee for background and symposia papers of the Conference

127. The attention of the Population Commission was drawn to the arrangements for convening a committee to review the background and symposia papers. This committee was the result of a merger of the review group and the reading group agreed to by the Commission at its second special session (see E/5264, paragraphs 53 and 57). Eight experts from various regions and various areas of competence would meet on 12 November 1973 in Geneva, and once again early in 1974; the Director of the Population Division and a member of his staff would assist the Committee (see E/CN.9/281, paragraphs 26 to 28).

128. The functions of the Review Committee were to establish criteria for recommending the selection of papers - which would not be an easy task because of the exceptional quality of most of them - and on this basis: (a) to recommend the selection of about 20 background papers for translation into the languages of the Conference and for distribution to Governments not later than 90 days before the Conference; (b) to make recommendations regarding the suitability for publication of documents prepared (i) for the four symposia, and (ii) as background papers for the Conference.

129. It was noted that the agencies placed considerable importance on the value of wide circulation of their background papers because they crystallized the problems of the agencies in implementing their mandates in the field of population and hoped that Governments would become aware of the relative importance of their programmes and activities.

4. Reproduction and distribution of documents

130. The Secretary-General of the Conference planned to reproduce and distribute the following documents in the languages of the Conference not later than 90 days before the Conference is convened: (a) the five basic Conference documents; (b) a selection of the background papers, including the paper on the activities and programmes of the United Nations system in the population field; (c) the four symposia reports; (d) a list of all background and symposia papers not selected for distribution to Governments and/or for publication, and (e) a one- to two-page summary of each background paper.

131. Brief reports or summary reports not exceeding five pages in length of those regional consultations held with Governments by the Secretary-General of the Conference which adopted such reports or summaries would also be distributed but not necessarily in all Conference languages. Reports of regional population Conferences would be available in the languages of the commission concerned.

5. The second inquiry among Governments on population and development

132. The second inquiry among Governments on population growth and development was a first priority project requested of the Secretariat by the Population Commission at its sixteenth session for completion in 1972-73.

133. As only 66 replies to the inquiry had been received from Governments by the end of August 1973, and as a number of the most populous countries were amongst those who had not replied, the Commission received an interim rather than a full report on the inquiry (E/CN.9/282). The Commission was informed that a further 11 replies had been received subsequent to the preparation of the interim report, including one very populous country. The representative of another country with a large territorial area declared that it would, given the complexity of the problems involved in determining a government demographic policy, probably not be possible to send a complete answer in time. Moreover, its demographic data as well as all information of an economic character were available and known to the United Nations. It was the intention of the Secretariat to revise the report for the third special session of the Commission in March 1974 by which time, it was hoped, the coverage of

countries would be considerably wider. The regional commissions had assisted and would continue to assist by analysing replies from countries of their regions.

134. The nature of the replies had varied widely; some had, in fact, been acknowledgements only; two countries, not included amongst the 77 referred to above had stated they were not in a position to reply; some replies consisted of published data without any accompanying statement; while in the remaining cases there was considerable variation in the scope and length of the replies. This had created some difficulties in analysing the replies on a uniform basis.

135. The Commission noted that the report would benefit from revision not only to ensure wider coverage but to put into perspective some excerpts from replies which, isolated from their context, gave a misleading impression as they stood; data from other sources might be needed to round out the analysis. It was requested that the replies be codified in regard to policies of Governments.

136. It was noted that, as the Commission had foreseen (see E/5264, paragraph 59), some countries did not regard their detailed replies to the inquiry as a suitable form for their country statements for the World Population Conference. It was recollected that the second inquiry called for short summaries to be provided in addition to the detailed statements. It was suggested that each country would submit up to 15 February 1974 one or two pages summarizing its position in a language of the Conference; this timing would allow countries to give their up-to-date views and, where applicable, to supplement any reply to the third inquiry.

137. It was recommended that these statements should be translated by the Secretariat, and, if received in time, made available to the regional preparatory meetings for the World Population Conference scheduled for April and May 1974. The statements would, in any case, be available to delegations to the World Population Conference and would be used to the extent possible in the draft World Population Plan of Action.

138. It was understood that replies to the inquiry, officially identified by Governments as their country statements, and other longer country statements which might be received, should be made available in the Conference library in the original language, which should be an official Conference language. This was as provided in E/5264, paragraph 59.

139. A point which was clarified during the discussion was that the longer country statements were not the same either in content or in purpose as the country monographs which were being prepared in a number of countries under the aegis of CICRED.

M. Annotated provisional agenda

140. The Secretary-General of the Conference announced that the World Population Conference, 1974, would have the honour of being opened on 19 August 1974 by the President of the Council of State of the Socialist Republic of Romania, His Excellency Nicolae Ceaușescu.

141. The Acting Director, Office of the Secretary-General of the Conference, informed the Commission that the paper entitled "draft provisional agenda with annotations" (E/CN.9/286) was both preliminary and tentative. A definitive text would be presented to the Commission at its third special session for approval.

142. The Commission reviewed the draft provisional agenda (see E/CN.9/286/section I), and considered several points raised by members. Because of the interrelationship between the agenda and the structure of the documents to be presented to the Conference, notably the World Population Plan of Action, it wished to review the draft provisional agenda again at the third special session in March 1974. The Commission then considered the preliminary annotations to the provisional agenda in section II.

143. In discussing the election of the officers of the Conference, some members of the Commission, while expressing preference for dispensing with election by secret ballot, as provided for in rule 38 of the preliminary draft rules of procedure, and a procedure whereby agreement would be reached through informal consultations prior to the Conference, inquired about the modalities by which such agreement could be reached. The Acting Director recalled that in the plans for the organization and management of the Conference, conference facilities would be made progressively available before the Conference as required, and the conference rooms would be functioning two working days before the Conference convened (see E/CN.9/287, para. 6). These arrangements had been agreed upon so that the plenary hall and committee rooms would be available for consultations on conference arrangements including reaching agreement on the officers of the Conference. It would not be easy, as one representative had suggested, for other bodies to decide on candidates in advance as the election of the officers was a prerogative of the Conference itself.

144. The Commission considered whether it would be desirable to have a Bureau of the Conference noting that there was no provision for one in the preliminary draft rules of procedure (E/CN.9/285). It was agreed that in a Conference of such short duration a Bureau was not necessary.

145. One representative saw the need for the Credentials Committee to be appointed and carry out its work before the Conference elected its officers. It was explained that this was not a normal practice and that the time factor usually prevented credentials committees from reporting back on credentials before conferences were well under way.

146. In discussing the five substantive items (Recent population trends and future prospects; Relations between population change and economic development; Relations between population, resources and environment; Population and the family; and, the World Population Plan of Action), the Commission agreed that the annotations on the provisional annotations should not, by implication, prejudge issues. It was pointed out by some members that the present preliminary draft did make

two assumptions that were debatable since it referred, in the annotation to item 8, to the interrelationship between the process of economic and social development and changes in population as a "close" one and in the annotation to item 9, referred to a "scarcity" of resources.

147. On the reference in the annotation to item 7 to future prospects and demographic trends in employment and unemployment, the observer for the ILO stated that the present state in the development of employment and unemployment statistics at the world level was such that any estimate of such levels and trends would be almost impossible. The ILO could not prepare projections in this regard. He suggested that instead an intensification of international efforts to improve the population data base on labour force and related matters should feature in the World Population Plan of Action.

148. It was, furthermore, the opinion of some members that employment and unemployment could more appropriately be considered as part of the relations between population change and economic and social development than as part of recent population trends and future prospects.

149. Two members stressed that in preparing the documents for all the items under consideration, the first attention should be given to economic and social processes; demographic changes were secondary in this respect.

150. The Commission considered how the work of the Conference could best be structured, given the many constraints that apply to a global conference with such a heavy agenda and with short duration. In this context the Commission also discussed the scope of the agenda items, their interrelationship and, consequently, their distribution over Committees and working groups.

151. The Commission recognized that each item was closely connected with the others and that arrangements should be made to enable there to be an interplay of the findings of the committees. The Commission agreed that the outcome of the discussions of items 7, 8, 9 and 10 should have a particular bearing on item 11, the World Population Plan of Action. The Commission also was of the view that all committees would probably have to meet simultaneously with the plenary. While human rights would probably best be centred on item 10, the subject was all pervasive and one representative considered that it and also item 7 should be taken up in all committees.

152. One member favoured amalgamating into one the items "Relations between population, change and economic and social development" and "Relations between population, resources and environment". The combined item should then be taken up in one committee on the basis of a consolidated document. Another member demurred, as he considered that each item, with its document, required separate consideration. There was also a suggestion from one delegation to add two items to the agenda, i.e., "Population and human rights" and "International co-operation". This delegation proposed further that item 7 should be allocated to the plenary, 8 and 9 to one committee, 10 and Human Rights to another, and that 11 should be taken up in a working group after discussion in the plenary.

153. Again, another member proposed that items 8 and 9 should be taken up jointly in one committee; that item 11, together with human rights, should be taken up in

another; and that item 12 should be taken up in a third committee. If items 8 and 9 could not be taken up in the same committee, then a fourth committee should be established. The same member further saw the need for item 8 to have subitems on: (a) population, food and nutrition (in view of the importance of the subject "Population, food and nutrition", the secretariat was requested to consult experts and to provide the Conference with an explanatory paper on the subject); (b) employment, unemployment and underemployment; and, (c) child dependency and education. Item 10 should include two subitems: (a) size of the family and spacing of children; and, (b) health and welfare of mothers and children.

154. One representative, while having no objection to such breakdowns considered that they should not be considered as exclusive ones, but rather topics that should feature as part of such items.

155. Another representative stated in this connexion that the subitem on health should refer to the family as a whole and should not be limited to mothers and children. One representative opposed the suggested breakdown for item 10, others suggested the item should include human rights.

156. Although the relevance of item 7 for all topics was recognized, it was agreed that it would be taken up in plenary meetings, as proposed by the Secretary-General of the Conference, and that it should be considered in the context of the general debate. The Commission agreed with the Secretary-General of the Conference that statements in the general debate would not necessarily be limited to the discussion of item 7 and that consideration of that item would not be restricted to the general debate. As the Secretary-General stated, the general debate would, by its nature, be broad in scope. One member pointed out that the general debate would be lengthy, as very many delegations would wish to speak on their national policies as well as on the items of the agenda in their broader context.

157. The Commission noted that the Secretary-General had suggested that there were two ways in which the World Population Plan of Action might be considered. Some representatives favoured the suggested that the draft Plan might be discussed in plenary meetings within the context of the general debate and referred to a committee or sessional body of the Conference. Several members suggested that there should be either two or three committees to consider agenda items 8, 9 and 10 and the item on human rights with a working group of the whole to consider the World Population Plan of Action, starting early in the first week and reporting to the plenary early in the second week.

158. The Commission agreed that it was not possible at its present session to reach a final decision on how consideration of the items should be structured and agreed that at its third special session, when the Commission had a clearer picture of the scope and contents of the five Conference documents, it would then be in a better position to decide how the items should be allocated between plenary meetings, the committees and other sessional bodies. In view of the possibility of there being a need for four committee rooms of the size sufficient to house committees-of-the-whole, it was suggested that some thought should be given to the possibility of arranging for this contingency. The Commission was given to understand that such a possibility might exist subject to arrangements being made between the United Nations and the Government of Romania.

159. The Conference would run from 19 through 30 August, presumably with a week-end break. The Commission also noted that 23 August was the Romanian National Day and that 1974 would be the thirtieth anniversary of the liberation of Romania. The Commission was informed by the Acting Director, Office of the Secretary-General, however, that arrangements with the Government of Romania were of such a kind that the Conference would continue its work on that day.

160. Nevertheless the time constraints were severe and some members of the Commission inquired whether it would be possible for the Conference to be extended by one or two days should this prove necessary. The Acting Director informed the Commission that the Romanian Government was willing to consider to continue as host to the Conference on the two days of 31 August and 1 September should this prove necessary. While the Commission did not consider that it was necessary to recommend that the Conference should be extended by an additional two days, it thought it advisable to make some contingency planning for such an extension.

161. The Acting Director drew attention to the guidelines favoured by the Economic and Social Council on the scope and content of its own reports, quoted in the annotation to item 12. He thought that a report along such lines would ease somewhat the task of the Secretary-General in preparing the report of the Conference for adoption and immediate submission to the Council and, through it, to the General Assembly.

162. The Commission agreed to the proposal of the Secretary-General that, for its third special session, the Commission would receive a document entitled "Draft annotations to the provisional agenda" which, when approved, would be issued as a Conference document. The draft annotations should also be accompanied by a document containing a detailed work chart for programmes of the Conference. Such a document should include options on how the work should be organized which the Commission could consider in the light of further discussions on how the agenda items would be dealt with.

N. The World Population Plan of Action

163. The Commission had before it documents E/CN.9/292, "Report of the Secretary-General on the draft World Population Plan of Action" and E/CN.9/292/Add.1 "Report of the Advisory Committee of Experts on the World Population Plan of Action on its 2nd meeting". Most of the discussion concentrated on the former document.

164. The Commission was informed that the draft Plan of Action in E/CN.9/292 was still incomplete. Many of the inputs, including the results of three symposia and of various consultations were not available as yet or were not available at the time of writing. The third special session of the Commission would receive a more complete and advanced draft of the Plan. Because of the incompleteness of the draft the Commission was invited to concentrate its discussions on the structure and general content of the draft rather than on matters of style and wording. The Commission's suggestion on these matters would give valuable guidance to the Secretary-General in preparing the draft that he was asked, in Economic and Social Council resolution 1672 (LII), to place on the agenda of the Conference.

165. The Commission noted with appreciation the work already done by the Secretariat

with the assistance of the Advisory Committee, on developing the structure and content of the draft. It considered the draft contained in E/CN.9/292 comprehensive and a good foundation for further development.

166. Some members of the Commission indicated their concern with the title of the Plan and, particularly, with the word "action". One member suggested that the Plan should deal mainly with fact-finding, that is with statistics, analysis, research and monitoring activities and should, therefore, be entitled "World Population Plan". Another member suggested that the title should be "Review of experience and recommendations on activities in the field of population". However, a majority of the members preferred to leave the title as it now stood, at least until the third special session of the Commission in March.

167. Various recommendations were made by members of the Commission regarding the final structure of the Plan. According to one view, after a brief statement of principles, a two-part document would be desirable; the first part containing all important facts and essential reasoning and conclusions and the second containing more detailed recommendations. Another suggestion was for a three-part document; the first part would contain a set of principles, the second, which would be the Plan proper, would contain a dozen or so major action categories and the third would deal with additional action items to support the major action categories. A third suggestion was for a four-part document containing, respectively, appraisal of facts, principles underlying the Plan, goals of the Plan and resources required for its implementation. A fourth suggestion, finally, was to make a better separation than existed in the present draft between the objectives and targets of the Plan on the one hand and the recommended measures and programmes on the other, preferably within the framework of the present draft.

168. The opinion was further expressed that the Plan and the recommendations should be based on a comprehensive approach taking into account the diversity of world conditions. Several members requested a concise short draft Plan of Action. One member suggested in this connexion that the body of the present draft Plan be converted into the background study for the Plan itself. Others considered that a better solution could be found if a summary of the highlights of the World Population Plan of Action containing all recommendations were attached to the text of the Plan. The Commission was informed that the Secretariat, aware of the varied audiences of the Plan, was attempting to devise a flexible presentation that would satisfy these needs and would take into consideration in its decisions the various recommendations made. The Secretariat was asked to consider putting forward for consideration at the third special session alternative proposals about the structure of the World Population Plan of Action, bearing in mind that the Plan's form and structure would have implications for the organization of the debate at the Conference.

169. The Commission noted with satisfaction the human rights principles on which the Plan was based but recommended that these should be expanded to cover such areas as racial discrimination and the contradiction inherent in the accumulation of weapons of mass destruction. It then noted the principle of national sovereignty enunciated in the draft and recommended that it be emphasized. It was suggested that this principle implied the need that no country should undertake population propaganda in other countries, particularly when it was contrary to the latter country's wishes and goals. In all policies, national and cultural values should be

respected and this should be emphasized in the Plan. Population policies could not be uniform among countries but should take the variety of conditions into account.

170. The principle enunciated in the present draft of the Plan that national action or inaction in the field of population and development might, in certain circumstances, have implications which extended beyond national boundaries was noted by the Commission. There was agreement that such principles should be part of the Plan but it was suggested that they should be carefully stated and clearly defined. It was suggested that this section of the Plan, without neglecting the international responsibilities involved, should speak especially of international solidarity, since the population policies of a country lie within its sovereignty as has been recognized by several resolutions of the United Nations.

171. Members of the Commission also indicated the need to stress certain aspects in the final draft of the Plan such as the goals of full employment and the promotion of the quality of life. The question of demographic inertia, of the interrelationship between demographic variables, the problems of demographic structure, particularly of the aging of both the population and the labour force, the methods of achieving a more rational distribution of the population and of the relative inertia in the relationship between demographic and other variables, were also noted in this regard. The Commission stressed the importance of strengthening in the draft the sections dealing with data collection, including vital registration, population censuses and demographic and multisubject surveys, and with analyses, research, training and related matters. In this regard, it was felt that the plan of research recommended by the Expert Working Group on Population Research in National Institutions (E/CN.9/242) would be a useful starting point for the Plan's recommendations.

172. It was noted that the various forms of aid to the developing countries were of great importance and could help to control the brain drain. It was also essential that developed countries, within the limits posed by full employment and housing conditions, should not close their doors to immigration from the developing countries. However, several members considered it very important that developed countries should not draw specialists away from the developing countries.

173. On the other hand, the reverse brain drain, that is the flow of skilled technicians from developed to developing countries could, it was suggested, be considered a major form of international aid and assistance.

174. A good deal of the discussion of the Commission centred on the question of population growth. Some members objected to the idea advanced in the present draft of the Plan that developed countries whose economic growth and social well-being was not enhanced by population growth be urged to achieve near zero population growth rates at the earliest possible date. Such a recommendation, they maintained was not likely to be useful for the developed countries concerned, since a growth rate near zero was for most of them desirable in any case, although difficult to bring about by practical policies. One member also thought that such a recommendation might conflict with the principle of national sovereignty. Other members felt, however, that this recommendation should, in an appropriate form, remain included.

175. It was maintained by some members that the apprehension certain people had of

the present rates of population growth in the world as a whole, and particularly in developing countries, was generally based on the false assumption that population would continue to grow exponentially for a long time in the future. Such an assumption, it was indicated, was unwarranted since the present exponential growth might well be the middle phase of a logistic trend. It was suggested that the world capacity for supporting more people was far from being exhausted and that, consequently, the argument of impending shortage of space or of natural resources should be rejected. It was pointed out, on the other hand, that while a shortage of space in the absolute sense was not impending, the world had reached a stage where, in many parts, there is shortage of space for decent and civilized living. It was pointed out, furthermore, that while impending shortages might be fictitious, the rate at which population was growing was unprecedented in history and should, itself, be the subject of major concern; in this regard, bold action to moderate the present rate of growth of world population was called for. The view was expressed that the World Population Conference should give particular attention to means of conserving resources and that it should not accept the premise that population growth was the cause of under-development but only that development and population should be planned in a harmonious way. One member noted that the population growth targets in the present draft of the plan were the summation of national targets and hence not an imposition of the international community on national Governments. Some members pointed out that the structure of the document dealing with recommendations on the question of population policy should be based on the demographic variables - mortality, fertility and migration - and suggested, therefore, that the section on demographic growth be deleted. Some also warned against the utilization of growth targets which were internationally set and hence implied such an imposition. It was further pointed out that some countries already had below replacement levels of fertility or even negative population growth rates and that their problems should also be dealt with in the Plan. Several delegations, finally, were of the opinion that quantitative population goals and targets should be included in the draft World Population Plan of Action. Other members, were against the inclusion of quantified targets.

176. The Commission emphasized the importance of economic development and social modernization in determining fertility levels but it was also pointed out by some members that the effect of economic and social development upon fertility might only come about with a delay of many decades. The Plan of Action should emphasize those social and economic measures that could be utilized by countries wishing to regulate fertility. Furthermore, the Plan should encourage research in this field, both at the micro and macro levels. At the same time, it was a fundamental human right that all persons had the necessary information and the means to control fertility, and family planning should be viewed in this perspective. While some members considered the relative emphasis on family planning in the present draft of the Plan quite justified, others maintained that it was not warranted. In many developing countries, it was noted, the shortage of medical and para-medical family planning personnel acted together with other factors as a limit to the expansion and effectiveness of national family planning programmes. At any rate it was agreed that family planning programmes should emphasize the protection and well-being of children, mothers and the family and should involve, in particular, the active participation of women in their formulation and execution. The recommendations in the present draft of the Plan for a minimum age of marriage for women to 17 years was questioned by some members.

177. Since not all delegations had had the opportunity to study the draft thoroughly and the discussion was concentrated on the structure and general content of the document, members were invited to submit detailed suggestions relating to the different aspects of the draft Plan to the Secretariat. These would be brought to the attention of the Advisory Committee and taken into account by the Secretariat for the purposes of redrafting the Plan.

O. Other matters

178. In Economic and Social Council resolution 1484 (XLVIII), the term used to designate the World Population Conference, is "Conference" in all languages except French, where the reference was to "Congrès". Upon the proposal of the representative of Romania, the Commission agreed to inform the Economic and Social Council of its wish that the word "Conference" would henceforth be used in all languages when referring to the World Population Conference, 1974. 3/

3/ The representative of France remarked that he did not consider the Commission competent to take decisions in linguistic matters and asked that paragraph 178 be deleted from the report. Only the translation services of the United Nations were equipped to come to a decision in this matter, he added.

III. WORLD POPULATION YEAR, 1974

A. Arrangements for the World Population Year

179. The Commission had before it a progress report of the Executive Director of UNFPA (E/CN.9/288 and Corr.1) on preparations for the World Population Year, 1974 and a report on the population component of the 1974 work programme of the Centre for Economic and Social Information (E/CN.9/295).

180. The Executive Director of UNFPA, in an introductory statement, reviewed the preparations for the World Population Year since the Commission's second special session.

181. He said that accelerated activities directed towards the achievement of the specific goals within the limited period of the World Population Year were already having a beneficial effect on future population programmes, and that effect, in his view, was likely to continue. As a case in point, he cited communications: regional outlets for news media had been organized in Asia and Latin America, and plans were well advanced for similar organizations in Africa and the Middle East. Every effort should be made to expand and exploit the possibilities of that world-wide network long after the Year was over, he added.

182. Furthermore, the time pressures of the Year and the World Population Conference were having a beneficial effect on, or giving fresh impetus to, the implementation of many substantive projects. To illustrate this, he noted that many countries receiving UNFPA assistance had established national commissions to co-ordinate World Population Year activities and many were in the process of doing so. After serving their present purpose, those commissions should be retained for future activities.

183. The Executive Director noted that the activities of UNFPA differed markedly from other assistance programmes particularly as they related to activities concerned with most sensitive aspects of human relations. The experience with action programmes in the field of population was very limited and external assistance in this area could only supplement national efforts.

184. It was the policy of UNFPA to provide the opportunity for recipient countries to work out their own programmes and to build the infrastructure necessary to support them. He was confident that the source of technical expertise and specialized skills of the organizations within the United Nations system would continue to be fully utilized by the recipient countries.

185. In concluding his remarks, he informed the Commission that during the last six months demands for UNFPA support for sound population projects had outstripped financial resources. The entire budget of \$52 million for 1973 had already been programmed and the cost of priority projects still to be funded was estimated at some \$9 million. In addition, known requests for 1974 amounted to about \$80 million. He therefore appealed to all members of the Commission, especially those of high-income countries, to help UNFPA to increase its resources commensurate with its task.

B. Information

186. The progress report on the World Population Year concerned with information activities was presented by the Executive Secretary of the Year, who referred to the series of publications which had been produced since the second special session of the Commission and stated that all publications listed as planned at that session were now in production; they included various brochures, pamphlets, leaflets, posters and also reports for official as well as general information. Two urgent needs had become apparent when producing material for the Year: (a) the need for suitable outlets; and (b) the need for helping the media to train persons with specialized skills in reporting demographic matters.

187. Newspaper and radio coverage of information on the Year had already increased substantially and the trend was very encouraging. As the Year approached, preparations for its launching in the media were being developed rapidly. Supplements and special issues of newspapers and periodicals were also being developed. A popular book to be issued in paperback in 8, possibly even 12, languages for the general public was now ready and was being edited to ensure accuracy of demographic data and to make it widely acceptable.

188. The question of disseminating World Population Year material adequately in languages other than English was receiving great attention. Publication of such material in French and Spanish was being rapidly improved and it was expected that before the end of the year, French and Spanish translations of publications on the Year would be available simultaneously with those in English. As for Spanish language material, the establishment of the Latin American Development Communicators Association now enabled Spanish language material originating in Latin America to be produced and disseminated in that region, thus assuring that more relevant material was more readily available. Furthermore, arrangements were now afoot to produce materials in Arabic, in certain Indian languages, in the Bahasa Indonesia and several other languages. UNFPA had responded promptly to requests for local language materials with an agreement to allocate funds for this purpose.

189. In spite of the apparent effectiveness of the publications produced so far, the secretariat of the Year was deeply conscious of the limitation of the frontiers of literacy, particularly in the third world. With this in view, a major programme of film and radio information had been set in train. Members of the United Nations family interested in the Year were engaged in population information programmes with special emphasis on their fields of interest. For example, UNESCO was producing general education films on population, UNICEF on science and population and the Office of Public Information had a well advanced programme for the production of film material on population suitable for distribution to television organizations around the world. A planetarium exhibit, being devised in co-operation with the Hayden Planetarium, was expected to be shown widely in planetaria around the world next year. A notable effort in the film medium was the documentary made by Roberto Rossellini who was also stimulating filmed responses to his work in various parts of the world so that a dialogue on film could result.

190. Discussions were taking place with major broadcasting institutions in the United Kingdom, Canada and some countries in Asia and the Far East on programmes which would highlight on radio as well as television the launching of the Year and the events leading to the World Population Conference.

191. In the discussion the difficulty of making population information intelligible with proper regard to the sensitivity of the topics and without distortion was raised by several delegates. The secretariat of the World Population Year informed the Commission that it was deeply conscious of this difficulty as might be indicated by the programme of encouraging the training of specialists in this field of reporting. The secretariat shared the views of the Commission about the need for objectivity and for treating population activities as part of a wider and integrated approach to development.

192. The Commission was informed that in 39 countries national commissions had been established for the Year and that some 22 other national existing bodies had been given additional functions for the Year. Several countries had indicated that they would not establish special commissions or committees for the Year, but that they had allotted such functions to the relevant Government ministries or departments. There were, however, clear indications of a growing resistance to the proliferation of national commissions involved in international activities.

C. Meetings, research, training and education

193. The Deputy Executive Director of UNFPA reviewed other World Population Year activities, such as the organization of meetings, research and training and education. He noted that a number of meetings at the interregional, regional and national levels had been organized or were planned to be convened upon the initiative of international and national organizations and Governments. Most recently, the International Planned Parenthood Federation had, at its twenty-first anniversary Conference held in October 1973, given considerable attention to the importance of the Year and to the role which the Federation and its member associations could play in furthering its objectives. As regards future meetings, the Commission was informed of the plans for a Women's International Forum on Population and Development to be organized by the United Nations in collaboration with various other organizations and to be convened in Washington and New York in February 1974.

194. He further remarked that in connexion with the Year an endeavour would be made to intensify and expand ongoing data collection and research activities and to promote new activities. The promotion of population census activities was not limited to the African Census Programme (see paragraphs 201-217), but also included activities in other regions such as in the Caribbean area, where the University of the West Indies had received UNFPA assistance to tabulate, analyse and publish the recent census results from 13 countries in the area.

195. The World Fertility Survey was another example of intensified efforts in which a large number of developing and developed countries were expected to participate in a common scheme for collecting basic data on levels and trends of fertility and attitudes towards family planning.

196. As regards training and education, it was noted that UNFPA devoted around one third of its total resources to support the training of personnel from developing countries. The preparation of interdisciplinary training activities reported in paragraphs 243 to 250 below are also a part of the World Population Year programme.

197. The Chairman of CICRED reported on the activities of his organization, which included the preparation of a series of demographic monographs and the convening of

annual seminars. He informed the Commission that a total of 58 monographs were anticipated, and 27 of them were expected to be prepared with UNFPA financial assistance. A seminar on research in the field of international migration was being planned to be held in Buenos Aires in March 1974 with financial support from UNFPA. Another activity planned by CICRED was to join in a project concerned with the standardization of demographic terms.

198. One representative expressed concern that funding agencies generally insisted upon sending foreign experts to developing countries even if local expertise was available. The representative of UNFPA explained that the Fund did not consider foreign experts as a necessary component of any given project, but in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1763 (LIV) accepted the wishes of the recipient countries in selecting the most appropriate implementing agencies.

199. In reply to a query about the provision of fellowships, the representative of UNFPA informed the Commission that, during the period June 1971-June 1973, the Fund had contributed around \$4 million for fellowships in the fields of demographic statistics and population studies, which provided some 1,045 fellowships for developing countries, about one third of them to Africa. One delegation urged that special attention should be given to training in the field of collection of basic demographic data.

200. The Commission endorsed in general the World Population Year activities being carried out by UNFPA and expressed its confidence that the over-all objectives were being met as planned. It urged all Governments, non-governmental organizations and institutions to participate fully in that important endeavour.

IV. MATTERS RELATING TO WORLD POPULATION YEAR, 1974

African Census Programme

201. The Commission considered a report on the technical aspects and the status of the African Census Programme as of 31 July 1973 (E/CN.9/291) prepared by the Secretary-General at the request of the Population Commission at its second special session. Supplementary information was provided by the representatives of the secretariat of ECA and UNFPA. The report, together with the recommendations of the Population Commission thereon, will be submitted to the Conference of African Statisticians at its eighth session from 21 to 30 November 1973 and to the Conference of African Demographers at its second session from 13 to 19 May 1974.

202. The Commission was informed that, of the 21 countries participating in the programme, three - Gambia, Mauritius and the Sudan - had already undertaken their censuses and that by the end of 1974, 12 more countries should have taken theirs. As of 15 September 1973, 23 out of 29 United Nations experts required under the Programme in 1973 were in post. The Commission was further informed that \$16 million, or 39 per cent, of the total estimated cost of \$41 million was being provided by UNFPA through the United Nations and the rest by the countries themselves; 42 per cent of this contribution would be used to cover local costs. Considerable resources were also being devoted to the provision of data-processing and other equipment on the understanding that the equipment would continue to be used for demographic investigations after the censuses had been carried out.

203. It was noted that the censuses would be taken in successive stages, beginning with a general enumeration, undertaken concurrently with a sample survey on selected items of information, and followed by additional demographic surveys. At the present time priority was being given to the complete enumeration.

204. With reference to the items of information to be collected, the analysis of present census plans indicated that in all the countries it would be possible to obtain basic demographic characteristics for the total population in urban and rural areas with a sedentary population. In many, special attention was being given to items which were of particular interest to those countries, such as residence, geographical mobility and age at first marriage.

205. In the discussion, concern was voiced that a number of countries did not plan to collect information on the economic characteristics of the population recommended by the African experts in the African recommendations for the 1970 population censuses. ^{4/} Noting that such information was basic to economic and social development planning, the Commission urged upon the African countries to give the recommendations due consideration and to assign a high priority to including questions on economic characteristics in their censuses.

206. On the processing of the data, members of the Commission indicated that the successful use of sophisticated equipment would depend on the availability of local expertise.

^{4/} See document E/CN.14/CAS.611.

207. It was noted that arrangements for census publicity in the countries were not reported in detail in the census plans and members of the Commission expressed concern about the possibility that the population might not always be well informed about the purposes of the censuses. Especially where a census was being taken for the first time, the provision of adequate information was deemed highly important.

208. The Commission observed a wide range of variation in the number of persons to be enumerated per enumerator and in the ratio of supervisors to enumerators; it questioned whether international experience in this respect might have been fully taken into account. In this connexion the Commission also emphasized the need to plan most carefully for the training of enumerators and field supervisors. In view of the importance of this matter for the success of the census operations, the Commission requested the Secretary-General to draw the attention of the Governments and the African statisticians and demographers to its observations.

209. The view was also expressed that, given the large-scale intercountry migration of nomads, simultaneity of enumeration would in many instances be most desirable. The Commission noted with satisfaction that efforts were being made by the respective Governments to co-ordinate the timing and methods of the censuses of Mali, Niger and Upper Volta.

210. So far, the training of technical personnel had been mainly oriented to satisfy immediate needs; the Commission stressed that attention should also be given to the provision of adequate training to all levels of national staff on a more permanent basis. On an earlier offer made by the Government of France to provide further assistance for training in the French-speaking countries, the Commission was informed that this offer was being considered by the Secretariat with a view to arranging for a training programme in Yaoundé to be started as soon as possible.

211. Questions were raised on the qualifications and briefing of the United Nations experts recruited for the countries. The Commission was informed that arrangements had been made for the experts to be briefed and that they would be called to a meeting where experiences would be shared and additional technical support would be provided. In view of the difficulties encountered in recruiting experts, the representative of UNFPA indicated that the Fund was, in principle, prepared to contribute to the costs of local experts if that was necessary to obtain their services. The United Nations was also exploring means of facilitating the exchange of experts within the African region.

212. It was agreed that in-depth methodological studies, relating both to enumeration and analysis, were required. In that context, reference was made to methodological studies made at the ECA secretariat on various aspects of collection and analysis of demographic data, particularly those relating to the nomadic population. The Commission was informed that that secretariat, in response to an ECA resolution, was preparing, in consultation with African government departments and institutions, a manual on demographic concepts and definitions suitable for African conditions.

213. The Commission attached considerable importance to the evaluation of censuses and to the study of implications of the census results. It noted that a recent ECA Seminar on Techniques of Evaluation of Basic Demographic Data had concluded that post-census checks did not form an integral part of the African Census Programme and had requested the United Nations to develop plans for the evaluation of census and sample-survey data, to be considered by the Conference of African Statisticians and the Conference of African Demographers at their next sessions.

214. Noting that African experts had expressed the view at several ECA meetings that it was important that the World Fertility Survey should not divert resources from the African Census Programme, the Commission considered that it was important to co-ordinate the activities of both.

215. The Commission agreed that one census enumeration was not enough for analytical purposes and that there was a need to ensure the continuous production of interrelated demographic, social and economic data and analysis. It noted that a programme of household surveys was being studied which might be conducted as a follow-up of the African Census Programme if approved by the regional bodies concerned and subject to availability of resources.

216. On the census operations in the Sahelian area affected by a prolonged drought the Commission considered that prompt census results in these countries would be helpful in adopting medium-term and long-term measures. Some members of the Commission indicated their willingness to respond favourably to requests for assistance additional to that already being provided by the United Nations system in response to Economic and Social Council resolution 1759 (LIV), as well as to the African Census Programme.

217. Appreciating the magnitude of the programme, which includes 15 of the 17 countries in Africa which had never had a census before, the Commission considered the progress report reassuring, although the pace of census-taking was somewhat slower than had been originally planned by the respective Governments; it invited the Secretary-General to report on the progress made at its next special session.

V. DEMOGRAPHIC PUBLICATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS

218. In accordance with its request at the second special session, the Commission received, at its seventeenth session, a report on demographic publications of the United Nations (E/CN.9/290). The Commission was informed that a joint working group of the Statistical Office and the Population Division had been established to review the demographic publications of the Office and to consider the possibility of increasing the availability of demographic statistics. A questionnaire was sent in August 1973 to more than 100 international users of the Demographic Yearbook but replies, though numerous, did not make it possible so far to enable the working group to assess the balance of views solicited on, inter alia, the system of rotating topics, which at times had led to gaps in the series of certain data published at the national level in the intervals between repetition of the series in the Yearbook. After further contact with the recipients of the questionnaire, it would be possible to prepare a report for the third special session of the Commission in March 1974 on the financial implications of recommended changes in the Yearbook.

219. The group, with the World Population Year particularly in mind, proposed that the first two issues in 1974 of the report on population and vital statistics should include statistics now being prepared for use in the World Demographic Atlas as well as selected data of special interest for the World Population Year programme. UNFPA funding has been requested.

220. The Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Co-ordination of the Statistical Commission approved in July 1973 the steps suggested for an extended publication programme for the World Population Year, 1974, subject to availability of funds. The Commission hoped that the 1974 changes would be the basis for continuing improvements, under the responsibility of the Statistical Office, in the demographic statistics publications of the United Nations; and it further hoped that eventually demographic and social statistics would be presented as an integrated system. A suggestion was advanced by one member that an effort should be made to obtain a clearer identification of, or separation between, United Nations publications and documents of other origins, such as those produced by non-governmental organizations or by private groups with no formal relationship with the United Nations.

VI. PROGRESS OF THE WORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN THE FIELD OF POPULATION

A. General background

221. The Director of the Population Division presented to the Commission a report (E/CN.9/289) on the progress achieved since its sixteenth session in implementing the work programme approved by the Commission at that session in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1672 (LII). The report was supplemented by a comprehensive review of the work programme of the organizations of the United Nations system (E/CN.9/284 and Add.1 and Corr.1) which had been prepared in accordance with agreements reached at the ACC Sub-Committee on Population. The Commission had also before it a report on interdisciplinary training in population matters (E/CN.9/289/Add.1); the report of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts on methods of revising United Nations model life tables, (E/CN.9/273); the report of the Interregional Seminar on Mortality Analysis (E/CN.9/293); and the report of the Interregional Workshop on Population Action Programmes (E/CN.9/294).

222. The Commission was aware that the substantive preparations for the World Population Conference had imposed a heavy burden on the Secretariat and that, in order to attend to numerous urgent and complex tasks, it had been necessary to maintain a flexible utilization of staff resources. The activities covered in the report submitted for consideration to the Commission are those carried out by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs with the Population Division acting as the substantive centre for this purpose but operating in full co-operation with other divisions and offices in the Department, including, in particular, the regional commissions.

B. Major decisions of legislative organs of the United Nations

223. The Commission noted that the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1672 (LII), endorsed the five-year and two-year programmes of work in the field of population and, pursuant to that resolution, the Secretary-General announced the World Population Conference and World Population Year on 20 September 1972. The Secretary-General of the World Population Conference was appointed within the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and the Executive Director of UNFPA assumed responsibility for the preparations being made for the World Population Year. The Population Commission assumed the role of the intergovernmental preparatory body for the Conference and the Year.

224. The Economic and Social Council, at the 1858th meeting of its fifty-fifth session, held on 18 May 1973, decided to accept the invitation of the Government of Romania to hold the World Population Conference, 1974, at Bucharest from 19 to 30 August 1974.

225. It noted also General Assembly resolution 2815 (XXVI) concerning UNFPA according to which "the Fund should play a leading role in the United Nations system in promoting population programmes". In resolution 3019 (XXVII) the Fund was placed under the authority of the General Assembly. The General Assembly in the same resolution decided that "without prejudice to the over-all 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 ...".

226. The Commission took note that, on 18 May 1973, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1763 (LIV) which stated the aims and purposes of the Fund. The Council directed the Fund to "invite countries to utilize the most appropriate implementing agents for their programmes, recognizing that the primary responsibility for implementing rests with the countries concerned", and requested the Governing Council of UNDP to submit annually to the Council a report on the activities of UNFPA.

227. The Commission further noted that the work programmes in the field of population recommended in the case of ECA by the Conference of Ministers of the States members of ECA at its 172nd meeting on 23 February 1973, had been endorsed by Council resolution 1815 (LV); that in reviewing the report of the Second Asian Population Conference, held in Tokyo in 1972, ECAFE had endorsed its report stating that "the Declaration of Population Strategy for Development was seen as a considerable step forward in the process of developing an international United Nations policy on population problems, 5/ and endorsed the work programme in the field of population for the ECAFE secretariat in resolution 1813 (LV).

228. The Commission noted that ECLA, at its fifteenth session, had adopted resolution 327 (XV) which approved "in principle the secretariat's and CELADE's proposals for the strengthening of basic demographic information and research" (these proposals are contained in E/CN.12/956 and E/CN.12/950); in so doing, ECLA recognized "the need for continuation of CELADE's activities in demographic research and training as an essential complement to the secretariat's programme"; and supported "the secretariat's participation in preparatory work for the World Population Conference and World Population Year". 6/ These proposals were endorsed by the Council in resolution 1814 (LV).

C. Developments in interagency co-ordination

229. Additional need for the strengthening of interagency co-ordination during this period had emerged from the preparations for the World Population Conference and the World Population Year. Arrangements for the preparation of background documents for the Conference had called for intensive negotiations among the agencies, which were carried out mainly through the machinery of the ACC Sub-Committee on Population, which also dealt with co-ordination of agency activities for certain aspects of the Year related to the Conference.

230. Progress was made in preparing a comprehensive review of the work programmes of the agencies, as reflected in the consolidated report (E/CN.9/284 and Add.1). The Commission members who had had an opportunity to study the text found it most useful and recommended that a similar report should be submitted to its next regular session and that it should include both qualitative and quantitative

5/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 9, para. 470.

6/ Ibid., Supplement No. 8, p. 131.

analyses and evaluations of the population activities of the United Nations system with a view to recognizing lags as well as areas where further improvements in co-ordination might be required. Note was taken, in particular, of the co-ordinating arrangements for the preparation of projections through a working group of the ACC Sub-Committee on Population with the participation of the United Nations, FAO, the ILO, UNESCO and the regional commissions, including UNESOB.

231. Co-ordination for the purposes of technical assistance and activities under the World Population Year were conducted mainly through the Interagency Consultative Committee of UNFPA.

232. Contacts with major intergovernmental organizations, such as the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, ICEM, the Council of Europe, the League of Arab States and the Organization of American States, had been continued and strengthened. The Commission noted with appreciation the support given by IUSSP to its work and hoped for the continuation of that collaboration. The Commission was informed that useful consultative ties were maintained with IPPF and the Population Council of New York as well as with CICRED which all gave tangible support to its work. Collaboration had recently been initiated as well with International Education Development Incorporated, an organization which maintained contacts with a network of persons and organizations associated with religious activities in all regions.

233. The Commission heard a report on the progress made with the World Fertility Survey since its second special session in March, 1973. Progress had been made in the recruitment of staff for the Central Office in London. A model questionnaire was in an advanced state of preparation; after passing through several stages, it had now been simplified and included modules which could be selected by countries undertaking surveys in accordance with their own needs. Manuals to accompany the questionnaire were in preparation, Pilot surveys would be undertaken in Fiji and Malaysia to test the procedures. A feature of the survey method would be the comparison of interview replies of husbands and wives regarding the use of contraception.

234. In a statement to the Commission IUSSP expressed its desire to continue close co-operation with the Population Division in all aspects of its scientific work. The following projects currently being carried out by research committees of IUSSP in close collaboration with the Population Division were mentioned; a study of urbanization and of population redistribution; population growth and economic development in the third world; methodological aspects of comparative fertility studies and family planning; the teachings of demography and the training and employment of demographers; a new edition in English, French, Russian and Spanish of the Multilingual Demographic Dictionary. The Commission urged the need for an edition in Chinese.

235. Some members of the Commission were concerned that the pressure of work involved in the preparations for the World Population Conference and difficulties in recruiting personnel qualified for the great diversity of aspects included in the activities related to its preparation, might, while complying with United Nations regulations regarding geographical distribution, have affected the research programme of the Population Division. However, it was noted that the preparations for the Conference had opened up new avenues for research and that now the United Nations work, which began with traditional demographic analysis, had been expanded to include the whole population problematic, including the

discussion of relationships between resources, environment and human rights and demographic factors. The keynote of the present work of the Division was at present, therefore, the study of the interrelationships of population with economic cultural and other aspects of society. The influences were usually thought of as working in two directions: the impact of changes in the broad economic, social structure on demography, and the reverse effect of changes in demographic factors on economic and social and environmental conditions. However, deeper knowledge can now be obtained, through new scientific techniques, about these reciprocal relations. Some members stressed the need to continue with fundamental demographic studies and were concerned at the relative neglect of studies in the basic areas of mortality and migration trends.

236. Further, the wish was expressed by some members that future reports on the progress of work would be more quantitative and analytical, although it was noted that, in the case of the report on technical co-operation, the projects mentioned in E/CN.9/289 were only illustrative of the nature of technical co-operation, which had been either arranged or provided for the countries.

D. Progress in technical co-operation: field programmes and services

237. The Commission noted with satisfaction that technical co-operation activities in the population field which were being carried out by the Population Division and several other offices at Headquarters and in the regions, had been expanded thanks to the support of UNFPA, whose allocations to the United Nations had increased up to about \$17 million in 1973. Activities in technical co-operation were grouped in the following categories: training, population statistics, integration of population in development planning, family planning programmes and the promotion of international exchange of information on population matters.

1. Training

238. With reference to training, the Commission was informed that 1,045 fellowships had been granted to nationals of 94 developing countries during the two-year period under discussion. The distribution of fellowships by subject of study and region of origin was indicated in a table in paragraph 35 of E/CN.9/289. A member of the Commission suggested that in future the figures presented should indicate the number of men and women who received fellowships.

239. Work had continued in the three regional demographic training and research centres of long-standing: CELADE, with headquarters at Santiago, Chile, and a subcentre at San José, Costa Rica; the International Institute for Population Studies at Chembur, India and the Cairo Demographic Centre. Two new centres were established in 1971: the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS) at Accra, Ghana, in December 1971, serving the English-speaking countries of Africa, and the Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (IFORD) at Yaoundé, Cameroon, in November 1971, serving the French-speaking countries of Africa.

240. The Commission expressed a considerable interest in the functioning of these centres. Members acquainted with the work of CELADE showed appreciation for the services it rendered and regretted, however, that language barriers impeded more participants from the Caribbean from attending its courses; they requested that consideration should be given to offering the services of RIPS and IFORD to nationals of the Caribbean area. The Commission considered that institutions such as RIPS in Accra could provide training also to trainees from the English-speaking

countries in the Caribbean region, and that the IFORD in Yaoundé also to trainees from the French-speaking countries in regions other than Africa. Attention was drawn to the difficulties experienced in the recruitment of students for the two new African centres as well as to the large proportion of failures in examinations among the enrolled students. The various aspects of the association of regional demographic centres with national universities were discussed, taking into account the following alternatives namely, (1) that the regional courses should meet the requirements of the host national university and the students in this case would get a degree from the university concerned, or (2) that the centre should be ascribed to the university but its courses would not be recognized as regular courses of the university; and in this case the students would get a diploma. A combination of both alternatives had been arranged in the case of CELADE and the Cairo Demographic Centre in which case some students registered both with the Centre and the university and if they complied with the requirements, they obtained both the Centre's diploma and the university's degree.

241. The Commission was informed that the preliminary arrangements were under discussion for the establishment of an experimental training course on population and development planning for which the State University of Moscow might be the host institution; for a centre which might be established in Romania at the request of the Government and of the possibility of organizing a demographic course at the Al Azar University in Cairo, which would serve Moslem communities.

242. Satisfaction was expressed at the fact that assistance was being provided for the establishment of demographic courses, usually at the undergraduate level, in several national universities in Asia, the Middle East, Africa and Latin America. The Commission noted, however, that a clear policy was required in respect of the development of regional and national centres with a view to obtaining the most benefit for the developing countries.

2. Interdisciplinary training in population matters

243. In reviewing the report on the interdisciplinary training in population matters (E/CN.9/289/Add.1), the Commission expressed satisfaction that after some initial delays the Committee of Experts on Training on Interdisciplinary Aspects of Population Policies and Programmes under the chairmanship of the Executive Director of UNFPA had been established by the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Director of the Population Division informed the Commission of the proposals made by the Committee, as reviewed below. The Committee had decided to arrange for appropriate regional representation and for invitations to other organizations or high-level consultants to participate in its meetings when matters pertaining to specific regions or special areas of study were under consideration by the Committee.

244. The Committee, which had had three sessions and had essentially agreed on the need to initiate a one-year interdisciplinary course on aspects of population policy, including family planning, which might be initiated some time in 1974, preferably in Asia, and had entrusted the United Nations with making the necessary exploratory arrangements for this course. At the same time, the Committee had agreed on the need to organize a short-term course on family planning with emphasis on administration, which would be oriented to fulfil the needs of officials at higher administration and decision-making levels. This course would be organized by WHO with the co-operation of the United Nations and IPPF. The United Nations had already undertaken an exploratory mission to Asia, and a joint UN/WHO/IPPF

mission had visited Mexico and Costa Rica, where they found favourable conditions for organizing the short-term course to begin in early 1974.

245. Noting that the short-term course in Mexico and Costa Rica would be oriented towards high executives in the family planning field, the Committee suggested that the results of the work at present being undertaken in the area of the administration of family planning programmes by the Public Administration Division of the United Nations in collaboration with the Population Division should be utilized in this connexion.

246. It was understood that the courses would be of an interregional character so that, for example, participants from all Caribbean countries might attend the course being arranged in Mexico and Costa Rica, but it was also noted that no plan had been made for initiating courses in Africa. Certain members of the Committee had suggested the organization of a long-term course in Africa on population policies and the establishment of an interdisciplinary training centre in the Maghreb region, which would organize short and medium-term courses for high level officials responsible for decision-making in population matters.

247. Some members of the Commission noted that the composition of the Committee was more limited than had been envisaged by the Commission, which had expected that more experts from outside the system would strengthen its work.

248. The Commission also noted that, after a rather slow development, the Committee might tend to advance too rapidly in an area where important difficulties were bound to be met, such as finding qualified teachers to take care of the interrelated disciplines with which the courses would be dealing; it was recommended that the Committee should proceed cautiously in this respect.

249. Noting that it had requested that, as a first step, a survey of existing training institutions should be made, the Commission was informed that such a survey was underway, with the assistance of consultants, by the Population Division and that the Fund was also conducting a separate investigation in Asian countries.

250. Some members expressed the wish that the Committee would soon deal with subjects other than family planning, to which it had so far mainly devoted its attention. The original recommendation of the Population Commission concerning this item was recalled, indicating that the main task of the Committee was eventually to propose a plan for total facilities needed for interdisciplinary training in the world and for indications about required improvement and expansions in existing institutions. It was suggested that the Committee should not lose sight of this objective.

3. Statistics

251. With reference to assistance for statistics, some members suggested that a higher percentage of its resources should be given for assistance in the collection of population statistics, that such percentages should be maintained at a fairly high level even after the completion of the African Census Programme and the World Fertility Survey, and that the concept of population statistics should be enlarged to encompass statistics of labour force, employment and unemployment.

4. Assistance for integrating population in development planning

252. The Commission acknowledged the importance of this area of technical

co-operation. It noted that the macro and micro case studies being undertaken by the ECA Population Programme Centre (25 of which have already been completed) were intended to show how demographic variables influence the provision of food, housing, employment, education, health care and other services; it was considered that these would be very useful to Governments and ECAFE and ECLA were encouraged to carry out similar work. The Commission also endorsed the idea of assisting in establishing units of population studies in planning organizations and requested that more details about the kind of assistance being rendered in this respect and results being obtained be provided at its next session.

5. Assistance for family planning programmes

253. The Commission was informed that the United Nations had collaborated with UNICEF, UNFPA, the ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO and IBRD in reviewing and/or developing national family planning programmes for a number of countries, including Chile, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Malaysia and Sri Lanka. The United Nations was co-operating in the implementation of certain aspects of family planning programmes in Chile, Colombia, Egypt, Iran, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Senegal, Sierra Leone and other countries. It was noted with great interest that the United Nations was advancing work on social welfare aspects of family planning and the status of women, and requested that a report be submitted in this respect to the next session of the Commission.

6. Promotion of international exchange of information on population matters

254. The adoption of the Declaration of Population Strategy for Development by the Second Asian Population Conference was highly praised. In this connexion it was noted that, while the Asian Conference had been held at an intergovernmental level and, therefore, could make recommendations, the African Population Conference, as well as the Latin-American Population Conference in 1970 and other regional conferences, had been held at the technical level and, therefore, were not empowered to issue recommendations. It was noted, however, that the first session of the Intergovernmental Conference of African Demographers had adopted a number of recommendations.

255. The Commission noted the issuance of population newsletters by Headquarters and the regional commissions and encouraged the continuance of this work. The Commission expressed interest in the possibility of computerizing demographic information along the lines being developed by UNESCO in the social sciences. Several members recommended that the Population Division should collaborate with CICRED in this project. It was indicated that the big flow of new material which was being stimulated by the World Population Conference made it quite impossible for scholars in the various countries to follow up on developments. This form of assistance, though not included in the current programme of technical co-operation would be highly desirable.

7. Experts

256. Several questions were raised about the difficulty of recruiting experts and the need to ensure that they were suitably qualified for the important task involved. However, since many of the programmes which the United Nations was called upon to assist were fairly new enterprises on which international experience was of very recent origin, it was extremely difficult to find technicians with the field experience to serve as United Nations experts. A related matter brought up at the Commission was that in some cases the countries did have qualified experts but needed resources or at the most short-term advice which might be provided by either consultants or regional experts. This situation called for a reappraisal of present policies with respect to the utilization of experts in providing technical assistance.

E. Progress in research and technical work

1. Demographic estimates and projections

257. Work in this area was commended and satisfaction was expressed with the world population projections based on the year 1960 published by the Population Division. However, several members expressed doubts about the usefulness of carrying out certain projections beyond the year 2000, especially for urban and rural populations, since not only were the concepts of urban and rural quite likely to change in the next few decades, but the significance of the interaction of present urban and rural areas was bound to be substantially modified. This should be taken into account in connexion with the preparation of the manual on methods of projecting urban and rural population, which was now ready in draft (E/CN.9/289, para. 120).

258. Several members indicated that small countries (with populations under 250,000) would require assistance in making their own projections by age and sex and possibly other characteristics which are not now included in the United Nations projections.

259. It was felt that the manual on household projections would be very useful, especially as the recent symposium on population and the family had stressed the need for a more thorough analysis of households and families. The Commission was informed that the publication of such a manual was expected in 1974.

260. As reflected in documents E/CN.9/289 and E/CN.9/284, some members felt that further co-ordination in the work of projections among the specialized agencies and the regional commissions was required. In this connexion, the Commission was informed that the ACC Sub-Committee on Population had agreed at its eighth session to request a meeting of the ad hoc Inter-agency Group on Projections early in 1974, with participation of the regional commissions, with the dual purpose of analysing the projections being submitted in various documents for the World Population Conference as well as to discuss a concerted programme which would follow up on recommendations made by the Conference itself.

261. The Commission recommended that special attention should be given to describing in clear terms the assumptions used in the preparation of projections by organizations in the United Nations system. Some members felt that the United Nations projections should be submitted to the consideration of the respective countries before they were published.

2. Fertility

262. Work being conducted on trends in fertility, as well as the studies on the relationship between infant and child mortality and fertility, was considered of great urgency, and the progress, as well as arrangements made for future work in these respects were noted with interest.

263. The issuance in the languages of the United Nations of the report on the Interregional Workshop on Population Action Programmes, which was held in Manila from 15 to 25 November 1972, was urged.

264. The work being conducted by the Public Administration Division in consultation with the Population Division on administrative aspects of family planning programmes, and the study on methods of measuring the impact of the family planning programmes on fertility were considered to be of great interest to the Commission.

265. The Commission requested that attention should be given to conducting additional work in the area of fertility and the family as a result of the discussions at the Symposium on Population and the Family, held in Honolulu from 6 to 15 August 1973. It was pointed out that that Symposium had not dealt adequately with the effects of national and individual fertility levels on the welfare of the family, and this relationship should be given attention.

266. In connexion with the studies on the family, the Commission stressed the need to pay considerable attention to the responsibilities of fathers in connexion with the family welfare and the status of women within the family. One member recommended that the Population Division and UNICEF undertake special studies in this area.

3. Mortality

267. The Commission was informed that owing to pressure of work this area of research was somewhat behind schedule. However, the Interregional Seminar on Mortality Analysis had been held from 20 September to 3 October 1972 in Mamaia, Romania, and a Committee of Experts on Methods of Revising the United Nations Model Life Tables had been convened in April 1972.

268. The Commission noted the recommendations made at both meetings contained in reports E/CN.9/273 and 274. The Commission recognized the very valuable services rendered by the United Nations model life tables, especially in connexion with the preparation of projections, as well as by providing guidance for developing countries in connexion with their own work in this area. It recognized the need to bring this material up to date at the first possible opportunity and recommended that, at that time, more attention should be given to infant mortality, in particular mortality of children aged from one month to under one year. Attention was also drawn to the need for longitudinal studies, while noting, at the same time, the difficulties involved in this kind of mortality research.

269. With reference to the recommendations made at the Mamaia Seminar, the Commission urged the Population Division to follow up on the actions suggested by the participants at the Seminar. However, in connexion with the recommendation made for the construction of sub-national life tables, several members of the Commission indicated the serious difficulties involved in such work owing to the importance of migratory movements, particularly in developing countries.

270. The Commission called attention, in particular, to the need for studies on the influence of mortality on the family cycle. The need for mortality analysis by sex and urban and rural differentials was also emphasized.

4. Internal migration

271. Work in this area was considered of great importance. Since the preliminary study on internal migration, studies published in working papers were not available

for general distribution, and preparation, in consultation with the ILO, of a consolidated report on urban and rural labour force was considered to be an urgent requirement.

5. International migration

272. The Commission stressed the need for in-depth studies on international migration, not only on the measurement of the phenomenon but also on policies. The representatives of several countries stressed the importance of this area not only for their own countries but also for its effect at the international level as well.

6. Studies related to population and development

273. The Commission concurred in recognizing the great value of these studies and their urgency, thus reiterating recommendations made in this connexion at earlier sessions. Particular attention was devoted to the need for co-ordination between the work of the Secretariat and other bodies, including CICRED, on the studies on demographic, economic and social relationships.

274. The Commission regretted that, owing to the lack of the additional resources required, the ILO could not collaborate during 1972-1973 with the United Nations in the study of labour-force trends and demographic and economic change, as recommended by the Commission at its sixteenth session. The Commission suggested that arrangements should be sought for obtaining the necessary funds to effect this study.

275. The Commission was informed that volumes I and II of the Determinants and Consequences of Population Trends had been completed and would be issued very shortly; however, the bibliography and indexes were still in preparation. Noting that the first edition of the publication had been a very fundamental contribution of the United Nations, the Commission reiterated an earlier request for speeding up its release.

276. Satisfaction was expressed that the 1973 version of the "Concise Summary of the World Population Situation", a publication which is widely used, would be issued very shortly.

7. Population policy

277. The Commission attributed a high priority to the work in this area. It indicated that the technical background study for the World Population Plan of Action would be a most important document for the World Population Year and, therefore, asked for maximum priority to be given to its completion. The Commission also indicated that the comparative analysis of population-policies development in the countries was of utmost importance, and that much attention should be devoted to this area.

F. Concluding remarks

278. The Director of the Population Division, in summarizing the discussion on the progress of work, expressed his appreciation of the constructive nature of the comments offered by the Commission and was conscious above all of the need for co-ordinating projects of the work programme, within the Division itself and with the activities of bodies of the United Nations system in the field of population. He emphasized the contributions being made by the regional economic commissions and the desirability of strengthening the capacity of the commissions to continue and to expand their work: in addition to their many other activities, research and studies at the country and subregional and regional levels and their potential for assisting in new developments in the field of training were especially important.

VII. TWO-YEAR AND MEDIUM-TERM PROGRAMMES OF WORK
FOR 1974-1975, 1974-1977 and 1976-1979

A. General background and introduction

279. The Commission had before it the programme proposals for the periods 1974-1975, 1974-1977 and 1976-1979 (E/CN.9/283).

280. The Commission was reminded that the consideration of the work programmes by the functional commissions and committees of the Economic and Social Council was subject to new rules resulting from the application of General Assembly resolution 3043 (XXVII) of 19 December 1972, which approved a new form of presentation of the budget on a programme basis and introduced a biennial budget cycle for a medium-term four-year plan. Under the new procedures programme formulating bodies should, in the first instance, state their objectives in rather general terms, and the Secretary-General would examine and elaborate the most effective and economical means of achieving the objectives in question. The Commission's attention was drawn to the programme budget 1974-1975 and medium-term plan for 1974-1977 which are included in documents A/9006/Add.1 (part I); E/5329/Add.1; and E/5364.

281. The work programme proposals submitted to the Commission were limited to the activities to be carried out by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs at Headquarters. They had been prepared bearing in mind that the work programme of the United Nations in the field of population might be affected by the outcome of the World Population Conference, 1974; but they had taken into account as well that the United Nations had permanent duties in the field of population for which provisions must be made in accordance with the budget programming cycle decided by the General Assembly.

282. The Director of the Population Division, in introducing the work programme, underlined the intellectual stimulation which had been provided by the symposia held in Cairo, Honolulu and Stockholm to which reference was made in paragraph 102. In relation to the substantive preparations for the World Population Conference. He was conscious that the elements of the work programme were presented in somewhat isolated form. Further time was needed to reflect on the full implications for research and studies of the many ideas which had been discussed in the symposia with regard to the reciprocal relations between population and the fields of development, resources and environment, and the family. There were questions involving both the substantive directions and the methodology appropriate to the research and studies that were proposed.

283. The Director noted that the work programme had to some extent already endeavoured to incorporate the most salient elements which had emerged in the months of intense reflection during which the plans for the symposia had been developed and the documentation for the Conference had to be decided upon. In this period the closest possible consultation and co-ordination had been maintained by the Population Division with other offices and departments of the United Nations, with the interested agencies of the United Nations system, with the regional economic commissions, with certain specialized non-governmental and intergovernmental

organizations, with research institutes and with a very large number of individual research workers in population and related fields. The continuance of such wide contacts and consultations gave to the work of the Department a wider setting in which its role would stimulate and complement the many and diverse activities which had developed in the last decade in the field of population, both at the level of research and of policy and action programmes.

284. The Commission warmly commended the spirit and general direction of the programme, noting however that some flexibility should be retained in view of the possibility that the recommendations by the World Population Conference might call for change of emphasis and adjustments to the programme. It, therefore, concentrated its attention on reviewing the programme proposals for the 1974-1975 period, but considered the long-term objectives as well.

285. The Commission made the specific recommendations indicated in this chapter and suggested strongly that the Secretary-General should study possible ways of implementing, in addition to the work programme for 1974-1975, for which budgetary provisions had already been made, as indicated in E/CN.9/283, the activities listed hereunder.

286. When discussing the programme proposals several members drew the attention of the Secretariat to a number of general aspects which ought to be kept in mind during the implementation and further development of projects. It was, in particular, noted that the use of longitudinal studies in, e.g., research on the family cycle and nuptiality appeared to be very promising for which the Symposium on Population and the Family had provided good guidance. Much work also needed to be done in respect of the study of the impact of family planning on fertility, the study of family changes at the micro-level, the gap in longevity between the sexes, and the study of nomadic populations. Reference was, similarly, made to the very considerable problems involved in the use of models and in projections of the labour force and urban and rural population over long periods of time. Some members expressed the hope that the traditional work on basic demographic statistics and analysis would continue to receive substantial attention.

287. The Commission stressed the importance of strengthening the regional activities in the population field and of institutionalizing demographic research at the national level.

288. In reply to questions from several members, the Director of the Population Division informed the Commission that the implementation of the programme would involve the full utilization of his staff. He also assured the Commission that a regular evaluation of the progress of work had taken place and that adjustments had been made as required.

289. Members of the Commission felt that the reports on programme proposals should in future be accompanied by an evaluation of the future work programme including analyses of the components of the work programme in terms of priorities and man-hours. The Commission was informed that these were available and that further information could be obtained upon request by members.

290. The Commission, similarly, asked that a better insight be given into the interrelationship between projects and activities, so that the programme could be viewed as a whole and the effect of possible options could be considered.

B. Continuing service functions

291. The regular continuing service functions of the Secretariat are of three types: (a) servicing of legislative bodies and others concerned with expert advice and decision-making in the population field; (b) substantive servicing of the technical co-operation programme; and (c) providing demographic information.

292. The basic function will continue to be the servicing of the legislative bodies of the United Nations, including the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the functional commissions and committees, the specialized agencies concerned with population matters, UNFPA and the organs concerned with interagency and programme co-ordination.

293. In the field of technical information service, the principal continuing function will be the evaluation of accuracy and necessary adjustment of demographic data and the provision of demographic estimates and projections for the use of the United Nations family of organizations, as well as for the general public. These estimates and projections will be published periodically in working papers, in the Monthly Bulletin of Statistics and Demographic Yearbook, and in reports on studies, including the biennial report on the World Population Situation and the quadrennial report on the World Social Situation.

294. The quarterly Population Newsletter will continue to be the vehicle for disseminating information on activities in the field of population undertaken by the United Nations. Several members of the Commission reiterated earlier requests for the Newsletter to be issued also in French and possibly as well in other official languages. It was proposed that the coverage of the Newsletter should be expanded to include activities of organizations in the United Nations system. Reviews of the activities will also continue to be prepared annually for the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly and the report of the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly.

295. Another continuing function of the Secretariat will be the substantive support and collaboration given to the World Fertility Survey undertaken by the International Statistical Institute in co-operation with IUSSP. The careful planning and execution of this Survey will eventually provide important data needed for filling gaps in present knowledge of factors affecting fertility. Continued support will be provided as well to CICRED, IUSSP, and other non-United Nations bodies which conduct programmes which are supportive of United Nations activities.

296. Apart from the above continuing functions, the policies and programmes in the field of population are formulated and managed under the terms of the work programmes and priorities established by the Population Commission, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly. Population-oriented activities carried out within the United Nations are co-ordinated. Arrangements are made for co-operative population activities to be carried by the United Nations system as well as in collaboration with the non-governmental organizations.

C. Field programmes and services

1. Long-term objectives

297. The Commission approved the proposal contained in E/CN.9/283 that the fundamental objectives of the programme component were to assist the developing countries in creating or strengthening their capacity to study the population situation and trends; to assess the implications of population as a major factor of development in relation to their own objectives, priorities and problems and to take duly into account these elements in the formulation and implementation of their development plans, which might include explicit population policies. The Commission requested the United Nations to continue to assist the developing countries that might request such assistance in attaining the following objectives:

(a) To develop a cadre of national specialists and technicians in the population field, including demography, statistics, family planning, health and development planning;

(b) To collect basic population data by censuses, demographic surveys and vital statistics;

(c) To establish or improve existing national institutions concerned with the formulation and/or implementation of policies and programmes on population matters such as (i) national population commissions and (ii) units of population studies in national planning offices;

(d) To establish family planning programmes;

(e) To establish or strengthen the teaching of demography and population policies in national universities;

(f) To establish or strengthen institutes, centres or services capable of undertaking demographic surveys;

(g) To establish national or regional centres capable of offering adequate interdisciplinary training in all population matters.

2. Two-year programme of work 1974-1975

298. The activities indicated below would be undertaken during 1974-1975 as a contribution to the long-term objectives outlined above and in accordance with interests expressed by the Governments and policies laid down by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. Many of these activities are the continuation of the ongoing projects reported in document E/CN.9/289, with provision for turnover of country and regional projects, so that while some will be completed others will be started during the period. As in 1970-1973, the bulk of the resources required for field programmes and services would be expected to be provided by UNFPA. The following activities would be supported during 1974-1975.

(a) Training

299. Fellowships: the United Nations will provide approximately 500 fellowships

per year. Regional training centres: the five centres will be strengthened, especially the new ones in Accra and Yaoundé; new regional centres may be initiated. National training facilities exist in about 20 countries; existing facilities for multidisciplinary training should be surveyed as a basis for the initiation of experimental courses in collaboration with regional institutions.

(b) Population statistics

300. Census operations are being supported in some 20 African countries, and about 10 countries in other regions; demographic surveys in some 20 countries; vital statistics systems in about 10 countries.

(c) Demographic research and studies

301. Country monographs and studies on the population situation of a diagnostic type in some 60 countries are to be conducted with the support and co-operation of the regional commissions, demographic centres and CICRED, as well as an analysis of the results of population censuses in some 30 countries.

(d) Integration of population in development planning

302. Units of population studies in development planning organizations of some 20 countries are to be established or strengthened; an experimental training programme on this subject is to be initiated.

(e) Family planning programmes

303. Such programmes are to be supported in about 30 countries, and in particular central management and related research and evaluation activities are to be strengthened and an experimental training programme on the interdisciplinary aspects of family planning is to be initiated in collaboration with both WHO and IPPF.

(f) Environmental aspects of human settlements

304. A series of new activities aimed at developing awareness of the implications of population growth for the environmental aspects of human settlements, and development of appropriate policies will be initiated as part of a programme in collaboration with the United Nations Programme for the Environment.

(g) International migration

305. Studies and seminars are to be supported; an international centre for population studies and training with emphasis on demographic aspects of international migration might be initiated in co-operation with appropriate organizations, such as ICEM, CICRED and others.

D. Research and technical work

306. It is understood that population cannot be studied on its own but should be

analysed taking into consideration the multiplicity of social, economic, environmental and cultural factors which affect its growth, structure and distribution and which are at the same time affected by demographic changes. The dual relationship between population and development is therefore one of the most important aspects to which the work programme of the Population Division is directed.

307. For this multidisciplinary programme of work the Population Division is collaborating closely with the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system. The same applies to various units within the United Nations as well as to UNFPA.

308. The nature of the work programme of the United Nations in population has gradually changed into a policy-oriented activity aiming primarily at assisting countries, not only to understand the salient demographic facts, but also to take population into consideration in their development plans. As a further step in this direction, the proposed programme of work emphasizes the following aspects: population and development; population policy; family planning, including its demographic and policy aspects; more knowledge about fertility, particularly through the World Fertility Survey in which the United Nations is collaborating; and projections, particularly with regard to the integration of non-demographic variables.

1. Population trends and structure

(a) Long-term objectives

309. The Population Division has continuing responsibility for biennial reports on the world population situation as requested by the Population Commission. Other such reports are also needed from time to time for specific purposes, e.g. on the occasion of conferences or as chapters concerning the demographic background to be included in the reports of other offices of the United Nations and specialized agencies. It is expected that these responsibilities will continue in the future, requiring repeated updating of the analysis of demographic trend components.

310. Continuing work on mortality, internal migration, urbanization and international migration will be required in the future, because these subjects are of policy interest in themselves and because they are needed as inputs in population estimates and projections. Up-to-date evaluations of levels and trends in these respects will be needed especially in 1977 and 1979 when new reports on the world population situation will be prepared, and in 1978 when another up-to-date revision of world population projections is to be calculated on the basis of new assessments of demographic trends.

311. In the longer run, the research work should extend to other demographic topics of interest in the formulation of development programmes, including the more detailed study of regional population redistribution, nuptiality, marital status and families, population in particular age groups such as youth and elderly persons and, in co-operation with specialized agencies, demographic aspects in topics such as labour force or education. New needs are arising also in the growing fields of regional planning, environmental policy and public administration. The interrelations between these fields and demographic analysis will have to be studied.

(b) Two-year programme of work 1974-1975

(i) Principal features and components of urban and rural populations

312. After completion of the series of studies described in document E/CN.9/289, the findings of these studies are to be combined and their implications to be studied and evaluated. A report on the findings should be ready for publication in 1975.

(ii) Study of volume and structure of international migration

313. Systematic research will be undertaken throughout 1974 and the first half of 1975 to result in a published report on international migration during the 1950-1970 period among regions and countries of the world. In the second half of 1975, work will be taken up on the characteristics of migrants.

(iii) World population situation

314. A report on this topic featuring some implications of anticipated population growth of the longer-run future should be published early in 1974, and a report featuring mortality late in 1975. A population chapter for the biennial report on the World Social Situation will be submitted late in 1975.

(iv) Study of size, structure and dynamics of households and families

315. Availability of detailed cross-tabulations from the 1970 round of population censuses for some countries, giving household and family characteristics, will enable the Secretariat to assess the influence of factors affecting the size, structure and dynamics of households and families. Additional research in this area is required not only to study the effect of marital status and changes therein on projections of number of households and families, but also to assess the effect of changes in life cycle on family formation, growth and dissolution. Factors affecting trends in the family life cycle will be studied as part of this project.

(v) Seminar on demographic aspects of public administration

316. A seminar on the demographic aspects of public administration, including the needs of public administration for demographic information and public administrative measures necessary for national demographic services is to be prepared and convened in 1975, with a view to providing guidelines for future work in this field.

(vi) World survey of mortality levels and trends

317. Throughout 1974 and 1975, systematic research will be undertaken to result by the end of 1975 in a publishable report on mortality levels and trends and some of their correlates in the 1950-1970 period. The report will update a similar document published in 1962 and will be parallel to a similar report being prepared on conditions and trends of fertility.

(vii) Revision of United Nations model life tables

318. In implementation of recommendations of the expert group convened in 1972, work on this topic may begin late in 1975, with a view to its completion well in time before the next round of revisions of population projections.

2. Population and development

(a) Long-term objectives

319. The primary aim is to improve the existing knowledge of the relationship between population change and trends and economic and social development with a view to meeting the policy-making and planning needs of Governments and the requirements of United Nations bodies and technical assistance activities. The work programme is concerned with the mutual relations between population and development. These can be mainly of two kinds, namely the influence of economic and social change upon demographic trends and their components, and the implications of demographic change for economic and social development and for population programmes and development policies. It is suggested that the long-term objectives focus mainly upon this second type of relationship.

320. The major long-term objectives include: identification and selection of demographic, economic and social indicators and the establishment of a data bank, which is to be kept up to date, to serve population, development and other needs; study by means of cross-section and time series analysis of the relations between population and development, with special reference to the socio-economic impact of demographic trends; identification of patterns of population and development among regions and nations and collaboration in the design of a population-development typology; and study through alternative population projections and forecasting models of the implications of foreseeable population trends and needed policy measures.

321. These descriptive and analytical studies of the interrelations between population and development are an indispensable element for medium- and long-range planning and programmes. Such studies would contribute substantially and specifically to the formulation of policy guidelines and programmes in the field of population and development.

(b) Two-year programme of work 1974-1975

(i) Study of demographic, economic and social relations

322. The project would place the main emphasis on the implications of economic and social change for demographic trends, especially fertility and mortality in selected countries. As recommended in previous sessions, the Population Division would be assisted by a committee of experts in designing the country studies to be carried out by interested national population research institutes and co-ordinated by CICRED. Work in the countries would be carried out during the latter half of 1975. The report could be complemented by an updating of an earlier study on the relationship of past trends in birth and death rates to economic and social conditions in selected industrialized countries.

(ii) Comparative study of the interrelation between population and development

323. During 1974 and 1975 systematic work and research will be undertaken on the comparative study, including selection and compilation of demographic, economic and social indicators. Partly on the basis of the indicators proposed for purposes of the review and appraisal of the objectives of the International Development Strategy the relevant indicators for this project will be selected. It is also envisaged to develop for this purpose, in collaboration with other interested United Nations organizations, a data bank which would also service other projects undertaken within the Population Division.

(iii) Study of labour force trends and demographic and economic change

324. This project, in accordance with the wishes of the Population Commission, will be undertaken in collaboration with the International Labour Office, and it was suggested that arrangements be sought for obtaining the necessary funds to enable the ILO to effect this study.

325. During the first half of 1974, substantive support will be provided for the preparation of the conference documents, "Relations between population change and economic and social development" and "Relations between population resources and environment".

3. Demographic estimates and projections

(a) Long-term objectives

326. A main long-term objective of the Secretariat's work in estimates and projections is continuation of provision of all types of demographic projections to countries, United Nations bodies, units within the United Nations Secretariat and institutions. The projections of total population by sex and age are the basis of other more detailed projections, including those of urban and rural population and of households and families prepared by the Population Division, of labour force prepared by the ILO, of agricultural and non-agricultural population prepared by FAO, and of population by educational characteristics prepared by UNESCO. This programme requires co-ordination and collaboration with the competent specialized agencies as well as with the regional economic commissions, regional demographic centres and Governments. A new comprehensive revision of these projections will be needed in 1978.

327. This long-term programme requires continuation of efforts in (i) further development of work on evaluation and adjustment of basic demographic data; (ii) further improvement of methods of projections including those of preparing the assumptions; and (iii) further elaboration of computer programmes.

328. As a further step, the programme aims at incorporating the basic social and economic factors in the development of the projections. For this purpose, it is necessary to prepare more elaborate demographic models, particularly simulation models.

329. Work should continue on evaluation and adjustment of data, preparation of

estimates and projections on the basis of new information and analyses, and provision of such data to other units of the Secretariat, international organizations, Governments, institutions and so on.

330. It is also proposed to strengthen the work on preparing models leading to demographic projections, including econometric and simulation models. Work on simulation models will help to identify demographic and socio-economic factors affecting the size, structure and growth of population, to assess the nature and degree of interrelationship among these factors and to prepare projections.

331. There is also a need for further development of work on projections of households and families. It will be necessary for this purpose to undertake the necessary studies of factors affecting the growth, structure, formation and dissolution of households and families.

332. In view of the interdependence of assumptions and relationships between the techniques, it is suggested that work on development of assumptions and on methods of projection should be co-ordinated so as to maintain consistency among the various types of projections prepared by the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

(b) Two-year programme of work 1974-1975

(i) Provision of estimates and projections

333. The Secretariat will continue to make the arrangements necessary for providing Governments, international and national organizations and research workers with estimates and projections, as well as other demographic information and studies.

(ii) Evaluation and adjustment of basic demographic data

334. This is a continuation of one of the permanent functions of the Secretariat in collaboration with the regional economic commissions and regional demographic centres. Work in 1974 and 1975 will cover particularly data from the 1970 round of censuses whose results are not yet available.

(iii) Preparation of the report on world population prospects as assessed in 1973

335. After completing the current revision of the projections of total population by age and sex, a report which gives the assumptions, methods, a summary of the results and some of the tables will be prepared during 1974-1975 for publication under the title "World Population Prospects as Assessed in 1973".

(iv) Study of interrelationships among various demographic projections

336. Before preparing the next revised projections in 1978, it will be necessary to study thoroughly the methods followed in preparing projections under different circumstances concerning availability and accuracy of the data and degree of detail. It will also be necessary to study the interrelationships among the various types of demographic projections in order to determine to what extent the assumptions involved in preparing one type will influence the other types of projections. The

latter study is thus essential for preparing revised projections of total population by sex and age, urban-rural population, economically active population, agricultural and non-agricultural population, population by educational characteristics and households and families.

(v) Assessment of international experience in the development of simulation models for projections

337. With the advent of large-storage computers, comprehensive demographic simulation models can now be worked out in order to identify various demographic and socio-economic factors influencing population size, structure and growth, and to assess the nature and degree of their interrelationships. This project will be conducted in collaboration with national demographic research institutions. In order to promote and give guidelines to the Secretariat's work programme on demographic models, an Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Demographic Models, particularly simulation models by computers, is proposed to be convened in 1975. The meeting will review existing simulation models and advise the Secretariat as to types of variables to be included, computer programmes to be used and methodology to be applied, as well as immediate utilization of simulation models for long-range projections. This new project is proposed in view of its importance to the development of the Secretariat work on models.

(vi) Projections of urban and rural population

338. Consistent with revised projections of total population by sex and age, revised projections of urban and rural population, individual cities and cities by size class are to be prepared in the first half of 1974, to be followed by consistent projections of urban and rural population by sex and age in the second half. The combined results should be published with an interpretive text in a report in 1975.

(vii) Workshop on demographic projections

339. In view of the importance of preparing, on a national level, demographic projections that cover not only total population but also labour force, urban and rural population, agricultural population and so on, it is proposed that an international workshop on this subject should be organized and convened early in 1975. The ad hoc inter-agency Group on Projections will meet early in 1974 to prepare the plans for the 1975 workshops as well as for future co-operative work in this area.

4. Fertility and family planning

(a) Long-term objectives

340. The work programme should continue to focus upon efforts to broaden knowledge of fertility levels and trends and factors affecting them, particularly in the developing countries. It is also important to know the levels and trends of fertility differentials as related to demographic, economic and social factors, and in respect to the practice of fertility regulation. The relevant studies should permit identification of the regions and population subgroups with high fertility

and the particular features of their fertility patterns, and relate these features to the characteristics of the family in each region and subgroup, as well as to variations in the economic and social structural context.

341. Such studies are indispensable for the formulation of national population policies adequately integrated into and subordinated to the achievement of economic and social development objectives; they are also needed to ensure efficiency in the design, administration and evaluation of national family planning programmes in countries which have adopted such programmes as one of the kinds of measures required for the implementation of their population policies. Results of these studies may aid Governments to identify priority areas where communications programmes might be effective in motivating change in human reproduction behaviour.

342. The meaningful study of fertility differentials also requires a type of research that is profoundly different from the conventional macro level of analysis that has characterized most research in fertility. Circumstances are so diverse throughout the world that generalizations derived from analysis at the macro level do not provide a basis for specific recommendations in any one country. There is, therefore, evidence of the need for a new type of research that might be called "in-depth micro-macro" in the sense that it relates the reproductive attitudes and behaviour of individuals to the changing structure and functions of their families and then in turn relates these aspects of the family to the changing economic, social and cultural context in the community at large. Pending the recommendations that emerge from the World Population Conference, 1974, attention should be devoted more to the development of research ideas leading to fuller comprehension of ways in which the elementary factors of family life processes, family structure and relationships influence fertility, taking into account the relevant social, economic and cultural aspects of society. For these purposes, it will be necessary to devise appropriate techniques and methodology.

343. The study of the influence of national family planning programmes on reproductive behaviour has now become an essential part of research in fertility. The influence of various governmental measures, such as welfare, level of living and education, upon individual decision and behaviour with regard to family size is another area deserving of study. Recent and foreseeable increases in the use of national family planning programmes as an instrument for regulating rates of population growth make it imperative to strengthen knowledge about the demographic aspects of family planning. Relevant studies would aid both the design and evaluation of national family planning programmes.

(b) Two-year programme of work 1974-1975

(i) Conditions and trends of fertility in the world, 1960-1970

344. This is the continuation of the study initiated in 1972 and described in document E/CN.9/289. The study of conditions affecting these trends is being restricted to demographic factors such as changes in age structure, nuptiality, the distribution of fertility by age, parity and cohort analysis. The Commission recommended that trends in urban and rural areas be analysed separately if possible. A first draft of the study should be completed by the time of the World Population Conference, 1974, although the work of verification, review and revision will probably delay publication until 1975. s

(ii) Report on coding and tabulations for comparative fertility surveys

345. This report is being prepared by a sub-committee of the IUSSP for publication under United Nations auspices. One of the staff members of the Population Division is participating in the project as a member of the sub-committee. The project should be completed in 1975.

(iii) Studies in the relationship between infant and childhood mortality and fertility

346. This project is described in document E/CN.9/289. It is being co-ordinated by CICRED, and the results will be presented at a seminar scheduled to be held in 1975. The Population Division is working in close contact with CICRED on this project and has recently submitted a series of research suggestions for consideration by CICRED.

(iv) Expert group on methods of evaluating the impact of family planning programmes on fertility

347. It is intended that the meeting should not be concerned solely with methodological problems. While several important methodological aspects will be given due attention, papers will be invited which illustrate the substantive application of these methods to family planning programmes in specified countries. The participants will include both methodologists and persons engaged in evaluation work in the field.

(v) Ad hoc committee of experts on public administration aspects of family planning programmes

348. This meeting is being organized by the Public Administration Division in co-operation with the Population Division and will be held late in 1974 or early in 1975.

(vi) Demographic aspects of family planning programmes: micro level

349. Studies of demographic aspects of family planning programmes at the individual or micro level are intended to improve the design of such programmes. This project is conceived as a study of the characteristics of persons who avail themselves of the services of family planning programmes as compared with the population of non-acceptors (and sometimes also of initial acceptors who drop out). Among the most relevant characteristics for study are age, sex, parity, marital status, education, economic activity, spouse's occupation and urban or rural residence. Follow up methods will be used, as recommended by the Commission, although recognizing the serious practical difficulties arising from internal migration.

(vii) World Fertility Survey

350. The Population Division, through its participation in the various functioning committees of this project, made a substantial contribution to the formulation of the plans. It is expected that the United Nations, both at Headquarters and at the

regional commissions, with the financial support of the UNFPA, will be able to assume new important responsibilities in the development and co-ordination of the substantive aspects of the survey.

5. Population policy

(a) Long-term objectives

351. The long-term objective is to promote practical knowledge regarding the formulation, implementation and evaluation of population policies, with a view to assisting countries in the establishment of sound population policies in the context of their development plans and programmes, and to provide technical advice to the relevant legislative bodies of the United Nations.

352. In accordance with General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions dealing with the subject of population policy, recent reports of the Population Commission particularly the report on the sixteenth session, and the conclusions of the Ad Hoc Consultative Group of Experts on Population Policy (E/CN.9/267), the scope of population policy has been defined to include not only family planning programmes, but also other socio-economic measures and programmes affecting reproduction and family formation, morbidity and mortality, demographic structure, internal migration and distribution and international migration. Population policy is therefore viewed as part of socio-economic development policy. Consequently, the work will have to rely heavily on the findings of other projects of the work programme of the Commission, as well as on studies by other national and international organizations. Co-ordination with these organizations will be maintained, including those aimed at better integration of the population factor in the various international development strategies.

353. The main objectives of the work programme are to (a) collect, analyse and review government views of their population problems and their experiences in the formulation and implementation of population policies; (b) develop further pertinent knowledge in this field, particularly with regard to methods of integrating population goals and inputs into development plans and programmes; (c) provide guidance in all aspects of national population policies to Governments that desire it; and (d) provide technically sound advice to the Economic and Social Council, the General Assembly and other relevant international bodies. The programme is oriented to assemble and analyse the population policies in the developed as well as in the developing countries.

(b) Two-year programme of work 1974-1975

(i) Study for the World Population Plan of Action

354. This project has so far consisted in undertaking a Technical Background Study to the World Population Plan of Action, as well as in preparing the draft World Population Plan of Action itself. Since the draft World Population Plan of Action will be presented to the World Population Conference in August 1974 the project will soon be completed.

(ii) Methodology and guidelines for the evaluation and integration of population factors in development plans

355. This project is the combination of two projects already in the work programme in the field of population policy, namely, "guidelines for demographic consideration in planning" and "methodology for the evaluation of demographic factors in development planning". This project will review methods for: integrating population inputs into development plans and ensuring their consistency with other related inputs; taking into account the implications of population trends for the objectives and targets in other social and economic sections of the plan; and incorporating population objectives and targets among the over-all plan targets. Through a comparative analysis of methods used for achieving these ends, this study will attempt to devise guidelines and suggest techniques that may be used by countries in their development plans. These guidelines and techniques should be useful for improving the integration of population factors in existing international strategies and particularly in their review and appraisal. Members of the Commission called attention to the need to study how population data and information on interrelationships can be used in the formulation of policies.

(iii) Comparative analyses of population policy development

356. The aim of this project is to collect and keep up to date an inventory on population problems and policies in the different countries of the world; undertake comparative analyses of these problems and policies; and assist developing countries and international co-operation agencies in identifying and formulating national and regional population policy projects, with particular emphasis on fertility policies outside family planning and internal and international migration policies.

(iv) Collection and analysis of national population problems as perceived by Governments

357. In undertaking the technical background study to the World Population Plan of Action, 50 potential population problems were identified (e.g. excessive or deficient population growth, excessive urbanization rates, regional population imbalances, brain drain). Government views on the applicability of each problem to their respective national conditions were then ascertained. The analysis of this information has already proved valuable to the formulation of the draft World Population Plan of Action, particularly in the sensitization of its recommendations to regional and typological diversities in population conditions and national perceptions of them. An attempt will be made to identify the regional and typological concentrations of population problems in the world and to explain the social, economic and political conditions underlying the diversity in Governments' perceptions of given population conditions and trends.

(v) Collection and analysis of national population policies

358. This aspect of the project is also an extension of work done in conjunction with the Technical Background Study to the World Population Plan of Action. Previously, the United Nations had maintained an inventory of measures and programmes affecting fertility, particularly family planning programmes. With the expansion of work in the field of population policy and the broad definition adopted

the inventory has been enlarged to include measures and programmes aimed at affecting the other demographic variables of growth, structure and distribution. The present project is intended to permit (a) the expansion and continuous updating of this information and (b) its analysis with a view to improving the formulation, implementation and effectiveness of population policies. As a first step, country policy profiles in summary form will be completed in early 1974 and updated continuously thereafter. Later in 1974, the analysis of this information for a selected number of countries will be undertaken. This analysis will attempt, for example, to compare explicit population policy goals with perceived population problems and with the implicit effects of other socio-economic policies on relevant population trends. It is hoped that the results of this project will also be of particular value for guiding international population assistance.

(vi) Comparative study of the political and administrative processes of national decision-making in population policy

359. A review will be made, in a selected number of countries, of the organizational procedures for analysing national population problems, formulating policies for their solution and implementing these policies. The review will also analyse the political processes through which decisions in this field are made. The purpose of the analysis is to study the degree of compartmentalization of decision-making in this multidisciplinary field and its effect on the responsiveness of population policies to perceived population problems. The study should result in recommendations for improved decision-making processes, including organizational models which may be adapted to national conditions.

(vii) Methods for translating population policies into action programmes

360. This aspect of the project arises particularly from the needs of international co-operation in the field of population. If the scope of population policy is to be expanded beyond family planning programmes, there is a corresponding need to identify action programmes in these new areas of concern. For example, it is generally agreed that "modernization" affects the desire for children and hence fertility, but it is not clear what aspects of it could be made the subject of an action programme that could be financed by population-earmarked funds. Similarly, the location of industry has a determining effect on population distribution, but it is in practice determined mainly on the basis of economic and other considerations, and taking the population goal into account in locational decisions may involve an incremental cost which is not easily identifiable. A systematic look at these questions is necessary if the adoption of this broad definition of population policy is to be reflected in practice, particularly in the practice of bilateral and international co-operation. However, shortage of staff resources will not permit initiation of this aspect of the project before early 1975.

E. Suggestions for additional activities

361. In considering the reports on progress of work (E/CN.9/289) and work programmes (E/CN.9/283 and 284), and in view of the rapid developments in the population field which are being stimulated by the preparations for the World Population Conference and the World Population Year, 1974, the Commission additionally agreed that it would be most desirable if the Secretary-General could make arrangements for initiating the activities indicated below:

(a) Establishment of a "Population Earth Watch System" with the purpose of monitoring developments in fertility, mortality and migration trends, as well as in national population programmes and policies in the various regions. The system might include a data bank and information centre with regional outlets. The Commission did not make any specific recommendations in this respect, but it urged the Secretary-General to develop these ideas and implement them in so far as resources might permit.

(b) Reinstating the publication of the Population Bulletin on a biennial basis. In this connexion, it was considered that the publication of the Population Bulletin was only temporarily suspended, and its resumption could provide a vehicle for disseminating technical information being produced as a result of preparations for the World Population Conference.

(c) Expansion of the Population Newsletter to provide information on the activities of the organizations in the United Nations system, which would supplement existing publications by the agencies, was considered desirable in view of the increasing attention being paid to transdisciplinary activities in the field of population.

(d) The need for an international bibliographic system on population matters was felt, and members of the Commission indicated that such a system could provide most valuable services in view of the rapid increase in the publication of studies on population which makes it most difficult for government officials and scholars, particularly those in developing countries, to keep abreast of developments.

VIII. DATE AND PLACE OF MEETING OF THE NEXT SESSION

362. The Commission discussed the date and place of its next session at its 303rd meeting. The Secretary of the Commission informed members that, subject to the approval of the Economic and Social Council, it was possible to change the venue of the third special session from Geneva to New York without additional cost to the United Nations. The Commission might wish to recommend a decision by the Council to this effect and the decision could be taken up by the Council at its organizational session in Geneva in 1974. The Secretary stated however, that in view of the fact that the Council would have to consider the report of the third special session at its fifty-sixth session, it would not be advisable for the Commission to recommend that the dates of its third special session, 4 to 15 March 1974, should be changed. He drew attention in this connexion to Council resolution 1768 (LIV) of 18 May 1973 relating to submission of reports to the Economic and Social Council by its subsidiary bodies.

363. In the ensuing discussion there was general support for a recommendation to the Council that the venue of the next special session should be changed to New York and the Commission decided that the change should be recommended accordingly.

364. The view was expressed that the eighteenth regular session of the Commission, scheduled for November 1975 in Geneva, should be changed to the spring of the same year in New York. A more prevalent view, however, was that a decision in this respect might be premature but that the situation might be reviewed at the third special session in March. It was therefore decided to include the subject in the agenda of that session.

IX. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

365. At its 303rd to 306th meetings, the Commission approved the report (E/CN.9/L.109 and Add.1-9, as amended) on its seventeenth session.

X. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

Duration of the session

366. The Population Commission held its seventeenth session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 29 October to 9 November 1973. The Commission held 20 plenary meetings (287th to 306th meetings).

Attendance

367. The session was attended by representatives and/or alternates of States members of the Commission, observers from other States Members of the United Nations and representatives of bodies of the United Nations system, other intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations. These are listed in annex I.

Election of officers

368. At its 287th meeting, on 29 October 1973, the Commission elected by acclamation the following officers for the seventeenth session: Miss Mercedes B. Concepcion (Philippines), Chairman; Mrs. V. Russ (Romania), Mr. K. T. de Graft-Johnson (Ghana) and Mr. V. H. Morgan (Costa Rica), Vice-Chairmen; and Mr. D. J. van de Kaa (Netherlands), Rapporteur.

Agenda

369. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the provisional agenda contained in document E/CN.9/271. The agenda as adopted is reproduced in annex II.

Working group on rules of procedure for the World Population Conference, 1974

370. The Commission, at its 293rd meeting, on 1 November 1973, decided to establish an ad hoc working group to consider various amendments proposed to, and suggestions for revising, the preliminary draft rules of procedure of the World Population Conference, 1974, as contained in document E/CN.9/285. At the 294th meeting, Brazil, Ghana, Romania, Tunisia, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America were designated members, but the group was open to all members and the observers of the Commission. The Chairman of the group was Mr. K. T. de Graft-Johnson (Ghana), Vice-Chairman of the Commission. The Acting Director, Office of the Secretary-General of the Conference, and a member of his staff who acted as rapporteur, participated in the meetings of the group. The Commission discussed the report of the ad hoc working group at its 295th meeting, on 5 November 1973.

Annex I

ATTENDANCE a/

Members b/

BARBADOS

Alternate: Charles G. Alleyne

BRAZIL

Representative: M. Ozório de Almeida
Alternates: Teodoro Oniga
P. Motta Pinto Coelho

COSTA RICA

Representative: V. H. Morgan

DENMARK

Representative: M. Boserup
Adviser: Kirsten Riberholdt

EGYPT

Representative: G. Askar
Alternate: Hussein Hussein

FRANCE

Representative: A. Sauvy
Alternate: J. Bourgeois-Pichat

GHANA

Representative: Kweku Twum de Graft-Johnson

INDONESIA

Representative: R. Sardjono
Alternates: P. Koentarsa
E. Soeprapto
A. Moestiko

IRAN

Representative: D. Behnam

a/ In accordance with the terms of General Assembly resolution 2836 (XXVI), para. 3 (f), a full list of names of participants is not given in this report.

b/ Gabon and Haiti did not attend.

JAPAN

Representative: T. Kuroda
Alternate: O. Watanabe

MOROCCO

Representative: A. E. K. Laraqui

NETHERLANDS

Representative: D. J. van de Kaa
Alternate: E. J. N. Brouwers

NIGER

Representative: J. Akehossi

PERU

Representative: N. Urrutia

PHILIPPINES

Representative: Mercedes B. Concepcion
Alternate: Juan Saez

ROMANIA

Representative: Viorica Virginia Russ
Alternate: Nicolae Ropotean
Advisers: Vladimir Trebici
Ioan Copil

RWANDA

Representative: Jean-Marie Sibomana

SWEDEN

Representative: Inga Thorsson
Alternates: Hannes Hyrenius
Lars Jonsson
Ulf Stange
Carl Wahren

THAILAND

Representative: Visid Prachuabmoh

TUNISIA

Representative: Chadli Thani
Alternate: Mohamed Laribi

TURKEY

Representative: Haluk Cillov
Adviser: Aydemir Erman

UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

Representative: Valentin Burlin

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Representative: Arkady Isupov
Alternate: Anatoli Achourkov

UNITED KINGDOM

Representative: Jean Helen Thompson
Alternate: John E. C. Macrae
Adviser: E. W. Callway

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Representative: William H. Draper, Jr.
Alternate: Philander P. Claxton, Jr.
Advisers: Samuel Baum
Lloyd Emerson
Jim Marshall
Stafford K. Mousky
Irene Taeuber
R. T. Ravenholt

States Members of the United Nations represented by observers

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Cyprus, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, Germany (Federal Republic of), German Democratic Republic, Guatemala, Holy See, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Khmer Republic, Mexico, Norway, Poland, Spain, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

United Nations Secretariat

Department of Economic and Social Affairs: Secretary-General of the World
Population Conference, 1974

Office of Public Information: Centre for Economic and Social Information

Economic Commission for Europe

Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East

Economic Commission for Latin America

Economic Commission for Africa

United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut

United Nations bodies

United Nations Children's Fund

United Nations Development Programme

United Nations Environment Programme

United Nations Fund for Population Activities

Specialized agencies

International Labour Organisation
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
World Health Organization
International Bank for Reconstruction and Development

Other intergovernmental organizations

Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration
Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development

Non-governmental organizations

Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the
United Nations Economic and Social Council

Category I

International Council of Women
International Planned Parenthood Federation
World Federation of Trade Unions

Category II

Commission of the Churches on International Affairs
International Catholic Child Bureau
International Catholic Migration Commission
International Conference of Catholic Charities
International Federation of Social Workers
International Federation of University Women
International Social Service
International Statistical Institute
International Union for the Scientific Study of Population
Pan-Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association
Pax Romana
World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations
World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations
World Young Women's Christian Association
Zonta International

Roster

International Council of Voluntary Agencies

Annex II

AGENDA

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. World Population Conference, 1974
 - (a) General preparations for the Conference
 - (b) Substantive preparatory work
 - (i) Draft reports of three symposia held in 1973
 - (ii) Documentation for the Conference
 - (iii) Arrangements for pre-Conference regional meetings
 - (c) Interim report on the second inquiry among Governments on population and development
 - (d) Annotated draft provisional agenda for the Conference
 - (e) Preliminary draft rules of procedure for the Conference
 - (f) Status of plans for the organization and management of the Conference
 - (g) Preliminary draft of the World Population Plan of Action
 - (h) Activities parallel to the Conference
 - (i) Administrative and financial implications of the Conference
4. World Population Year, 1974
 - (a) Preparations for the World Population Year: programmes and progress
 - (b) Roles of the organizations of the United Nations system
 - (c) Participation of non-governmental organizations
 - (d) Other matters
5. African Census Programme
6. Proposals regarding demographic publications of the United Nations and financial implications

7. Report on the progress of work
 - (a) Review of major decisions of the legislative organs of the United Nation in the field of population
 - (b) Changes in organization and resources of the Secretariat in the field of population
 - (c) Technical assistance for population activities through field programmes and services
 - (d) Research, studies and technical meetings
 - (e) Programme co-ordination
8. Two-year and medium-term programmes of work for 1974-1975, 1974-1977 and 1976-1979
9. Date and place of meeting of the next session
10. Adoption of the report of the Commission

Annex III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

<u>Document No.</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>	<u>Title</u>
A/9006/Add.1 (Part I)	8	Medium-term plan for the period 1974-1977 (see <u>Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 6A</u>)
E/5264		Report of the Population Commission on its seventeenth session (see <u>Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8</u>)
E/CN.9/271	2	Provisional agenda and annotations
E/CN.9/272	3 (i)	World Population Conference, 1974: note by the Secretary-General on administrative and financial implications
E/CN.9/273	7 (d)	Report of the <u>Ad Hoc Committee of Experts</u> on methods of revising United Nations model life tables
E/CN.9/280 and Corr.1 and 2	3 (a)	World Population Conference, 1974: report on general preparations for the Conference, including consultations with Governments
E/CN.9/281	3 (b)	World Population Conference, 1974: progress report of the Secretary-General of the Conference
E/CN.9/282	3 (c)	Interim report on the second inquiry among Governments on population and development: report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.9/283	8	Two-year and medium-term programmes of work for 1974-1975, 1974-1977 and 1976-1979: report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.9/284 and Add.1 and Corr.1	7 (e)	Work programmes in population of organizations in the United Nations system
E/CN.9/285	3 (e)	Note by the Secretary-General on the preliminary draft rules of procedure for the Conference

<u>Document No.</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>	<u>Title</u>
E/CN.9/286	3 (d)	World Population Conference, 1974: note by the Secretary-General of the Conference on the annotated draft provisional agenda for the Conference
E/CN.9/287	3 (f)	World Population Conference, 1974: report of the Secretary-General of the Conference on the status of plans for the organization and management of the Conference
E/CN.9/287/Add.1	3 (h)	World Population Conference, 1974: report of the Secretary-General of the Conference on activities parallel to the Conference
E/CN.9/288 and Corr.1	4	Progress report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities
E/CN.9/289	7	Population programme of the United Nations: report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.9/289/Add.1	7 (c)	Interdisciplinary training in population matters: progress report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.9/290	6	Demographic publications of the United Nations: note by the Secretary-General
E/CN.9/291	5	Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the African Census Programme (as of 31 July 1973)
E/CN.9/292	3 (g)	World Population Conference, 1974: Report of the Secretary-General on the draft World Population Plan of Action
E/CN.9/292/Add.1 and Corr.1	3 (g)	Preparations for the World Population Conference, 1974: report of the Advisory Committee of Experts on the World Population Plan of Action on its 2nd meeting
E/CN.9/293	7 (d)	Interregional Seminar on Mortality Analysis: report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.9/294	7 (d)	Interregional Workshop on Population Action Programmes: report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.9/295	4	Population component of the 1974 work programme of the Centre for Economic and Social Information

<u>Document No.</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>	<u>Title</u>
CRP.1	3 (b) (i)	Report on the Symposium of Population and the Family
CRP.2	3 (b) (i)	Report of the Symposium on Population Resources and Environment
CRP.3	3 (b) (i)	Report of the Symposium on Population and Development, Cairo, 4-14 June 1973
CRP.4	3 (b) (ii)	World Population Conference, 1974: list of background papers
CRP.5	3 (b) (iii)	List of meetings related to the substance of the Conference
CRP.6	5, 7	List of experts in the field of population as of 30 September 1973
CRP.7	7, 3 (e)	Preliminary draft of the rules of procedure for the Conference - United States of America: draft proposal
CRP.8 and Corr.1	3 (g)	Amendments proposed by the Brazilian delegation to the draft World Population Plan of Action
CRP.10	3 (e)	Report of the Working Group on the preliminary draft rules of procedure
CRP.11	7	Statement submitted by the European Economic Commission
E/CN.9/NGO 6	4	Statement of International Educational Development Inc. on non-governmental organizations on the Roster
E/CN.9/NGO 7	3	Statement submitted by the International Planned Parenthood Federation
E/CN.9/XVII/INF.5	2	Proposed programme of work for the seventeenth session
E/CN.9/XVII/INF.6 and Add.1		Provisional list of representatives to the seventeenth session of the Population Commission
E/CN.9/L.107		List of documents before the Commission
E/CN.9/L.108	2	Agenda
E/CN.9/L.109 and Add.1-9	10	Draft report of the Population Commission on its seventeenth session

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