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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

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
ECWA	Economic Commission for Western Asia
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
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
UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
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

At its third special session, the Population Commission 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. Recommendations requiring action by the Council

(a) Invitations

The Commission, expressing its satisfaction with the arrangements made for invitations to participate in the Conference, recommends that the Economic and Social Council should authorize the Secretary-General of the Conference to invite: (a) the intergovernmental organizations listed in annex IV (a) of the present report to be represented by observers; (b) the interested specialized agencies and the IAEA to be represented at the Conference; (c) the non-governmental organizations listed in annex IV (b) to be represented by observers, as well as any other non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council that, before the Council's fifty-sixth session, also express the wish to be represented (paragraph 46).

(b) Report of the Conference

In taking note of the decision taken by the Economic and Social Council at its organizational session for 1974 on the report of the Conference, the Commission recommends that the results of the Conference should be considered in 1975 at the special session of the General Assembly devoted to development and international economic co-operation which, according to the provisions of General Assembly resolution 3172 (XXVIII), would be convened just before the thirtieth regular session (paragraph 49).

(c) Rules of procedure

The Commission agreed to annex the following recommendation to the revised preliminary draft of the rules of procedure of the Conference, for consideration by the Council: "The Population Commission considers that it is highly desirable for the World Population Conference, 1974, to reach decisions on the basis of consensus, which is understood to mean, according to United Nations practice, general agreement without vote, but not necessarily unanimity."

The Commission recommends that the Council approve as the provisional rules of procedure for the Conference the text of the revised preliminary draft of the rules of procedure (see E/5472), together with the annex on consensus contained in the preceding paragraph. The Commission, moreover, wishes to record its understanding that the statement in the annex can not be considered to constitute a legal precedent and that, when consensus can not be achieved on an important matter of substance, a vote should be taken according to the rules (paragraphs 65-67

2. Actions brought to the attention of the Council

(a) Visits by the Secretary-General of the World Population Conference

The Commission was informed that, to date, the Secretary-General of the World Population Conference had visited a total of 21 countries. Arrangements were being made for him to visit three additional countries in the coming weeks, and plans existed for visiting others subsequently. In scheduling visits, he was seeking an appreciation of the variety of positions that existed on the topics appearing in the Conference agenda. In addition to making visits to individual countries between April and June 197⁴, he would be participating in the regional consultations arranged with the active co-operation of ECLA, ECAFE, ECA and ECWA. Only in the case of Europe would the arrangements be slightly different, as the Commission had directed at its seventeenth session (paragraphs 4-5).

(b) General preparations and co-ordination

The Commission expressed its satisfaction with the consultative and working arrangements that had been established to prepare for the Conference and with the tremendous co-operation received from the Romanian Government (paragraph 26).

(c) Consultations with Governments

The Commission noted with appreciation the preparatory arrangements being made for the regional consultations and expressed the hope that those consultations would be devoted mainly to the consideration of the draft World Population Plan of Action, expressed its desire to have prepared in time for the regional consultation: a third and final draft of the World Population Plan of Action, as well as the third draft of the background document, both to be prepared in the light of the discussion on the second drafts at the current session of the Commission, and requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to circulate the reports of the forthcoming regional consultative meetings to all Governments, together with any suggestions he might have, in order to enable the Governments to take them into account when considering the final draft of the World Population Plan of Action (paragraphs 5⁴ and 57).

(d) Status of Women

The Commission agreed to the request made by the Commission on the Status of Women at its twenty-fifth session that the Special Rapporteur's report, considered at the same session and entitled "Study on the interrelationship of the status of women and family planning" (E/CN.6/575), should constitute a background document for the Conference and be circulated to Governments before the Conference, and it expressed the wish that an abridged version of the report should be widely circulated during the World Population Year and that the draft conclusions of the International Forum on the Role of Women in Population and Development (ESA/SDHA/AC.5/6 and Add.1) should also be published. Further, it agreed that the draft conclusions of the Forum should be taken into account when the draft World Population Plan of Action was revised (paragraphs 71-73).

(e) Parallel and associated activities

The Commission expressed its appreciation to the Government of Romania, the Planning and Management Committee of the Population Tribune and the Organizing Committee of the International Youth Population Conference for the efforts being made to implement the parallel activities. The Commission also took note of the arrangements for the Encounter for Journalists and the proposals under consideration for other related and associated activities (paragraph 109).

(f) Review Committee for Background and Symposia Papers of the Conference

The Commission felt strongly that the substantive documents recommended for translation and distribution to Governments, those recommended for publication, the four symposia reports and also the four basic Conference documents contained such a wealth of knowledge that they should receive wider distribution in collected form. The Commission further recommended that they should be issued in that form around the time of the World Population Conference.

The Director of the Population Division informed the Commission that such a timing of their issue might be possible, subject to the necessary funds being made available. He indicated that the total number of pages amounted to 3,200. The Secretary-General of the Conference said that, after consulting with the proper authorities of the United Nations, he was confident that it would be possible to have those valuable documents prepared and distributed in the way suggested by the Commission (paragraphs 217-219).

(g) The draft World Population Plan of Action

In order to provide the Secretary-General of the Conference with as much specific guidance as possible, a draft statement to be included in the report of the Commission was submitted by three delegations and received the approval of most members of the Commission. The statement welcomed the intention of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to prepare a third and final draft of the World Population Plan of Action as soon as possible and to circulate it to all Governments at least 90 days before the World Population Conference. It requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to circulate the reports of the forthcoming regional consultative meetings to all Governments with any suggestions he might have. It then recommended that the third draft of the World Population Plan of Action should include: (a) A clearly defined statement of principles and objectives in the style of a declaration, based on the principles set out in the documents and the discussions referred to above;

(b) A supporting programme containing recommendations and options for action at the national and international levels, which should be clearly stated for consideration at a political level and based on document E/CN.9/292/Rev.1, and the comments and proposals made during the third special session of the Population Commission, keeping the recommendations in as explicit and concise a form as was feasible.

It finally recommended that background document E/CN.9/292/Rev.1/Add.1 should be completed in the light of the comments and proposals made during the Commission's third special session, drawing as necessary on the Conference papers, background papers and symposia reports (paragraphs 115-116).

(h) <u>Reproduction</u> and distribution of documentation

A representative of the secretariat of the Economic and Social Council stated that the Secretariat expected to be able to meet the 90-day dealine decided on by the Commission for the circulation of the definitive texts of documents relating to the agenda items of the Conference, namely, the four main reports (E/CN.9/304,E/CN.9/311, E/CN.9/III SS/CRP.5 and E/CN.9/III SS/CRP.6), the draft World Population Plan of Action (E/CN.9/292/Rev.1) as further revised after the present session of the Commission, the revised provisional agenda and annotations and the revised time-table (E/CN.9/302/Rev.1) and Add.1/Rev.1) and the draft provisional rules of procedure (E/CN.9/285/Rev.1).

With regard to the background materials, although the report of the Symposium on Population and Human Rights had not yet been translated, every effort would be made to distribute all four symposia reports by the 90-day deadline. The more than 40 background papers would be issued as they became available. A few were already being processed. It was intended that they should be distributed as early as possible and at least 60 days before the opening of the Conference. The Commission understood that the one-page or two-page summaries of each background paper were included in this arrangement. The one-page or two-page summary statements by individual countries would be processed as they were received and would be translated if time and services allowed (paragraphs 220-221).

(i) Report on the second inquiry among Governments on population and development

The Commission expressed great appreciation of the contents of the report on the second inquiry among Governments on population and development (E/CN.9/303)and regretted that positive replies to the inquiry had been received from no more than 7⁴ countries, not including some countries of large population. It was hoped that statements by individual countries to be submitted at the World Population Conference would partly supplement the remaining gaps in information.

The Commission considered it highly desirable that the one-page to two-page statements of individual countries, which could be summaries of the countries' replies to the questionnaire, if they so wished, should be obtained, and requested the Secretariat to continue its efforts in that respect (paragraphs 222 and 225).

(j) Organization and management of the Conference

The Commission noted with appreciation the preparatory arrangements and organization that had so far been made for the Conference in Bucharest and expressed its satisfaction to the Government of Romania and to the Secretary-General of the Conference (paragraph 230).

(k) Draft annotated agenda for the World Population Conference

The Commission approved the revised provisional agenda and the revised annotations to be presented to the Conference for adoption.

The Commission considered what arrangements could be made to ensure that matters discussed in the committees that were of relevance to the working group dealing with item 11, World Population Plan of Action, would be brought to the attention of that group. It was agreed that the chairman of each committee should arrange for the chairman of the working group to be kept informed, if necessary on a daily basis, of such matters. Also, it was to be expected that each delegation would so co-ordinate its work that its representative in the working group would be fully aware of the developments in each committee (paragraphs 237-238).

(1) Proposed time-table for the Conference

The Commission agreed that pre-Conference meetings of an informal character should discuss procedural and organizational matters in order to ensure that the Conference would proceed smoothly. However, such meetings should not take up substantive items on the agenda and a period of two to three days should suffice for the informal meetings on procedural items. The dates of 15 and 16 August were agreed on for these meetings, which could, if necessary, extend into the morning of 17 August.

Although the Conference could establish such committees as it thought necessary, accommodation was limited to the plenary meetings and to three other committees or sessional bodies of the whole meeting simultaneously. Further, some Governments might have difficulty in sending delegations large enough to cover many meetings at the same time.

Given the five main items on the provisional agenda, the Commission agreed that item 7, "Recent population trends and future prospects", should be taken up principally in plenary meetings in the context of the general debate; item 8, "Relations between population change and economic and social development", in Committee I; item 9, "Relations between population, resources and environment", in Committee II; item 10, "Population and the family", in Committee III; and item 11, "World Population Plan of Action", in a working group which would be a sessional body of the whole. The meetings of the committees and the working group should be staggered in such a way that adequate time could be devoted to the consideration of items assigned (paragraphs 241-243).

(m) Preparation and adoption of the report of the Conference

In agreeing to the arrangements for the preparation and adoption of the report of the Conference, the Commission sought to determine what specifically would be included in the report of a committee. It was concluded that, in addition to the recommendations, proposals and actions taken, the committee report should record concisely the main trends and salient features of the discussion, particularly those that indicated how the recommendations of the committee had been reached. The Commission further agreed that since the report of the working group would constitute the World Population Plan of Action, a presentation along similar lines was not required (paragraph 253).

(n) Administrative and financial implications of the Conference

The Commission reiterated its concern, expressed at its seventeenth session, that the Secretary-General of the Conference should have the necessary administrative and financial flexibility in matters relating to the preparations for the Conference, including the possibility of the reallocation of funds from one item to another, as appropriate. In particular, he should have available to him adequate funds for secretariat travel in preparation for the Conference, and to ensure that sufficient staff were present at the Conference itself. The Commission was assured that there was sufficient flexibility in the current Conference budget for the shifting of funds from item to item; it was further assured that the preparation of the selected background papers would not be affected by the reduced appropriation and that there was adequate provision for it in the existing budget (paragraphs 256-258).

B. WORLD POPULATION YEAR, 1974

(Chapter III)

Action brought to the attention of the Council

The Commission expressed its satisfaction with the progress made and the success obtained in launching the operational activities related to World Population Year, 1974. The Commission hoped that the programmes developed would lead Governments and peoples to a better understanding of population and that the additional demands for assistance that would be generated could be met (paragraph 274).

C. MATTERS RELATED TO WORLD POPULATION YEAR, 1974

(Chapter IV)

Action brought to the attention of the Council

Interdisciplinary training in population matters

On the adoption of the report of the Commission on its third special session, some members drew attention to the fact that the title of the Committee on Interdisciplinary Training in Population Policies and Family Planning seemed too restrictive to cover the mandate they considered it to have. They suggested, therefore, that it might be more appropriate to change the name in such a way as to reflect the broader concept of "population matters" instead of "population policies" (paragraph 301).

D. DEMOGRAPHIC FUELICATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS

(Chapter V)

Actions brought to the attention of the Council

The Commission was informed that the funds necessary for the expansion of the first two issues of the Population and Vital Statistics Report in 1974 had been made available and that work on that project was progressing in accordance with the plan approved by the Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Co-ordination of the Statistical Commission at its meeting in July 1973. The Commission expressed its concern with the new delays that had occurred in the publication of the Demographic Yearbook. Given the importance of the Yearbook as the only comprehensive source of international demographic statistics, there was a real need for it to be issued on time. The Commission was informed that the Statistical Office was taking steps to improve the timing of the publication of the Demographic Yearbook and that possibly two volumes would be published during 1974. The Commission, finally, welcomed the publication of the volume I of The Determinants and Consequences of Population Trends: New Summary of Finds on Interaction of Demographic Economic and Social Factors, and strongly expressed the wish that the second volume of that very important publication, which had taken so many years to prepare, would soon follow. Funds to meet the remaining costs should be secured without delay (paragraphs 302-306).

E. DATE AND PLACE OF MEETING OF THE NEXT SESSION

(Chapter VI)

Recommendation requiring action by the Council

The Commission recommends to the Economic and Social Council that it reschedule the Commission's eighteenth session for early spring, 1975. Holding the session in the spring would enable the Commission to consider the implications of the recommendations of the World Population Conference for the programme of work of the Population Division and to make its own recommendations to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-eighth session and would, in general, bring the Commission's activities more into line with the budgetary cycle of the United Nations.

Several members expressed their preference for holding the session at United Nations Headquarters to permit more efficient servicing of the Commission's work, particularly in view of the fact that the Population Division was based at Headquarters (paragraphs 307-308).

II. WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE, 1974

A. General background

1. At its third special session, the Population Commission met in its capacity as the intergovernmental preparatory body for the World Population Conference, 197^4 , and the World Population Year, 197^4 , a role that had been assigned to it by the Economic and Social Council (resolution 1672 B (LII)).

2. The Secretary-General of the World Population Conference submitted 23 reports on the development of Conference preparations since the Commission's seventeenth session, held at Geneva from 29 October to 9 November 1973. The reports were concerned with the organization and management of the Conference, its parallel and associated activities and its financial and administrative implications; they further dealt with substantive preparations, consultations with Governments and matters relating to the broader framework of the Conference. These documents are listed in annex III.

B. Statement by the Secretary-General of the Conference

3. In his opening statement to the Population Commission, the Secretary-General of the World Population Conference welcomed the new representatives from Ecuador, India, Mauritania and Panama. He noted with pleasure the presence of observers from the People's Republic of China and many other countries and organizations.

4. Recalling that the Commission had urged him to visit as many countries as possible, he said that he had now visited a total of 21, nine of them since the Commission had last met. Arrangements were being made for him to visit three additional countries in the coming weeks, and plans existed for visiting others subsequently. He said that, in scheduling visits, he was seeking an appreciation of the variety of positions that existed on the topics appearing in the Conference agenda.

5. The Secretary-General of the Conference reminded the Commission that in addition to making visits to individual countries between April and June 1974, he would be participating in the regional consultations arranged with the active co-operation of ECLA, ECAFE, ECA and ECWA. Only in the case of Europe would the arrangements be slightly different, as the Commission had directed at its seventeenth session. 1/

6. He asked for guidance from the Commission during the discussion of the basic Conference documents and symposium reports. He said that certain Governments had asked him how the Conference proposed to consider those documents, inasmuch as

^{1/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3, para. 45.

almost every item in them calling for action would also appear in the draft World Population Plan of Action.

7. He reported that the fourth and final pre-Conference symposium - that on population and human rights - had taken place as planned at Amsterdam from 21 to 29 January 197⁴ with the co-operation of the Government of the Netherlands. The discussion had been on a high level, with participants recognizing the need to take into account the variety of the world's cultures and values. Recommendations had been made when consensus was reached; when consensus was not reached, differences had been frankly expressed. Although the report of the symposium was not available to the Advisory Committee of Experts on the World Population Plan of Action at its final meeting, some of the recommendations in the report, the Secretary-General felt, should eventually be incorporated into the Plan.

8. He said that the revised preliminary draft provisional rules of procedure (E/CN.9/285/Rev.1) incorporated changes proposed by the Commission, and he hoped that the Commission would now find the draft acceptable.

9. The Secretary-General of the Conference also referred to the document which discussed activities parallel to or associated with the Conference (E/CN.9/310/Add.1). He pointed out that while such activities were co-ordinated with the work of the Conference secretariat, they were being organized, financed and managed separately and independently. He said that representatives of the Population Tribune and the International Youth Population Conference would appear before the Commission to discuss their preparations.

10. Turning to the World Population Plan of Action, the Secretary-General said that the Advisory Committee had considered the second draft contained in document E/CN.9/292/Rev.1, and its findings were before the Commission (E/CN.9/299). He pointed out that while the Committee had generally agreed with the revised version of the Plan, its detailed recommendations were of such a nature that the Committee preferred to present a separate version of the Plan itself (E/CN.9/299, annex) rather than merely to present its comments and observations. Thus, the Secretary-General said that, together with the background document (E/CN.9/292/Rev.1/Add.1), the Commission now had three documents before it referring directly to the World Population Plan of Action.

11. He drew the attention of the Commission to the first paragraph of the Advisory Committee's version of the World Plan of Action which stated:

"The explicit aim of the World Population Plan of Action is to affect population variables. Its contribution to the solution of world development problems is intended to be only partial, as is the case for other strategies. Therefore, the Plan must be considered as one part of the system of international strategies which, when taken together, constitutes the international community's over-all strategy for the promotion of economic development and social well-being" (E/CN.9/299, annex, para. 1).

Thus it appeared to him that the success of the Bucharest Conference would depend on the acceptance of the Plan by Governments and world opinion. Not experts alone but also government officials and the general public must be able to make their own assessment of the World Population Plan of Action. The Plan would be successful exactly to the extent that other strategies were successful in dealing with problems relating to food, employment, the environment, economic development and the general quality of life. All those strategies fundamentally demanded efforts on a national scale. The best Plan of Action, the Secretary-General stated, would be the one that best facilitated both national and international political action on the problems with which the Plan was concerned.

12. He said that one member of the Advisory Committee had objected to the inclusion in the Plan of quantitative targets referring to either demographic growth or birth-rates. Bearing in mind that the Conference would make the final decision, the Secretariat still felt that a specific reference to such targets would be useful. This was a sensitive point, and countries should be convinced that if they approved such targets, they would do so in the full exercise of their sovereignty and without the least shadow of outside pressure. At the same time, he felt that the international community would have a priority commitment to co-operate with those countries which, having set such targets, asked for co-operation to supplement their own resources.

13. The Secretary-General of the Conference said he had some regrets that the Advisory Committee had seen fit to delete a specific reference to racial discrimination. He understood the Committee's logic: since the Plan referred to all rights, none need be singled out. Yet he felt that the principle of non-discrimination with regard to race as well as that of non-discrimination against women were so closely involved with the questions appearing in the World Population Plan of Action that they would have particular importance for the nations represented at Bucharest.

14. The Secretary-General concluded by paying a special tribute to the Government of Romania for its tremendous and generous efforts to ensure that the World Population Conference would be the success all hoped it would be.

C. Statement by the Director of the Population Division

15. The Director of the Population Division noted that the Commission's third special session marked a decisive turning-point in the pre-Conference period: from the scientific and substantive preparations now well on their way to completion in accordance with the schedule set by the Commission, to the intensification of the policy-level consultations which had already been initiated on a broad front by the Secretary-General of the World Population Conference and which would assume a new aspect at the five forthcoming regional consultations.

16. The Director pointed out four subjects that he thought should receive priority attention by the Commission: the World Population Year, the second draft of the World Population Plan of Action, the Conference documentation whose completion was urgent and imperative, and the organization of the Conference itself.

17. With regard to the World Population Year, he referred particularly to the African Census Programme. He informed the Commission that he had requested the Director of the Statistical Office to present a report on the progress of work in that area. The time had come to start preparations to ensure the full analysis and prompt utilization of the results of so much effort. Special training courses, notably at the Yaoundé and Accra demographic centres, would be indispensable for that purpose. 18. Most of the Director's remarks related to the World Population Plan of Action. He noted that a foreword explaining the purpose of the Plan had been incorporated in the abbreviated version of the text (E/CN.9/292/Rev.1) that had been prepared at the request of the Commission at its last session. 2/ That foreword drafted in measured terms, was intended to inform government officials and public opinion of the nature and complexity of population problems, especially in view of the fact that the future would be affected by those now having responsibility for making decisions on present-day problems. He urged that the question of population growth should not be made the exclusive area of concern, to the neglect, for example, of problems relating to the unsatisfactory geographical distribution of population, and expressed the hope that the exchange of ideas and experience reflected in the second draft would prove that societies are capable of exchanging experience with one another without infringing in any way the principle of national sovereignty.

19. The Plan itself, he explained, consisted of a series of recommendations bearing principally on six demographic variables. He emphasized that those recommendations not only covered direct action on those six variables, but also encompassed the secondary effects of economic and social measures and, therefore, formed an integral part of a development strategy.

20. The Director observed that some of the most delicate points in the Plan required still further discussion. He referred especially to the question of target-setting in relation to population growth. The recommendations of the Plan were not to be considered as an integrated system of measures to be either accepted or rejected in their entirety; they had been elaborated in such a way that Governments could select and give emphasis to those best suited to the circumstances prevailing in their countries. He remarked, furthermore, that the text of the Plan was in some respects still incomplete. Provision would have to be made for the inclusion of principles dealing with the elimination of discrimination on the basis of sex or race.

21. The Director also spoke briefly about the progress made in the preparation of the documentation to be submitted to the Conference. While all the relevant documents were about to be distributed to the Commission, it had not been possible because of lack of time to have all of them translated. The basic documents on population and development and on population, resources and environment were among those not translated. The reports of the symposia on those subjects were, however, being made available in the different languages and might be of value in the discussions.

22. The Director finally informed the Commission that it would be provided with information on the recently held Symposium on Population and Human Rights, on the work of the Review Committee for Background and Symposia Papers of the Conference and also on the second inquiry among Governments.

^{2/} Ibid., para. 168.

D. General preparations and co-ordination

1. Meetings

23. The Director of the Office of the Secretary-General of the World Population Conference, in introducing a progress report of the Secretary-General of the Conference on preparatory arrangements for the Conference (E/CN.9/310), stated that the intersecretariat group entrusted with co-ordinating the activities of the World Population Year and the World Population Conference had continued to hold frequent meetings. The intersecretariat <u>Ad Hoc</u> Planning Group for the Conference had also continued to hold its meetings at United Nations Headquarters.

24. From 31 January to 2 February 1974, a second series of meetings had been held in Bucharest between the Romanian National Preparatory Committee for the World Population Conference and members of the United Nations Secretariat. In conjunction with that series of meetings other consultations had taken place on parallel, associated and related activities that, it had been agreed, would take place on the occasion of the Conference or that were under consideration by the Romanian authorities.

25. Of the many conferences and meetings that were taking place on the occasion of World Population Year or as a preparation for the Conference, special attention, the Director stated, should be given to the International Forum on the Role of Women in Population and Development and to the recently concluded twenty-fifth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, each of which had in its recommendations a number of proposals of concern to the World Population Conference.

26. The representative of Romania expressed his delegation's satisfaction with the continued progress made at the second set of meetings in Bucharest between the Romanian National Preparatory Committee and members of the United Nations Secretariat and with the related consultations. The Commission expressed its satisfaction with the consultative and working arrangements that had been established to prepare for the Conference and with the tremendous co-operation received from the Romanian Government.

27. The Director of the Population Division, before taking up the question of the preparation of the substantive documents for the Conference, referred to several meetings organized by other United Nations bodies, by the specialized agencies and by certain organizations outside the United Nations, which had been held recently or were to be held and which were of interest to the World Population Conference, as indicated in document E/CN.9/301.

28. The Sub-Committee on Population of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination had met at United Nations Headquarters from 25 to 26 February 197⁴ to review interagency aspects of the preparations for the Morld Population Conference. Included in the discussions of the Sub-Committee was the draft of the paper entitled "Activities of the United Nations system in the field of population" which was to be circulated to Governments before the Conference.

29. ECWA had just completed its first regional population conference, held at Beirut from 18 February to 1 March 1974.

30. The Programme Steering Committee of the World Fertility Survey had met at Princeton, New Jersey, United States of America, on 21 and 22 February 1974. Its work was well advanced; questionnaires bad been completed and work in depth could now proceed. Also at that time, 4-8 March 1974, a meeting was held at Manila, the Philippines, on the role of family planning services in health programmes in connexion with the World Population Conference. A meeting on health trends and prospects in relation to population and development, convened by WHO, had been held at Lima, Peru, from 18 to 20 February 1974. The work of the twenty-first anniversary conference of IPPF, held at Brighton in October 1973, was also useful for the purposes of the Conference.

31. CICRED was meeting at Buenos Aires from 5 to 11 March to consider international migration, an important issue affecting discussions at the World Population Conference. If prepared in time, its report would be circulated to Governments for the Conference.

2. Preparation of substantive documents for the Conference

32. The Director of the Population Division also reported on the status of the preparation of substantive documents for the Conference, including the draft World Population Plan of Action. The reports of the three symposia held in 1973 were now being circulated in four languages; the report of the fourth and last symposium, that on population and human rights held at Amsterdam from 21 to 29 January 1974, was available in English and would be translated into the other languages.

33. Preliminary versions of four basic Conference documents had been completed: those concerning recent population trends and future prospects, and population and the family were expected in the four languages; those on relations between population change and economic and social development, and on relations between population, resources and environment would be available in English only. The Director of the Population Division noted that those documents still required "polishing" and that the comments of the Population Commission would be incorporated in the texts immediately after the third special session.

34. At its meetings from 17 to 20 February, the Review Committee for Background and Symposia Papers of the Conference had just completed its review of background papers and the papers prepared for the symposia. As requested by the Commission, it had recommended about 20 background papers for distribution to Governments prior to the Conference. Selected papers (including both background papers and symposia papers) were proposed, subject to the availability of funds, for distribution in collected form, if possible, around the time of the Conference.

35. Finally, the Director mentioned the second inquiry among Governments, the report on which (E/CN.9/303), would be discussed separately and would be used as background material for the World Population Conference.

36. The Commission appreciated the progress made, but it was recalled by some members that, under the terms of Economic and Social Council resolution 1672 B (LII), paragraph 2, it was the Commission alone that bore the responsibility for acting as intergovernmental preparatory body for the World Population Conference and that its functions extended to all aspects of the preparations except that, in accordance with paragraph 4 of that resolution, the draft of the World Population Plan of Action was to be elaborated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations with the assistance of an Advisory Committee of Experts on Global Population Strategy.

37. The Commission recalled further that at its seventeenth session it had agreed that it would defer consideration of the final structure of the substantive agenda items (items 7-11 in E/CN.9/302, paras. 23-31) and their allocation to sessional bodies of the Conference until it could see, at the third special session, the scope and contents of the four basic Conference documents and the draft World Population Plan of Action. <u>3</u>/ As not all those five basic Conference documents would become available in the language versions during the session, the Commission was concerned to find a practical alternative.

38. After having discussed several possible courses of action, the Commission came to the conclusion that it could best solve the problem by considering the symposia reports as a basis for the allocation of documents to sessional bodies and for the discussion of agenda themes and items in the instances where the texts of the basic Conference documents were before it as conference room papers only.

E. Invitations

39. The Director of the Office of the Secretary-General of the Conference informed the Commission that in 1973 invitations to participate in the Conference were sent to all States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies or of the IAEA Governments would be informed in further communications of the arrangements for the Conference.

40. The Commission was informed that the approval of the Economic and Social Council was required before intergovernmental organizations in the economic and social field could be invited to be represented by observers at the Conference. Those intergovernmental organizations were those listed in the Council's decision taken at its 1769th meeting; $\frac{1}{4}$ the three intergovernmental organizations (referred to in document E/CN.9/310, para. 9) that expressed the wish to be represented by observers at the Conference; and such other intergovernmental organizations as the Commission might consider at the current session.

41. The approval of the Council was also required, in accordance with rule 8 of General Assembly resolution 366 (IV) on the rules for the calling of international conferences of States, concerning the invitation of the specialized agencies to participate in the Conference, since their participation in conferences convened by the United Mations was not covered by the relationship agreements between the United Nations and the specialized agencies or by Council resolutions 1484 (XLVIII) and 1672 (LII) relating to the World Population Conference.

42. Invitations to participate in the Conference had been sent to the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions and to United Nations bodies in the economic and social field, including UNCTAD, UNIDO, UNEP, UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR and UNITAR.

- 3/ Ibid., para. 158.
- 4/ Ibid., Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 1, p. 24.

43. The Secretary-General of the Conference had, in accordance with the wishes of the Commission, sent a letter to all non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council inquiring whether they would like to receive an invitation to be represented by observers at the Conference. At the time that document E/CN.9/310 was prepared, 130 non-governmental organizations had replied to the letter, 77 of which expressed the wish to be represented by observers at the Conference (see E/CN.9/310, annex). As of 22 February, a further 23 positive replies had been received (see E/CN.9/310/Add.2), while as of 5 March, when the Commission had considered the report, replies had been received from a total of 108 non-governmental organizations that wished to be represented at the Conference. The Commission could recommend to the Council, if it so wished, that all the non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council and those organizations which expressed, subsequent to the Commission's consideration of this item, an interest in being represented should be invited to send observers to the Conference.

44. With respect to the facilities in Bucharest for non-governmental organizations, some members wondered whether there would be sufficient accommodation should most or all non-governmental organizations decide to send observers to the Conference. One representative suggested that the non-governmental organizations to be invited might be the subject of review, should it be desirable to reduce the numbers involved.

45. The Director of the Office of the Secretary-General of the Conference replied that the arrangements for the Conference included plans to accommodate observers representing non-governmental organizations and that those plans were not at variance with the number of replies received so far.

46. The Commission expressed its satisfaction with the arrangements made for invitations to participate in the Conference. It recommended that the Economic and Social Council should authorize the Secretary-General of the Conference to invite: (a) the intergovernmental organizations listed in annex IV (a) of the present report to be represented by observers; (b) the interested specialized agencies and IAEA to be represented at the Conference; (c) the non-governmental organizations listed in annex IV (b) to be represented by observers, as well as any other non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council that, before the Council's fifty-sixth session, also expressed the wish to be represented.

F. Report of the Conference

47. The Director of the Office of the Secretary-General of the Conference recalled the request in Economic and Social Council resolution 1484 (XLVIII) that the report of the World Population Conference should be presented to the Council and to the Assembly in 1975.

48. At its seventeenth session, the Commission decided to recommend to the Council that the report of the World Population Conference 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. The Council at its organizational session for 1974, adopted decision 1 (LVI), paragraph 2 (o) of which stated: "That the inclusion of the report of the World Population Conference as an item in the agenda of the Council's resumed fifty-seventh session is intended to enable consideration of it by the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session and further consideration in depth by the Council at its fifty-eighth session."

49. In taking note of the decision taken by the Economic and Social Council at its organizational session for 1974 on the report of the Conference, one representative recommended, and the Commission agreed, that the results of the Conference should be considered in 1975 at the special session of the General Assembly devoted to development and international economic co-operation which, according to the provisions of General Assembly resolution 3172 (XXVIII), would be convened just before the thirtieth regular session.

G. <u>Consultations with Governments</u>

50. The Director of the Office of the Secretary-General of the Conference reported on the visits of the Secretary-General and the regional consultations preparatory to the Conference. He indicated the following time-table for the regional consultations:

Region	Date	Site
Latin America (ECLA)	15-19 April	San José, Costa Rica
Asia and the Far East (ECAFE)	7-10 May	Bangkok, Thailand
Africa (ECA)	13-16 May	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Western Asia (ECWA)	21-24 May	Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic
Europe - Governments of States members of ECE	29 May — 1 June	Geneva, Switzerland

51. The executive secretaries of ECLA, ECAFE, ECA and ECWA, were organizing and making arrangements for those consultations in their respective regions in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Conference. Invitations were being sent by each executive secretary to the Governments of States members of the respective commission. In so doing, the executive secretary would follow the procedures he would normally be expected to follow in convening consultations of that kind. As the ECLA meeting was being convened under a resolution of ECLA, it would be open to other States Members of the United Nations to be represented by observers.

52. In accordance with the wishes of the Commission expressed at the seventeenth session, 5/ the Secretary-General of the Conference had convened a regional consultation with Governments of States members of ECE to be held at the United Nations Office in Geneva. Letters of invitation had been sent to all Governments of States members of ECE.

^{5/} Ibid., Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3, para. 45.

53. The Secretary-General of the Conference stated that he intended to follow closely the wishes of the Population Commission on regional consultations as expressed at its seventeenth session. 6/ The principal purpose of the regional consultations was to discuss the draft World Population Plan of Action with Government delegations that would, it was hoped, include some representatives who might be expected to be on the delegations to the Conference itself or to play a formative role in their Government's preparations for it.

54. The Commission noted with appreciation the preparatory arrangements being made for the regional consultations and expressed the hope that those consultations would be devoted mainly to the consideration of the draft World Population Plan of Action. Several members emphasized, however, that that should not preclude discussions on the basic Conference documents as well as on other relevant items of national and regional concern. Furthermore, some members considered that it would be appropriate to invite to the consultation in Europe those intergovernmental organizations that would normally be invited to participate in such meetings when held under the auspices of ECE.

55. In reply to questions raised during the discussion, the Secretary-General of the Conference emphasized that the regional consultations in ECAFE, ECLA, ECWA and ECA were being organized by the executive secretaries of those regional commissions, but that he, in accordance with the wishes of the Commission, was convening the regional consultation for ECE. With respect to the participation of the appropriate intergovernmental organizations in that meeting, the Secretary-General said that he would be happy to extend such invitations should it be the wish of the Commission.

56. The Commission therefore recommended that the regional consultation for Europe should be open to those intergovernmental organizations that would normally be invited to attend ECE meetings, namely: the Council of Europe, the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, the European Economic Community and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. The Commission also agreed that invitations to the European consultations should be extended to European States that were invited to the Conference but that were not members of ECE; namely: the Holy See, Liechtenstein, Monaco and San Marino.

57. The Commission, finally, expressed its desire to have prepared in time for the regional consultations the third and final draft of the World Population Plan of Action, as well as the third draft of the hackground document, both to be prepared in the light of the discussion on the second drafts at the current session of the Commission (see paras. 110-162), and requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to circulate the reports of the forthcoming regional consultative meetings to all Governments, together with any suggestions he might have, in order to enable the Governments to take them into account when considering the final draft of the World Population Plan of Action.

H. Rules of procedure

58. The Director of the Office of the Secretary-General of the Conference introduced the revised preliminary draft rules of procedure for the Conference

6/ Ibid., paras. 39-48.

(E/CN.9/285/Rev.1), which incorporated the changes the Commission had approved when it considered the preliminary draft rules at its seventeenth session.

59. One representative suggested that the second paragraph of rule 55 of the revised preliminary draft rules might be made more explicit by stating that oral statements made by observers for non-governmental organizations should be related to the item on the agenda of the meeting.

60. Further discussions concentrated on paragraph 1 of rule 30, which read as follows:

"Decisions of the Conference on all matters of substance shall be taken by a two-thirds majority of the representatives present and voting."

The representative of Romania introduced an amendment (E/CN.9/L.110) which called for the following addition to the end of that paragraph:

"... although the President of the Conference has the possibility to recommend that the decisions on the important matters of substance shall be taken, if possible, by consensus."

61. Some delegations expressed support for the amendment, but several representatives recalled the discussion on that matter and the vote taken at the seventeenth session of the Commission $\underline{7}$ and suggested that the matter should remain as it stood.

62. After a discussion in which changes of wording were suggested, the amendment by Romania (E/CN.9/L.110) was withdrawn in favour of an amendment (E/CN.9/L.111) proposed by Brazil, India and Romania calling for the insertion of the following tex as an annex to the rules of procedure:

"The Population Commission considers that, owing to the nature of the problems involved, it is highly desirable for the World Population Conference to reach decisions on certain important issues on the basis of consensus, rather than by vote. It also emphasizes that the right of every delegation to set forth its view in full will not be prejudiced by this procedure."

63. The representative of the United States of America submitted a proposal (E/CN.9/L.113) for the report of the Population Commission on the subject of consensus. The text read as follows:

"The Population Commission thought it was desirable that, when possible, decisions be taken at the Conference by consensus without a vote, as is the customary practice in many United Nations bodies. It was added that the usual understanding of the term 'consensus' in United Nations circles is 'general agreement', but not necessarily unanimity. Obviously, if on any matter a consensus does not appear possible, a vote should be taken under the rules. The Population Commission requested that its views on this subject be made known to the Conference."

64. The Director of the General Legal Division, Office of Legal Affairs, stated that no plenipotentiary conference under United Nations auspices had included in its rules of procedure a provision on consensus, partly because it was somewhat difficult to arrive at an exact definition of the term "consensus", and partly

<u>7</u>/ <u>Ibid</u>., para. 65.

because the objective usually sought - namely, that every effort should be made to achieve a consensus before a vote was taken - could better be attained simply by arriving at an understanding at the beginning of the conference that a consensus would be aimed at. In United Nations organs, the term "consensus" was used to describe a practice under which every effort was made to achieve unanimous agreement; but if that could not be done, those dissenting from the general trend were prepared simply to make their position or reservations known and have them placed on record.

65. After informal consultations, the Commission agreed to annex the following recommendation (E/CN.9/L.115) to the revised preliminary draft of the rules of procedure of the Conference, for consideration by the Council:

"The Population Commission considers that it is highly desirable for the World Population Conference, 1974, to reach decisions on the basis of consensus, which is understood to mean, according to United Nations practice, general agreement without vote, but not necessarily unanimity."

66. The amendment referred to in paragraph 62 and the proposal referred to in paragraph 63 above were withdrawn. The Commission recommended that the Council approve as the provisional rules of procedure for the Conference the text of the revised preliminary draft of the rules of procedure (see E/5472), together with the annex on consensus contained in paragraph 65 above.

67. The Commission, moreover, wished to record its understanding that the statement in the annex could not be considered to constitute a legal precedent and that, when consensus could not be achieved on an important matter of substance, a vote should be taken according to the rules.

68. One delegation wished to record its view that the annexed statement on consensus required that the Conference should seek at all times to formulate its decisions so that they could be made by consensus and that only as a last resort should decisions be subject to vote. Some other representatives considered that the wording of the annex was self-explanatory.

I. Status of women

69. As had the Secretary-General of the World Population Conference and before him the Director of the Population Division, the Director of the Office of the Secretary-General of the Conference, in introducing the document on preparatory arrangements for the Conference (E/CN.9/310), drew the Commission's special attention to the role of women in World Population Year and at the Conference.

70. The Commission was informed that the Commission on the Status of Women had, at its twenty-fifth session held in January 1974, made a recommendation urging all States Members of the United Nations to provide equal representation for woemn on their delegations to the World Population Conference, thus giving them a share in the formulation and adoption of a comprehensive and effective World Population Plan of Action. $\underline{8}/$

^{8/} Ibid., Supplement No. 4, chap. I, draft resolution VI.

71. The Commission agreed to the request of the Commission on the Status of Women that the Special Rapporteur's report, considered at the same session and entitled "Study on the interrelationship of the status of women and family planning" (E/CN.6/575), should constitute a background document for the Conference and be circulated to Governments before the Conference.

72. A number of representatives also agreed with the recommendation concerning equitable representation for women on delegations to the World Population Conference. The Commission also expressed the wish that an abridged version of the report of the Special Rapporteur should be widely circulated during the World Population Year and that the draft conclusions of the International Forum on the Role of Women in Population and Development (ESA/SDHA/AC.5/6 and Add.1) should also be published.

73. The Commission agreed that the draft conclusions of the Forum should be taken into account when revising the draft World Population Plan of Action and invited the Chairman of the Forum, the Assistant-Secretary-General of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, to present the comments of the Forum on the draft World Population Plan of Action (E/CN.9/L.112) to the Commission.

74. The Assistant Secretary-General for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs described the background and purpose of the Forum, which had been held in New York and at Airlie, Virginia, from 25 February to 1 March, and informed the Commission that it had been organized with the support of UNFPA, the United States Agency for International Development and a number of non-governmental organizations.

75. The aim of the Forum had been to offer an opportunity to women leaders of all the States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies to consider ways and means by which to increase the effectiveness of vomen's contribution to the formulation and implementation of international and national policies on current vital issues in the field of economic and social development and human rights. Special attention had been focused on questions relating to population, the status of women and the integration of women into the total development effort, all of which were considered most crucial for the attainment of the goals and objectives of World Population Year, 1974, as well as for International Women's Year, 1975, and the Second United Nations Development Decade.

76. When drawing the Commission's attention to the comments and suggestions made by the International Forum concerning the draft World Population Plan of Action, the Assistant Secretary-General referred, in particular, to the following comments: the draft Plan should be re-organized and written in a style and language directed to the political leaders and government officials who would have the responsibility for implementing it, rather than to the demographers; the draft Plan placed too much emphasis on the reduction of population growth and not enough on other variables which had a crucial interrelationship with population; the Plan should make clear that family planning should be interpreted to mean not merely birth control but also child spacing and the means of relating family size by choice to the benefits of family health, welfare and resources in particular cultural situations. That positive emphasis should be implicit in all discussions of population structure and change. According to the Forum, the Plan should also emphasize that the unwanted child was the principal victim of situations where parenthood was not the result of an informed and responsible decision. 77. With respect to the interrelationship between the status of women and population matters, the Assistant Secretary-General stressed that, in the opinion of the Forum, the draft Plan referred by implication to the status and roles of women in population dynamics, but did not adequately and explicitly recognize that relationship or propose actions to improve the condition of women as part of an approach to the solution of population problems. The vicious circle of the low educational and employment status of women and their high fertility had been documented in the Special Rapporteur's report on the interrelationship of the status of women and family planning (E/CN.6/575) and the Plan should therefore recognize the importance of goals and policies affecting the situation and roles of women as essential determinants of population trends. It should also be explicitly stated among the principles of the Plan that discrimination on grounds of sex was incompatible with development.

78. In conclusion, she emphasized that the Forum felt that the specific objectives should include the advancement of women and the expansion of their roles, the full participation of women in the formulation and implementation of population policies, and the creation of awareness among all women of their current and potential roles in national life.

79. Several members of the Commission expressed their appreciation of the statement and assured the Assistant Secretary-General that the comments of the Forum were highly relevant to the discussions in progress.

J. Parallel and associated activities

80. The Director of the Office of the Secretary-General of the Conference drew the Commission's attention to document E/CN.9/310/Add.1, which concerned the parallel and associated activities planned for Bucharest on the occasion of the Conference. He pointed out that the Agreement signed with the Government of Romania <u>9</u>/ defined parallel activities as those recognized as such by the Government of Romania and the United Nations. In accordance with the wishes of the Commission, such activities were being organized, managed and financed separately from the Conference itself.

81. Two parallel activities had now been recognized by the Government of Romania and had the approval of the Conference secretariat. They were the Population Tribune and the International Youth Population Conference. Representatives of the organizing committees of both events would describe their preparations to the Commission.

82. The Director said that plans for the Population Tribune were progressing well and that the response to an information flyer distributed throughout the world by a number of interested organizations had been most encouraging. Substantial progress had also been made in the preparations for the International Youth Population Conference. The Union of Communist Youth of Romania would act as host to this Conference. Arrangements for the Youth Conference would be formalized in an agreement to be signed between the organizing committee and the Union of Communist Youth of Romania.

^{9/} Agreement regarding arrangements for the World Population Conference, 1974, signed at United Nations Headquarters on 18 Catober 1973.

83. It was the understanding of the Secretary-General of the Conference that the Youth Conference would be attended by up to 200 participants of up to 30 years of age, mostly drawn from the developing countries. The Secretary-General of the Conference had also been informed that nominations for participants were now being sought and that an information flyer would soon be widely circulated with the assistance of the United Nations Centre for Economic and Social Information.

84. The Director of the Office of the Secretary-General of the World Population Conference noted that a number of associated activities had also been under discussion with the Romanian authorities. At the meeting between the Romanian National Preparatory Committee for the World Population Conference and the United Nations held in February, the Government of Romania had given its approval to a pre-Conference Encounter on Population for Journalists, to be held at Bucharest from 15 to 17 August 197⁴, especially for journalists from the developing countries. The Encounter would be open to all correspondents accredited to the Conference by the United Nations. It was expected that about 150 journalists, including some 50 from developing countries who would receive fellowships, would be in attendance. The meetings of the Encounter would be held in the Conference press centre.

85. The Commission was informed that a pre-Conference seminar for anthropologists had been proposed for 14 to 17 August 1974 to discuss the cultural consequences of population change. This seminar would be organized by the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. The objectives of this seminar would be to stimulate anthropologists to take a greater interest in population matters and to acquaint policy-makers with the socio-cultural consequences of alternative population policies. The proposal for the seminar was under consideration by Romanian authorities.

86. Further, the Commission noted that, in consultation with Romanian authorities plans were being considered for utilizing a computer-based teaching system in population dynamics. The Programmed Logic Automatic Teaching Organization (PLATO) was a large, time-sharing computer stored with demographic and social data which presented its results on a graphic display screen operated by a keyboard. In the event of the Government of Romania agreeing to its installation, the United States Agency for International Development was prepared to pay all direct costs associated with the PLATO programme. The United States Government had arranged for the display of PLATO to members of the Population Commission during the current special session.

87. WHO and UNICEF, in consultation with Romanian authorities, were developing plans to mount a rural health unit for display, to be supported by a graphic exhibit. This unit would be typical of WHO/UNICEF assistance in health care and education in the developing world. UNICEF was also proceeding with plans for an international children's drawing and poster contest in consultation with the Romanian National Committee for UNICEF, with the prize-winning design to be exhibited on the occasion of the Conference.

88. A number of other activities, some of a cultural nature, were also being discussed with Romanian authorities and sources of financial support. They included a folk theatre festival, a folklore seminar and exhibits. The Commission was informed that those activities, as well as those mentioned in the preceding paragraph, were at present under consideration by the Romanian authorities.

1. The Population Tribune

89. The Chairman of the Planning and Management Committee of the Population Tribune said that plans for that event had proceeded well since the last meeting of the Commission. Since then, an additional meeting had been held in Bucharest. The Romanian authorities had been very responsive to requests from the Tribune's organizers and were contributing a great deal to the event.

90. Individuals and members of non-governmental organizations from all parts of the world would be welcomed and invited to attend, and the success and significance of the Tribune would be measured in large part by the diversity of those present in Bucharest.

91. The Tribune audience was expected to include a wide range of interests and skills. In accordance with the Tribune's stated goal of interacting with the Conference itself, members of delegations would be invited to take part in planned Tribune programmes. A special effort would be made to inform representatives of Tribune activities and to encourage their assistance at meetings. A Tribune newspaper would be issued.

92. The Tribune would make every effort to increase the number of participants from Africa, Asia and Latin America by inviting them to take part in Tribune programmes. Travel funds from the Tribune would be available for those so invited. In addition, the Tribune encouraged organizations working in the developing world to send people from their areas.

93. The Tribune was not just for the United Nations but was also for the peoples of the world in general. The Tribune staff would undertake the responsibility of informing prospective participants about travel and accommodations. The Romanian authorities had a system for assigning hotel space, and the Tribune wws part of that system.

94. The Tribune would obviously cost a good deal of money. Its organizers had been fortunate in obtaining grants. Additional funds were still needed, however, especially to pay travel expenses for those wishing to attend from Africa, Asia and Latin America.

95. The Programme Director of the Population Tribune noted that he had circulated a preliminary programme outline to members of the Commission. He informed the Commission that the Planning and Management Committee had decided on a number of themes, such as population, social justice and development; population and the environment, population policies and programmes. Together, these themes formed an extended catalogue, and the task over the next few weeks would be to take that catalogue and produce a programme that would be of value to the people coming to Bucharest.

96. The Programme Director noted that six lectures were being arranged by IUSSP and there were plans for two or three additional lectures that would have a more philosophical and less specialized character. Comments and suggestions concerning the programme outline would be welcomed.

2. International Youth Population Conference

97. The Convener of the International Youth Population Conference told the Commission that that event was conceived as a constructive effort to bring together the experience of young people and youth groups in dealing with questions of population and economic and social development.

98. The programme prepared for the Youth Conference included a review of youth activities in the field of population as they related to socio-economic development, education, health services, human rights and so on. Discussion on the broader subject of youth and population would be held in three commissions with regard to social and economic development; resources and environment; and the family and human well-being. The Youth Conference would also examine the draft World Population Plan of Action with a view to the formulation of strategy for future youth action.

99. The Convener reported that the Youth Conference would feature background working papers prepared on the lines of the World Population Conference documentation and drawing on present youth experience. It would prepare a communication for presentation to the World Population Conference. He said that in addition to English, French and Spanish as the official languages of the Youth Conference, simultaneous interpretation would also be provided in Russian and Chinese.

100. The Youth Conference would be attended by approximately 200 participants under the age of 30. The Organizing Committee aimed to select the participants from those nominated by national, regional and international youth organizations and from those applying directly, in such a way that all participants should have some experience in dealing with population questions and would constitute a representative balance of world regions, the sexes, socio-cultural backgrounds and approaches. An information brochure would soon be published and circulated throughout the world with the assistance of the United Nations Centre for Economic and Social Information.

101. Contributions to the preparatory expenses totalling \$12,000 had been received, to which grants of \$30,000 and \$40,000 had been added by the Governments of Denmark and Sweden. Nevertheless, the raising of funds remained a major task confronting the Organizing Committee. The success of the Youth Conference would depend on bringing approximately 150 participants from the developing countries, which was the major item in the Youth Conference budget. Since only 30 per cent of the budget had been raised, the Youth Conference still had some distance to go, and Governments were asked to consider making contributions in cash or kind.

102. The secretariat of the International Youth Population Conference had been established at the headquarters of the World University Service at Geneva. The Convener wanted to place on record the deep appreciation of the Organizing Committee and of youth organizations for the co-operation and assistance of the Secretary-General of the World Population Conference, the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs and the Centre for Economic and Social Information of the United Nations Secretariat, the Division of Social Affairs of the United Nations Office at Geneva and the Division of Youth Activities, UNESCO, as well as for the support and encouragement of Governments.

3. The Encounter on Population for Journalists

103. The Deputy Director (Population) of the Centre for Economic and Social Information stated that pledges amounting to \$100,000 in support of the Encounter on Population for Journalists had been received from the Government of Denmark, from the Government of Norway (subject to parliamentary confirmation), from voluntary funds available to the Secretary-General of the World Population Conference, from the German Marshall Fund of the United States of America and from the Rockefeller Foundation. He was confident that the balance of the budget, slightly over \$150,000, would soon be raised.

104. Accordingly, the Management Committee of the Encounter would hold its first meeting on 11 March under the chairmanship of the Director of the Centre for Economic and Social Information. It would deal with such matters as the exact title of the event, the topics to be discussed and the eminent persons to be invited to discuss them. Also to be considered were the question of the evaluation of the Encounter and the follow-up to be given to it, in particular in connexion with visual and other matters that would form part of the presentation of the topics.

4. Discussion of parallel and associated activities

105. The representative of Romania stated that he expected that agreements between the Romanian authorities concerned and the organizing bodies of the Population Tribune and the International Youth Population Conference would be concluded shortly. He confirmed his Government's agreement with the arrangements for the Encounter on Population for Journalists. The Romanian press was prepared to participate fully in the Encounter. Other related or associated activities were under consideration, including the proposed folk theatre festival, a crafts exhibit and other linked activities.

106. A member of the Commission inquired whether it was appropriate for the final selection of nominees to attend the Youth Conference to be made by the Organizing Committee of that Conference. That would seen appropriate only if simple selection criteria were employed, such as age and language proficiency. The Convener of the Youth Conference replied that there were essentially two criteria for selection: the participants must be under the age of 30 and should preferably have become involved in population activities in their own countries.

107. The view was expressed that a document on the Encounter for Journalists should be circulated among Governments well before the event. The Deputy Director (Population) of the Centre for Economic and Social Information replied that a text was ready for wide distribution and would be circulated shortly.

108. The observer for Mexico announced that his Government was prepared to contribute the equivalent of \$10,000 to the International Youth Population Conference. The representative of the Federal Republic of Germany said that his Government was considering a contribution of DM 50,000 to the same Conference.

109. The Commission expressed its appreciation to the Government of Romania, the Planning and Management Committee of the Population Tribune and the Organizing Committee of the International Youth Population Conference for the efforts being made to implement the parallel activities. The Commission also took note of the arrangements for the Encounter for Journalists and the proposals under consideration for other related and associated activities.

K. The draft World Population Plan of Action

1. General

110. The Commission had before it the second draft of the World Population Plan of Action contained in document E/CN.9/292/Rev.1 and a document entitled "Background document to the draft World Population Plan of Action" (E/CN.9/292/Rev.1/Add.1), which contained an expanded version of the draft Plan. In addition, the Commission considered the report of the Advisory Committee of Experts on the World Population Plan of Action on its third meeting (E/CN.9/299), which contained in an annex the second draft of the World Population Plan of Action incorporating the amendments proposed by the Committee, and a conference room paper containing a draft World Population Plan of Action proposed by the United States of America (E/CN.9/III SS/CRP.7). The discussions of the Commission, however, centred on the second draft of the World Population Plan of Action as presented in document E/CN.9/292/Rev.1, references to the other documents being made as appropriate.

111. In introducing the item, the Secretary-General of the Conference recalled that the first draft of the World Population Plan of Action had been presented to the Population Commission at its seventeenth session in document E/CN.9/292. The second draft incorporated many inputs since then, particularly those emanating from consultations with international organizations, the discussions of the Commission at its seventeenth session, written suggestions by various members of the Commission, and bilateral consultations with Governments. The third draft of the World Population Plan of Action, which would be completed soon after the end of the Commission's special session, would take into account its discussions, the recommendations of the International Forum on the Role of Women in Population and Development, the results of the Symposium on Population and Human Rights, the recommendations of the regional population conference of ECWA and other relevant inputs. The Secretary-General of the Conference indicated that it was his intention to present the third draft of the World Population Plan of Action to the five regional consultative meetings. The Director of the Population Division then stated that the second draft of the World Population Plan of Action had benefited from extensive consultations and emphasized, in this regard, the contribution of the specialized agencies, UNICEF and the regional economic commissions.

112. The representative of the United States of America then introduced his country's proposed draft of the World Population Plan of Action (E/CN.9/III SS/CRP.7), which, he explained, was based on the Secretary-General's draft (T/CE.9/292/Rev.1) and contained only a few substantive differences. Nowever, by restructuring the Plan into three parts - principles, recommendations, and supportive actions and options - his draft separated the most important recommendations in part II from the less important ones in part III. Furthermore, the draft was written in simpler language, which would be more easily understood by policy-makers and the general public.

113. The Commission commended the Secretariat for the significant improvement achieved in the second draft of the World Population Plan of Action over the first draft that it had considered at its seventeenth session. Many members, furthermore, considered that the second draft with some amendments, based, in particular, on the report of the Advisory Committee and other inputs, could constitute the basis for reaching consensus at Bucharest. Other members proposed that some simplification of the language was advisable; while still others proposed some restructuring, particularly the drafting of a declaration in addition to the Plan and a better separation between those aspects of the Plan suited for broad political agreement and the complementary, more detailed ones. The United States draft was considered an improvement by several members, while others felt that it was unacceptable because it attempted to set priorities at the international level and because its language was too authoritative. One member felt that the abridged version now before the Commission was not as useful as the expanded background document.

114. A proposal was made that the Commission should form a working group during the session to produce a redraft of the Plan of Action that could be approved by the Commission. It was pointed out by some members, however, that the role of the Commission was advisory in this aspect, since Economic and Social Council resolution 1672 (LII) requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to prepare the draft, and that, in any case, there was not sufficient time for the task. Accordingly, the Commission decided not to form the proposed working group.

115. In order to provide the Secretary-General of the Conference with as much specific guidance as possible, the delegations of India, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland had submitted a draft statement (E/CN.9/L.116) to be included in the report of the Commission. Although the statement was drafted in the form of a resolution, it was explained that this had been done for the purpose of clarity and that the Rapporteur had been requested to reflect its main substance in the report in an appropriate form.

116. The statement, which received the approval of most members of the Commission, welcomed the intention of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to prepare a third and final draft of the World Population Plan of Action as soon as possible and to circulate it to all Governments at least 90 days before the World Population Conference. It requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to circulate the reports of the forthcoming regional consultative meetings to all Governments with any suggestions he might have (see paragraph 57). It then recommended that the third draft of the World Population Plan of Action should include:

(a) A clearly defined statement of principles and objectives in the style of a declaration, based on the principles set out in the documents and the discussions referred to above;

(b) A supporting programme containing recommendations and options for action at the national and international levels, which should be clearly stated for consideration at a political level, and based on document E/CN.9/292/Rev.1, and the comments and proposals made during the third special session of the Population Commission, keeping the recommendations in as explicit and concise a form as was feasible.

It finally recommended that background document E/CN.9/292/Rev.1/Add.1 should be completed in the light of the comments and proposals made during the Commission's third special session, drawing as necessary on the Conference papers, background papers and symposia reports.

117. In reply to specific questions the Secretary-General of the Conference stated that if as an outcome of the regional consultative meetings the Secretary-General of the United Nations considered further comments on the draft Plan of Action desirable, an addendum to the draft Plan would be prepared and circulated to Governments. 118. The representative of the United States of America thereupon stated that he wished to see included in the report a statement to the effect that his delegation agreed with the basic approach which the joint statement by the delegations of India, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom suggested should be taken by the Secretariat in preparing the revised final draft of the World Population Plan of Action. However, it also strongly continued to believe, as had been said by several other delegations as well, that the essence of the Plan should be stated as concisely as possible but should cover all areas of concern and leave the details of the Plan and its implementation to the remainder of the document. The delegation therefore asked the Secretariat in revising the Plan of Action, and other countries in making their own preparations for the Bucharest Conference, to take into account the various suggestions regarding format and the additional important principles and goals that were formally put forward by that delegation in document E/CN.9/III SS/CRP.7.

119. After the conclusion of the general debate, the Commission decided that it should review each separate section carefully in order to provide the Secretary-General of the Conference with as much advice as possible. Moreover, delegations had the opportunity to submit any further remarks in writing to the Secretariat within one week after the present session closed.

120. All comments made and submitted were noted and systematized carefully by the Secretariat; they amounted to a total of nearly 50 pages of typewritten notes, all of which, the Secretary-General of the Conference assured the Commission, would be considered in redrafting the Plan of Action. Since redrafting was not the task of the Commission, it was recognized that the present report could do no more than highlight the most important, far-reaching and concrete suggestions and proposals made. It would do so in accordance with the outline of the second draft of the World Population Plan of Action, as contained in document E/CN.9/292/Rev.1, even though changes in headings had been suggested and would be considered by the Secretariat.

2. Foreword to the World Population Plan of Action

121. In discussing the foreword, several members of the Commission indicated that the redrafting of that part by the Advisory Committee in document E/CN.9/299 had improved the text of document E/CN.9/292/Rev.1. However, most comments were made in reference to the latter draft.

122. With regard to paragraph 1 of part I of document E/CN.9/292/Rev.1, the Commission suggested that reference should also be made to the programme of concerted action for the advancement of women (General Assembly resolution 2716 (XXV) as one of the international strategies for the promotion of the quality of life.

123. Some members suggested that the reference in paragraph 2 to severe socio-economic problems in the world gave an unnecessarily negative view of the situation and thought it could be deleted from that part. Several members suggested that the foreword should better reflect the fact that there were certain positive aspects to population growth and that population growth was not always a major handicap to development. It was indicated that population growth might, in some instances, be beneficial, particularly in allowing the more rational use of space and the strengthening of internal markets and economies of scale, which permitted sustained industrialization. Other members considered that population growth in itself was never an obstacle to development; it should be viewed as a component of the development process. The introduction of those considerations, it was believed, would result in a more balanced foreword.

124. It was suggested that the reference to the need to increase the absorption capacity of cities in paragraph 7 might be left out, or if retained, might be modified to indicate that when people arrive in the city they should be permitted to take a fuller part in city life. At any rate, it was noted that there was a tendency in the text to look too much at the dark side of the urbanization process.

125. The discussion of age structure in paragraph 10 was felt by one member to be misleading, as the increased number of women in fertile age groups was perhaps more significant than the aging process. It was further suggested that the discussion of the demand for labour in the year 2000 was too speculative, as economic conditions could not be forecast for so distant a date.

126. The Commission discussed the location of the foreword, and suggested that the Secretariat should decide on that matter. Most members thought that the foreword should be presented with the Plan.

3. Principles and objectives

127. In discussing the section on principles and objectives, there was a suggestion that a distinction should be made between the two and that in the redrafting of the principles the conclusions of the Symposium on Population and Human Rights should be taken into account. It was also considered by several members that the formulation in document E/CN.9/299, was, in many parts, preferable to that in document E/CN.9/292/Rev.1.

128. In respect of paragraph 1 (a) of part II of document E/CN.9/292/Rev.1 it was noted by some members that the idea that the world's finite resources could not support an infinite expansion of the world's population should be included. Other members did not consider that necessary or desirable. With regard to paragraph 1 (h), it was stressed that, although countries themselves should play a central role in achieving the objectives of the Plan, important parts of it were the responsibility of international organizations.

129. A rewording of paragraph 2 (c) was proposed, as follows:

"To encourage socio-economic measures and programmes that are aimed at affecting factors governing population size, structure and distribution, including morbidity, mortality, reproduction and family formation as well as internal and international migration."

The need to discuss means of providing appropriate training for migrants was also stressed and a proposal was formulated to include a new paragraph -2(g) - stating that:

"Improvement of the status of women in family and in society contributes to smaller family size and the opportunity for women to plan births improves their individual status."
130. Three new principles were suggested by one member for consideration by the Secretariat. These were:

(a) "The growing interdependence between developed and developing countries emphasizes the necessity of a world-wide approach to population problems";

(b) "No policies to deal with problems of survival and growth on a global basis can win agreement unless they include measures to ensure that the poor of the world achieve a reasonable improvement in their general living conditions";

(c) "Population is one of the major determinants of the global efforts to preserve human environment and to economize the use of scarce natural resources".

131. A further proposal was to include the principle of racial non-discrimination.

4. Population goals and policy recommendations

(a) Population growth

132. Discussion took place in relation to the advisability of formulating quantitative targets. In that regard, several members indicated that the World Population Plan of Action should not have population growth targets, since such targets might be in contradiction with national targets and sovereignty. They proposed furthermore that the entire subsection on population growth should be deleted, since population growth was the outcome of the other variables discussed in the Plan.

133. Several other members of the Commission disagreed with that position. It was also pointed out that the figures mentioned in the subsection on population growth referred to the cumulative targets of individual countries and not to targets recommended by the Plan and, therefore, did not raise the issue of conflict with national sovereignty.

134. With regard to paragraph 4, it was considered advisable that the responsibility of the international community and the developed countries should not be mentioned in the policy recommendations themselves, but should be placed in that part of the draft Plan dealing with the role of national Governments and international co-operation. One representative furthermore recommended that the countries referred to in paragraph 4 should be invited not only to set quantitative population growth targets but also to formulate adequate legislation for the achievement of such targets.

135. A question was raised regarding the recommendation on the stabilization of the population of the developed countries which appeared in the first draft but had been deleted from the second. A representative of the Secretariat explained that objections had been made to the recommendation by several delegations at the seventeenth session of the Commission and thereafter. Nevertheless, some members suggested that such a recommendation should be incorporated again and could be acceptable if properly formulated. The following version was provided for guidance: "Recognizing that <u>per capita</u> demand on world resources is much higher in developed than in developing countries, developed countries with positive population growth rates are invited to consider stabilizing their populations."

Other members, however, were of the opinion that such a formulation was misleading and should be avoided, since it might have an unfavourable effect on the export markets of developing countries and thus be a consequent hindrance to their development. One member considered that the setting of the target of stabilization would be acceptable if the various stages involved were clearly indicated.

(b) Morbidity and mortality

136. Several members of the Commission stressed the importance of the subsection on health in the World Population Plan of Action and considered that appropriate emphasis had been given to it in the draft. However, a number of specific suggestions were made. One was that a statement should be inserted before paragraph 7 to the effect that family planning, by leading to changes in the timing and spacing of pregnancies, could, according to the findings of WHO and others, lower maternal, infant and childhood mortality. Another was that the phrase "the improvement of health" would be preferable to "the reduction of morbidity" in paragraph 7 and that in place of "mortality" reference to "the extension of healthy life" should be made. It was also stressed that a decline in infant mortality had almost always preceded a decline in fertility, and this should be reflected in the draft.

137. With reference to paragraph 8, it was suggested that a phrase should be included to the effect that all countries were invited to formulate programmes in the field of health as appropriate to their circumstances. Finally, there was general agreement that paragraph 25 of document E/CN.9/299 was better formulated than paragraphs 10 to 12 of document E/CN.9/292/Rev.l. However, paragraph 25 (f) of the Advisory Committee's draft should also include reference to environmental factors and wars.

(c) Reproduction and family formation

138. Several members indicated that improvements in the paragraphs on reproduction and family formation had been made in the redrafting by the Advisory Committee of some of the recommendations and that those improvements should be seriously considered for the third draft of the Plan.

139. Several members indicated their disagreement with the recommendation regarding the use of "commercial" or "non-government" channels in providing family planning supplies and advice suggested in paragraphs 15 (d) of document E/CN.9/292/Rev.1 and 29 (d) of document E/CN.9/299, but others felt that, while redrafting might be necessary, it was important, in some countries at least, to make use of all available channels for the purpose. However, appropriate training would then have to be provided.

140. With regard to the risk involved in the use of certain family planning methods referred to in paragraph 15 (e), it was pointed out that there were also risks involved in not using family planning devices and that a balance should be maintained in the recommendation. It was also maintained that the recommendations regarding family planning might have been stated too concisely and that greater elaboration and clarity were required. Some members, on the other hand, suggested the importance of socio-economic factors for fertility levels and trends and wished that greater prominence would be given to them, as had been done, for example, in the redraft of the Advisory Committee. It was also suggested that appropriate legislation could play an important complementary role in that regard. The suggestion was also made that a reference to the principle of racial non-discrimination should be included in the subsection.

141. It was noted that greater emphasis might be given in the subsection to the effect of the status of women on fertility. In that regard, the addition of a new subparagraph of the following order was suggested:

"The promotion of a raising of the age of marriage, as appropriate to the national situation, particularly through the provision of wider educational and employment opportunities for young women, so that they may participate more widely in the life of society."

142. There was some discussion concerning the recommendations in paragraph 22 which dealt with the reduction of fertility in countries where it was very high. Some members suggested that such a target should be eliminated while others felt that it should not be stated quantitatively. Other members, however, suggested that the extent of the reduction envisaged by 1985 was too ambitious and should be adjusted accordingly. One member stressed the importance of the proposals for quantitative goals and considered the goals proposed reasonable.

(d) Population distribution and internal migration

143. In the discussion of paragraphs 26 to 30, there was agreement that the Advisory Committee's formulation (E/CN.9/299) was in parts preferable to that of document E/CN.9/292/Rev.1. It was also generally felt that emphasis needed to be placed on the rational utilization of space, that more attention was needed for the details of the fertility-migration relationship, and that the subsection was too negative in regard to migration and urbanization in the less developed countries.

144. It was further suggested that more emphasis should be placed on the integration of migration policies in over-all economic and social development planning and that the social and economic aspects of life for migrants in cities should be elaborated upon. There was also a request for a re-examination of the feasibility of training potential rural migrants for city life.

145. The addition of a new paragraph was proposed consisting of the text of paragraph 54 (b) of document E/CN.9/292/Rev.1/Add.1 which read:

"On the other hand, the creation of employment opportunities (including public works programmes) and social amenities in the rural areas, or in areas accessible to the rural population, must be attempted whenever feasible so as to create viable alternatives to the metropolitan way of life; it is not sufficient to consider how to bring the people to existing economic and social activities, it is also important to consider the alternative of bringing those activities to the people."

(e) International migration

146. With regard to international migration, a preference was expressed for several parts of the Advisory Committee's version (E/CN.9/299). There were proposals to mention the rights of individuals to emigrate as part of a paragraph dealing with migration and assistance, and the discussion on the treatment of migrant workers, should mention that the receiving country had the right to consider its own employment and housing situation. Countries receiving migrant workers should, in fact, look at the flow of migrants in relation to their regional development plans and programmes as well, it was suggested.

147. Due attention should also be given in that subsection to international boundaries as barriers to voluntary migration, and to the need to facilitate international movements as much as was feasible.

148. In discussing the question of the "brain drain", it was recommended that more attention should be given to the outflow of qualified personnel from developing countries to developed countries, as this could seriously hamper the economic and social development of developing countries. National and international policies should, members said, be formulated to avoid the "brain drain"; and to obviate its adverse effects, reference would be made to the possibility of devising programmes for the large-scale transfer of appropriate technological knowledge accumulated mainly in the developed countries.

149. It was recommended that in redrafting the paragraphs on international migration attention should be paid to the formulation in the proposal regarding the need for incentives to encourage return-migration of the highly skilled (E/CN.9/III SS/CRP.7, part III, para. 19 (d)). Furthermore, more emphasis should be given to the role of differences in remuneration as a cause of the "brain drain". Finally, the inclusion of a new idea was proposed, namely, the need for exploring the possibilities of extending the civil rights of immigrants because in many cases migrants stayed longer in their country of destination than foreseen.

(f) <u>Demographic structure</u>

150. Several members thought that the subsection was out of place and recommended that the most relevant paragraphs, after being expanded and strengthened, should be integrated in various parts of the Plan. It was further suggested that the discussion on demographic inertia should be in the form of a consolidated statement in the foreword of the Plan.

5. Recommendations for the promotion of knowledge and policies

(a) Data collection

151. In discussing the paragraphs concerning data collection, members pointed out that not only the formulation of population policies and targets, but also the taking of censuses and the publication of statistics were internal affairs of nations, and that international co-operation should respect sovereignty and in particular contribute to the goal of national self-reliance. 152. Several members stressed the need of some countries for continued assistance in census preparations, and suggested that the need for preliminary preparations for census operations be given greater emphasis in the subsection.

(b) <u>Research</u>

153. Many members of the Commission considered the subsection on research to be one of the most important in the World Population Plan of Action and consequently suggested that the version in document E/CN.9/292/Rev.1 should be retained and even expanded, although the phrasing could be improved upon. It was also suggested that particular attention should be given to the development of interlinked demographic and social data systems, but that in doing so the protection of individual privacy should be kept in mind.

154. Many members of the Commission made suggestions regarding areas of research that might also be incorporated in the subsection. Those included research into the use of traditional herbs in contraception, a consideration of the ethical aspects of population policies particularly with regard to human genetics, and methodological studies at the national and regional levels.

155. One member suggested that the Secretariat should consider paragraph 150 of the report of the Symposium on Population and Human Rights (E/CN.9/III SS/CRP.4) when drafting a paragraph on population and law in the final version of the Plan.

(c) Education and training

156. In reviewing the subsection on education and training a suggestion was made to incorporate the word "information" in the title or to establish a separate subsection for that topic which would include the relevant paragraphs of the text. It was also suggested that more emphasis should be given to the training of teachers at all levels in order to ensure the proper integration of population education, including, <u>inter alia</u>, instruction concerning family life and responsible parenthood, into the educational system.

157. Several members considered that training at the national and regional level should receive much greater emphasis in comparison to international training, in order that national self-reliance could be achieved with regard to personnel of all types.

158. Some discussion took place regarding the persons to be trained in population matters. One member indicated that the mention of political leaders among those persons was inappropriate. It was suggested that emphasis should instead be placed on the training of administrators and other persons responsible for population programmes.

(d) Evaluation and promotion of population policies

159. With regard to the recommendation made in the draft concerning new publication on population matters it was recommended that those be of official intergovernmenta origin. Several members suggested that emphasis should be given to the need to expedite the publication of existing yearbooks and other material, and to the resumption of the publication of the United Nations Population Bulletin. One member suggested that the United Nations establish a demographic data bank which would provide information in the form of computer print-outs and hence obviate the delays involved in issuing the <u>Demographic Yearbook</u>.

160. The idea that the United Nations multilingual dictionary should be issued in additional languages received considerable support. It was noted that the Cairo Demographic Centre had already prepared an Arabic-French-English version of the dictionary, and also that IUSSP was revising that dictionary.

6. Role of national Governments and international co-operation

161. It was generally felt that a separation should be made between the role of national Governments on the one hand, and the role of international co-operation on the other, since their integration in one section led to a lack of clarity.

7. Monitoring, review and appraisal

162. The Commission emphasized the importance of this section, particularly with regard to the need for adaptation and revision of the World Population Plan of Action as a result of periodic review and appraisal activities. It was emphasized by several members that there was a need to co-ordinate the review and appraisal activities of the World Population Plan of Action with those of other international strategies and, more particularly, with the International Development Strategy of the Second United Nations Development Decade. However, some members of the Commission felt that the organizational details of the review and appraisal procedure for the Plan of Action should not be stated in the Plan but should be left to the General Assembly of the United Nations and the Economic and Social Council to decide.

L. <u>Preliminary versions of basic Conference documents and reports</u> of symposia, including the status of documentation

1. General

163. Before the Commission began its detailed discussion of the basic Conference documents and the report of the Symposium on Population and Human Rights, the Director of the Population Division drew attention to the fact that, although the basic Conference documents on agenda items 8, 9 and 10 were to a certain extent based on the respective symposia reports, there existed, nevertheless, important differences between them.

164. Those differences, the Director considered, could be summed up as follows:

(a) The presentation in the basic documents tended to underline those aspects that were relevant to action, while theoretical discussions were limited or treated in a simplified way;

(b) The basic Conference documents generally covered certain aspects - for example, the historical background - known to experts but not discussed during the symposia;

(c) The basic Conference documents were written for the non-specialist with a good general educational background;

(d) The basic Conference documents had a unity of style that could not be achieved in the symposia reports;

(e) The basic Conference documents were based on additional sources of information to which the qualified experts in the symposia had not had access during their deliberations.

2. Symposium on Population and Human Rights

165. The Director of the Population Division first introduced the report of the Symposium on Population and Human Rights held at Amsterdam from 21 to 29 January 1974 (E/CN.9/III SS/CRP.4) with the close co-operation of the Division of Human Rights; because the Symposium had been held so recently, the document was available only in English.

166. The discussion at the Symposium had centred on the interrelationships between the exercise of human rights and the main demographic variables and was based on the standards established by international instruments. As requested by the Commission, the Symposium had discussed in detail the right to information on family planning and to access to the means of practising it, but the discussions were by no means restricted to that issue.

167. The Director pointed out some principles on which the experts had reached a consensus and which had also been included in the draft World Population Plan of Action: the need for a population policy integrated within a development policy; the reaffirmation of the value and importance of international human rights instruments in safeguarding the liberty and dignity of the individual; the need for a minimal economic basis for the full exercise of human rights; and the acknowledgement of national sovereignty in formulating population policies.

(a) The family

168. In respect of the family, the Symposium had reaffirmed the right of couples to determine freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children, as stated in the Proclamation of Teheran, adopted by the International Conference on Human Rights, <u>10</u>/ and had noted that "responsibility" could be taken to refer to the unborn child, to existing children, to the family, the woman, the community, the nation and even the international community, and did not imply a negation of the right to procreate according to one's own wishes. The Director added that the Symposium also recommended the recognition of the right not to procreate, and was opposed to any sort of coercion coming from the State.

169. He emphasized that the Symposium had recognized the great importance of the status of women for whom, as central actors in the demographic evolution, education and employment opportunities should be promoted by all possible means.

^{10/} See United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.68.XIV.2.

170. The Symposium had also recommended measures for the protection of the family as the basic biological unit and the agent of socialization, mostly through education, whose affective and social functions were paramount in modern as in traditional societies.

171. Concerning the controversial problem of abortion, the Director of the Population Division noted that, though there had in the recent past been notable changes in social and governmental attitudes in some parts of the world, the Symposium had not taken a stand on the contradictory rights of the unborn child and those of the woman.

172. The Symposium had also pointed out that in countries where abortion was illegal, women with the means to travel abroad for an abortion had possibilities open to them that could not be used by less affluent women.

173. The Symposium had unanimously recommended that countries deciding to legalize abortion should so formulate their laws as to take into consideration full medical knowledge of the implications and consequences, both for the woman and her future children.

(b) <u>Health</u>, morbidity and mortality

174. The Symposium noted that high rates of death, morbidity, malnutrition, hunger and the lack of medical services were obstacles to the adequate fulfilment of human rights, reaffirmed the recommendation to all States to reduce mortality differentials by social class and stressed the right to life of populations in certain regions menaced by starvation or drought. Particular emphasis was given to the rights of the underprivileged, and it was urged that the international community develop the notion of a "threshold of poverty" in an effort to bring together the economic and social factors involved, a consideration often neglected by planners.

(c) Internal and international migration

175. The Director of the Population Division noted that the Symposium had recommended that migrant workers' rights should be reaffirmed in such a way as to reflect the socio-economic character of a problem that was not so evident in 1948 at the time of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

176. The majority of the participants in the Symposium had rejected coercive measures against the flow of migrants to the towns, in favour of industrialization and the development of rural areas, and agrarian and urban reforms.

177. On international migration, the Symposium had reaffirmed the principle of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on the right to emigrate. Three types of international migration were considered: the emigration of non-qualified or less qualified workers, that of political refugees, and the "brain drain". The Symposium had pointed out the need after a certain period of time to eliminate discrimination between the immigrant and the national in connexion with employment, residence, access to professional training, housing etc.

178. The Symposium had urged the right of migrants to reunite their families and

recommended that States respect the preservation of the cultural patrimony of the migrants, although encouraging their integration into the community of their country of destination.

179, While the Symposium had recognized the right to emigrate, some participants from the developing countries had pointed to the need for some countries to retain certain categories of persons because of the value of their functions to their own countries.

(d) The role of the community, the State and international organizations

180. The Symposium had recalled the right of individuals and of non-governmental organizations to participate in the formulation and implementation of population policies. The role of international organizations in the implementation of population policies had also been emphasized.

181. The Director of the Population Division, in concluding his review, noted that the Symposium considered it necessary that the competent United Nations organs and agencies should, on a co-ordinated basis, systematize the different instruments of the United Nations relating to population matters, taking account of the most recent international trends.

182. Several members expressed satisfaction with the results as reported by the Director of the Population Division and noted particularly the effort to achieve a balanced approach to certain controversial issues, such as abortion, the "brain drain", alternative roles of women, and the notion of responsibility in the decisions of couples on the spacing and number of their children. However, the Commission noted the opinions of some members regarding the notion of responsibility and the need to solve an apparent contradiction: responsibility was interpreted mainly in respect of the limitation of the number of children and that contradicted the right of the child to life and to the elements necessary to its development. It was argued that the notion of responsibility involved not only the individual but the whole society and education in the broadest sense.

183. Favourable reference was made to the recommendations of the Review Committee regarding the publication of papers prepared for the symposia; documents E/CONF.60/SYM.IV/3 and Add.1 and 2, "United Nations standards concerning the relationship between human rights and various population questions", prepared by the United Nations Secretariat, were singled out as particularly useful for the government representatives at the World Population Conference.

184. One observer, pointing to the juridical, ethical and philosophical nature of the report, reserved his Government's position on a number of issues until the appropriate language versions should become available. In that connexion, the Commission was informed that the report would be translated and that the appropriate language versions would be available to the representatives of Governments in the regional consultations. As noted in the discussions on the provisional agenda for the World Population Conference, the Commission had recommended that the report should be made available to all sessional bodies of the Conference.

3. Basic Conference documents

(a) Population trends and future prospects

185. The Commission had before it document E/CN.9/304, the draft of the basic paper on population trends and future prospects, which was to serve in the discussions under item 7 of the agenda for the World Population Conference. That paper, the Director of the Population Division stated, dealt with strictly demographic facts and factors by which they were affected and would provide the necessary background under other items of the Conference agenda where the reciprocal relationships between socio-economic development and the stated demographic trends and prospects would be considered.

186. The paper focused especially on the recent past and near future, from 1950 to the year 2000, with some consideration given to the preceding history and the conceivable long-range future prospects based on the assumption that eventually populations would become stationary. Because of the interdependence of birth, death and growth rates and a slowly evolving age structure, population trends, as the paper showed, could only change fairly gradually. The past contribution of fertility, mortality and migration trends, and of factors influencing them, was examined, as also the speed with which such trends had been modified so far. The repercussions that population trends could have on the labour force, dependency, population density, the agricultural population and land, urbanization and metropolitan concentration were also shown.

187. While complimenting the Secretariat on this valuable basic paper, the Commission noted that in some instances the use of technical demographic terms, unavoidable in the context, could cause difficulties to non-technical readers. It was, therefore, recommended that a glossary of the demographic terms used should be attached.

188. While the great value of projections was acknowledged and not in dispute, it was also noted by some members that the reader should be repeatedly reminded that those projections depended on the assumptions originally made, the actual future always being uncertain. That repeated warning, they considered, was even more necessary where long-range projections were under discussion. Some members further observed that recent attempts at constructing long-range models of global dynamics had been undertaken with too few safeguards and brought the consequent risk of misleading the public. In that connexion the suggestion was made that computer techniques should be used for making "rolling projections" combined with possible publication of the print-out. Also, the need was stressed for co-ordinated efforts to develop comprehensive models of what might be called "multi-factor projections". Finally, the Commission took note of a conference room paper (E/CN.9/III SS/CRP.1) in which the long-range population projections were examined in greater detail.

189. It was stressed that document $E/CN.9/30^4$ might be widely disseminated and that risks of misinterpretation existed. Great caution should, therefore, be exercised in excluding from the text any statements that were too speculative or too ambiguous, and that might cause interpretations contrary to the aims pursued. Certain delegations submitted written corrections and additions for the Secretariat which would be considered when preparing the final text. Several Commission members also noted errors of fact in document $E/CN.9/30^4$, some of which were due to the haste with which that draft had been prepared and others of which related to the use of previous population projections instead of taking into account the latest revision. A representative of the Secretariat assured the Commission that the necessary adjustments would be made and that in the final version of the document the most recently revised projections would be incorporated.

(b) Population and development

190. The two documents relating to item 8 of the draft provisional agenda of the Conference (E/CN.9/302) (Relations between population change and economic and social development), the report of the Symposium on Population and Development (E/CN.9/306) and the preliminary version of the basic Conference document for this topic (E/CN.9/III SS/CRP.6), were introduced by the Director of the Population Division.

191. The fundamental issue dominating the discussion of the relationships between population and development, he noted, revolved around the question of whether and to what extent population should adapt itself, primarily through the change of fertility and the geographical redistribution of population, to the available resources, or whether and to what extent the economy and the socio-economic environment should adapt itself to the population. The problems of a harmonization between the two, achieved by mutual adaptation were complex and defied an easy solution. Population and development were interrelated phenomena and action designed to influence either of the two would by itself engender changes in the other. However, a basic chain of mutual causation existed between the three fundamental revolutions that mankind had undergone or was undergoing: the agricultural, the industrial and the demographic.

192. Among the many problems mentioned by the Director with respect to population and development, there was first the fundamental one of population, agriculture and food supplies. The world would face in the near future a large increase in food requirements both in the developed and in the developing countries, but especially in the latter, where rapid population growth added to the problem of the widespread insufficient levels of nutrition. Slow or moderate progress in food production, in conjunction with the fall in world food reserves, was a source of increasing concern. Special mention should also be made of the problem of education, as an instrument for development, a medium for social change and an end in itself. Educational development in the developing countries, even in terms of simple literacy, was faced with the dual problem of a great backlog in schooling and the rapidly increasing new generations of students. Two other interrelated problems deserved attention. The problems of unemployment and underemployment, although not new, had attained or passed tolerable levels. As the modern sectors, which required increasing amounts of resources and capital to create one job, were no longer able to absorb the rapidly increasing labour force and as the labour force in the traditional sectors continued to expand at a substantial rate, the developing countries were on the way to a crisis of employment. The other issue was that of the interrelations between socio-economic disparities and population trends and the demography of the different socio-economic classes. Rapid population growth unquestionably had an impact on equality of opportunity. The existence of a consistent set of correlations between socio-economic level and demographic behaviour was well known and the high fertility rates prevailing among the least privileged sections of society constituted a formidable obstacle.

193. The Director followed this presentation of the issues by a brief outline of the preliminary version of the basic Conference document. The first part, he noted, was a brief sketch of the nature of the problems involved leading to the formulation of two fundamental questions discussed in the following chapters. The first of these, the effects of economic and social development on population trends, was taken up in chapter II, which, after reviewing the demographic transition in historical context, went on to discuss the economic and social determinants of fertility and mortality. Chapter III was concerned with the economic and social consequences of demographic trends. It presented a brief survey of recent trends in population and some of the major developmental factors (including income and production, food and education), stressing the wide divergency of conditions with respect to both population and development. Section B of the chapter discussed more specific aspects, including the relations between population, land and agricultural development; the impact of population trends on savings and investment; some considerations on population and employment; the implications of population trends for social equality and social justice; and finally, a brief review of the contribution of the demographic-economic models to a better understanding of the problems involved. Some conclusions and implications were brought together in chapter IV.

194. In the general discussion of those documents, members expressed satisfaction with the work done by the Secretariat and expressed the opinion that the document prepared by the Secretariat would provide a satisfactory basis for the official Conference document.

195. Several members of the Commission commented on the Symposium report and on the preliminary version of the basic Conference document with regard to such aspects as the necessity of a more realistic approach to the problems of the widening gap between developed and developing countries and especially of a clear distinction between the "absolute" and the "relative" gap; the need to exercise caution in drawing inferences from data, such as those on income or agricultural production, which were known to have many defects; the desirability of stressing the recommendation regarding research; the fact that, in view of the large differences between past and present, the historical experience of the presently developed countries might not provide a sound basis for conclusions with regard to the presently developing countries; the desirability of emphasizing the importance and dynamic nature of technological development and social change in economic and social development and the need to pay more attention in the document to the problems of youth and to the status of women; the need not to exaggerate the role of population growth in causing environmental degradation; the omission of ap indication of the direct effects of agricultural and industrial development on birth rates, as well as on the increase in the age of marriage; and the role of migration.

(c) Population and the family

196. The Population Commission had before it a preliminary text of the report on population and its relations with the family (E/CN.9/311), the basic Conference document for the agenda item on population and the family. In introducing the document, the Director of the Population Division emphasized the interdisciplinary nature of the study of the family and its influence on demographic phenomena and stressed the interdependence of family relationships, family structure and the family life cycle. With a view to giving perspective to those interrelationships and their relevance for conditions and change in the society, he elaborated on the contradictions between the findings from studies of the family, and macrodemographic research. There was frequently a conflict between, on the one hand, the problems and needs of the family and the policies and solutions designed to eliminate those problems and meet those needs, and on the other, the conditions and needs of the society as a whole and the policies appropriate for dealing with those needs. The Symposium on Population and the Family had dwelt at length on those problems and the Conference document had further elaborated on them.

197. The Director referred to several questions that had arisen during the deliberations at the Symposium on Population and the Family: Was the decline of mortality a factor in reproductive behaviour and the level of fertility? Did a change in fertility require a change in social and economic conditions, or was that merely a theory? In regard to the latter question, he cited the examples of Bulgaria, France and Romania, which had experienced significant changes in fertility without undergoing very marked economic and social change. Such could also be the experience in some developing countries. Certainly, new hirth control methods and new contraceptive technology might bring about a change in attitudes and consequently in behaviour with respect to fertility. Many changes had already taken place during the past decade.

198. He then outlined the content of the document before the Commission, specifying the more important ways in which it differed from the report of the Symposium on Population and the Family.

199. Members of the Commission also warmly congratulated the Secretariat on the quality of the document and on the sensitive approach that had guided its development. In the view of one member, however, the document was partial in certain important respects. He proposed that the text should be revised therefore to account for the fact that many countries did not favour liberal abortion; that the practice of family planning was not necessarily an indicator of social change; that education and universal literacy were desirable in themselves, in addition to being pre-conditions for the dissemination of information on family planning. He specified further, that there was a lack of knowledge in many of the spheres covered in the document and that that point should be given greater emphasis. In addition he observed that the conclusions of the Regional Seminar on the Status of Women and Family Planning, held at Djakarta in 1973, were the conclusions of one region and should not be applied to all countries.

200. The Commission was pleased that an effort had been made in the document to relate the macro-demographic problems to the micro aspects of the structure and function of the family. That approach was capable of yielding greater knowledge and understanding of demographic change. It was emphasized that there might be conflict between population policies and family policies which, at another level might be seen respectively as explicit and implied policies.

201. The Commission was pleased that the document reflected an integrated approach to social problems. It was desired, however, that greater stress should be placed upon the dynamic nature of the relationship between family and population.

202. The view was expressed that, since the Commission could not discuss documents like the one before it in great detail, it could do no more than indicate that in revising the text the Secretariat should be guided by certain basic principles. Certain demographic processes were of relevance for economic and social development and its acceleration and those should be singled out. In addition, population policies were not a substitute for development, and every effort should be made to improve economic and social conditions. Another principle was that all documents for the Conference, and the World Population Plan of Action in particular, should reflect a many-sided approach that took account of the diversity of the demographic processes. Finally, in the formulation and implementation of policy, national sovereignty and basic human rights should be preserved.

(d) Population, resources and environment

203. The Commission had before it the report on the Symposium on Population, Resources and Environment, held at Stockholm (E/CN.9/307 and Corr.1) and the preliminary draft of the basic Conference document on the topic (E/CN.9/III SS/CRP.5).

204. The Director of the Population Division, in introducing the two documents, drew attention to the fact that they were complementary in the sense that the basic Conference document contained pertinent evidence in support of the actionoriented recommendations made by the Symposium. Both documents, however, posed the question of the interrelations between population growth, resources and environment which were closely connected to one of the central themes of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held at Stockholm in 1972, namely, the relation between development and environment.

205. The Director, before reviewing the content of the various chapters, warned that the very concepts of natural resources and environment were not always clearly understood. The concept of natural resources, for example, changed with time and place and with the level of technology. On those grounds, he noted that the assumption of a static quantitative limit to natural resources would become questionable. He further pointed out that, in accordance with the principle of the conservation of matter and energy, resources would in a sense never disappear. However, the concentration of resources was constantly being dissipated, and there were at the same time clear signs that the environment could become overtaxed.

206. The nature of the issues discussed under the headings of population and resources, population and environment, population and settlement, and the impact of technology on population, varied considerably, the Director said. Among the most important could be considered the amount of potentially cultivable land, its variation among regions and countries, and the technological improvements required for feeding a growing population. The energy population and the pronounced differences in energy consumption between developed and developing countries, the impact of the intensive use of energy in industrialized societies and the consequent deterioration of environment, and the question of global environmental change merited special attention, while the serious imbalances in the distribution of rural and urban populations, particularly in developing countries, were also highly relevant.

207. In the discussion following the introduction, a member of the Commission expressed doubts as to whether the basic Conference document should be submitted to the Conference in its present form. Some of the statements made in the document, the member said, had been proved untenable at the Stockholm Conference, and should, therefore, not be repeated here. Another member requested that statements going counter to the general conclusions of the Stockholm Conference, if they occurred, should be removed by the Secretariat.

208. Other members welcomed the basic Conference document as an excellent basis for discussion at the Conference although it was, perhaps, somewhat lengthy and formed fairly difficult reading. One member maintained that the symposium paper might have served the same purpose as the basic Conference document. The same member noted a certain lack of conclusions in some chapters of the document and further suggested that the Secretariat should consider including the research implications of the Symposium report in the basic Conference document.

209. It was, finally, pointed out that, with regard to the chapter on the impact of technology on population, great emphasis had been laid on the conventional transfer of technology; the topic of the social assessment of technology deserved further attention. Because some difficult concepts could give rise to misunderstanding, it was maintained that attempts should be made to explain them fully.

(e) Concluding remarks

210. The Commission congratulated the Director of the Population Division on the clarity of his introductory statements on each of the topics discussed. In the view of several members, those statements contained very useful information on the basic Conference documents and it was suggested that they should be circulated to the members of the Commission.

4. <u>Review Committee for Background and Symposia Papers</u> of the Conference

211. The Commission had before it a conference room paper (E/CN.9/III SS/CRP.3 and Add.1) on the work of the Review Committee for Background and Symposia Papers of the Conference which, in accordance with the recommendations of the Commission, had the task of (a) making recommendations on 20 background papers for translation and distribution to Governments; (b) making recommendations regarding the suitability for publication of selected background papers and papers prepared for the four symposia.

212. The Commission was informed that the Review Committee had met twice in order to study and evaluate the papers concerned. When recommending symposia papers for publication, the most important criteria applied had been whether the documents made a definite addition to present knowledge of the topic discussed or whether they contained a thorough analysis of that knowledge.

213. With those criteria in mind, the Review Committee had considered 35 documents prepared for the Symposium on Population and Development, 11 documents prepared for the Symposium on Population and the Family, 21 for the Symposium on Population, Resources and Environment and 16 for the Symposium on Population and Human Rights. Of those, 24 for the Symposium on Population and Development, 10 for the Symposium on Population and the Family, 19 for the Symposium on Population, Resources and Environment, and 10 for the Symposium on Population and Human Rights were finally recommended for publication. 214. Since the Secretariat had invited the presentation of 42 background papers to supplement the symposia papers and to provide the Conference with a comprehensive picture of the demographic situation and the problems involved, the task of selecting the papers most suitable for distribution and translation had not been an easy one. The guidelines followed by the Review Committee in the selection of the documents had been that: (a) they should be of good quality; (b) they should be easily understood by non-specialists; (c) they should, in general, be oriented towards policy and action rather than being descriptive; (d) they should be comprehensive and should provide adequate coverage of the five following fields: demographic trends; economic and social interrelationships; research and training; policy; family planning. As indicated in the report of the Review Committee, a total of 24 papers were finally selected; four of those were symposia papers that, the Commission felt, should be included in this group.

215. Of the background papers not selected for translation and distribution to Governments before the Conference, the Review Committee, while using the same criteria as those it had applied to the symposia papers, had recommended 17 for wider circulation.

216. The Commission expressed its great appreciation of the work done by the Review Committee. One member questioned the need for including among the documents to be distributed to Governments three that would seem to deal with matters adequately covered in basic Conference documents and the World Population Plan of Action. In reply, the Director of the Population Division stated that duplication did not occur; furthermore, certain documents that, as the same member had suggested, might otherwise have been suitable for distribution to Governments were too technical to warrant selection for that purpose.

217. The Commission felt strongly that the substantive documents recommended for translation and distribution to Governments, those recommended for publication, the four symposia reports and also the four basic Conference documents contained such a wealth of knowledge that they should receive wider distribution in collected form. Because of the specific relevance of the documents concerned, the Commission further recommended that they should be issued in that form around the time of the World Population Conference.

218. The Director of the Population Division informed the Commission that such a timing of their issue might be possible, subject to the necessary funds being made available. He indicated that the total number of pages amounted to 3,200.

219. The Secretary-General of the Conference said that, after consulting the proper authorities of the United Nations, he was confident that it would be possible to have those valuable documents prepared and distributed in the way suggested by the Commission.

5. Reproduction and distribution of documentation

220. A representative of the secretariat of the Economic and Social Council stated that that secretariat expected to be able to meet the 90-day deadline decided on by the Commission for the circulation of the definitive texts of documents relating to the agenda items of the Conference, namely, the four main reports (E/CN.9/304, E/CN.9/311, E/CN.9/III SS/CRP.5 and E/CN.9/III SS/CRP.6), the draft World

Population Plan of Action (E/CN.9/292/Rev.1) as further revised after the present session of the Commission, the revised provisional agenda and annotations and the revised time-table (E/CN.9/302/Rev.1 and Add.1/Rev.1) and the draft provisional rules of procedure (E/CN.9/285/Rev.1).

221. With regard to the background material, although the report of the Symposium on Population and Human Rights had not yet been translated, every effort would be made to distribute all four symposia reports by the 90-day deadline. The more than 40 background papers would be issued as they became available. A few were already being processed. It was intended that they should be distributed as early as possible and at least 60 days before the opening of the Conference. The Commission understood that the one-page or two-page summaries of each background paper <u>11</u>/ were included in this arrangement. The one-page or two-page summary statements by individual countries would be processed as they were received and would be translated if time and services allowed.

M. The second inquiry among Governments on population and development

222. The Commission expressed great appreciation of the contents of the report on the second inquiry among Governments on population and development (E/CN.9/303); especially of chapter IV entitled "Concepts and objectives of population policy". Members of the Commission felt that such an inquiry provided a helpful exercise for various Governments in "taking stock" of their demographic situation and its development implications. It was regretted that positive replies to the inquiry had been received from no more than 74 countries, not including some countries of large population, and it was hoped that statements by individual countries to be submitted to the World Population Conference would partly supplement the remaining gaps in information.

223. In commenting on particular statements in the report, some members of the Commission noted that there could be phases of national development in which population growth was no impediment, and could actually be a stimulus, in the development process. In fact, no simple relationships seemed to exist, whether in more developed or in less developed countries, between the rate of population growth and the rate of growth in <u>per capita</u> income. Members of the Commission also found that in a few instances the report had not stated with enough precision the positions, especially the most recent, taken by certain Governments. Caution was also required in interpreting the findings related to population projections, which were always affected by elements of uncertainty.

224. The Director of the Population Division drew attention to another document (E/CONF.60/BP/10) which was based both on the second inquiry and on various other relevant sources, and in which the quantitative relationships between policies and demographic circumstances were presented in analytic form. The latter document, in fact, could be regarded as a complement to the report on the second inquiry.

225. The Commission considered it highly desirable that the one-page to two-page statements of individual countries, which could be summaries of the countries'

^{11/} See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3, para. 130.

replies to the questionnaire if they so wished, should be obtained, and requested the Secretariat to continue its efforts in that respect.

N. Organization and management of the Conference

226. The Director of the Office of the Secretary-General of the World Population Conference reported on the preparatory arrangements for the Conference (E/CN.9/310).

227. On the accommodation facilities in Bucherest, the Director said that questionnaires for reservation of accommodation were being prepared by the Ministry of Tourism of the Government of Romania in consultation with the United Nations and would be available to all those participating in the Conference or attending it. He added that requests for the reservation of accommodation should, therefore, be addressed, with the completed questionnaire, to the Ministry of Tourism, which would be responsible for reserving the accommodation required and sending an early confirmation that the accommodation requested had been reserved.

228. An accreditation form for the press agencies and the representatives of the press, radio and television was now available at the United Nations Office of Public Information at Headquarters, at the European Office of the United Nations at Geneva, and at the United Nations information centres throughout the world, as well as at other offices.

229. The representative of Romania made a statement in which he said that his Government was making all the necessary arrangements to act as host to the Conference in Bucharest in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Agreement between the Government of Romania and the United Nations. He referred to the second round of meetings which had been held in late January between the Permanent Secretariat of the Romanian National Preparatory Committee for the World Population Conference and the representatives of the Secretary-General, at which there had been a discussion of the technical arrangements for the Conference, covering a wide range of matters, including transport, security, the provision of visas, accommodation, banks, currency exchange, medical services, the Conference organization, the press centre and related arrangements. He expressed the appreciation of his Government for the co-operation and assistance of the Office of the Secretary-General of the Conference and the other United Nations departments involved.

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

0. Draft annotated agenda for the World Population Conference

231. As requested at its seventeenth session, the Population Commission had before it in document E/CN.9/302 a draft provisional agenda for the World Population Conference, with revised annotations.

232. In introducing the document, the Director of the Office of the Secretary-General of the Conference stated that the Secretary-General of the Conference would complete the document, making the changes desired by the Commission, so that it would be available for distribution at an early date. Depending on the Commission's wishes, the document would comprise: the provisional agenda; annotations to the provisional agenda; and a section on the organization of work which could include a time-table of work, a draft of which was before the Commission (E/CN.9/302/Add.1).

233. He drew particular attention to the suggested subitems which had been included in the draft to assist the Commission in its consideration of the specific matters on which it might wish to place special but not exclusive emphasis, particularly in the light of current developments and recent action by the United Nations in convening related conferences.

234. The Commission emphasized the desirability of a multilateral approach to the various areas of interest to be studied during the Conference and stressed the importance of the role of social and economic factors. In view of the difficulty of providing an exhaustive list of subitems for each of the substantive agenda items, the Commission agreed that it was preferable to avoid subitems entirely and to replace them by annotations describing the scope of the topic to be considered under each main agenda item. These should be prepared, bearing in mind the agreement of the Commission at its seventeenth session that the annotations should not, by implication, prejudge issues. 12/

235. The Commission, accordingly, requested the Secretariat to prepare for the current session a revised draft provisional agenda with further revised annotations for its consideration.

236. The revised provisional agenda with revised annotations prepared by the Secretariat (E/CN.9/302/Rev.1) was approved by the Commission, subject to the following changes:

(a) In paragraph 4 the deletion of the last two sentences;

(b) In paragraph 17 the replacement of the second sentence by the following: "It is expected that this Conference document will also be considered as part of agenda items 8, 9, 10, and 11.";

(c) The rewording of the final sentence of paragraph 27 to read: "Further issues of relevance to the over-all problems of population, resources and environment are the transfer of technology and the way resources are used.";

12/ Ibid., para. 146.

(d) In paragraph 31, the replacement of the first sentence by the following: "Under this agenda item, the Conference, to gain proper perspective, may consider ways in which demographic conditions and changes have influenced the family, its structure and function both in the historical past and in contemporary societies.":

(e) In paragraph 31 the replacement in the second sentence of the word "policies" by the word "conditions".

237. In approving the document with the above-mentioned changes, the Commission agreed that, as in the case of the draft time-table, the document would be presented to the Conference for adoption.

238. The Commission considered what arrangements could be made to ensure that matters discussed in the committees that were of relevance to the working group dealing with item 11, World Population Plan of Action, would be brought to the attention of that group. It was agreed that the chairman of each committee should arrange for the chairman of the working group to be kept informed, if necessary on a daily basis, of such matters. Also, it was to be expected that each delegation would so co-ordinate its work that its representative in the working group would be fully aware of the developments in each committee.

P. Proposed time-table for the work of the Conference

239. At its seventeenth session the Population Commission requested that the Secretariat prepare a time-table to assist it in its consideration of the draft provisional agenda for the Conference. The Commission accordingly had before it at its third special session a note by the Secretary-General of the Conference containing a draft time-table for the Conference (E/CN.9/302/Add.1).

240. The Director of the Office of the Secretary-General of the World Population Conference, in referring to that document indicated that the three main elements taken into account when preparing the document were: (a) the premises and services, which included conference rooms for four simultaneous meetings of committees of the whole; (b) the availability of interpreters; (c) a demanding agenda, which could prove taxing in view of the short duration of the Conference. For those reasons it was imperative to make optimum use of the time available. In addition, as the Commission discussed at the seventeenth session, time and facilities had to be set aside for pre-Conference consultations. With that in mind, the Government of Romania had been kind enough to agree to make conference facilities available during the week before the Conference.

241. The Commission agreed that pre-Conference meetings of an informal character should discuss procedural and organizational matters in order to ensure that the Conference would proceed smoothly and that consultations on items 2-6 (a) and item 12 of the provisional agenda would indeed be helpful. However, such meetings should not take up substantive items on the agenda and a period of two to three days should suffice for the informal meetings on procedural items. The dates of 15 and 16 August were agreed on for these meetings, which could, if necessary, extend into the morning of 17 August.

242. The Commission recognized that, although the Conference could establish such committees as it thought necessary, accommodation was limited to the plenary

neetings and to three other committees or sessional bodies of the whole meeting simultaneously. It was also pointed out that some Governments might have difficulty in sending delegations large enough to cover many meetings at the same time.

243. Given the five main items on the provisional agenda, the Commission agreed that item 7, "Recent population trends and future prospects", should be taken up principally in plenary meetings in the context of the general debate; item 8, "Relations between population change and economic and social development", in Committee I; item 9, "Relations between population, resources and environment", in Committee II; item 10, "Population and the family", in Committee III; and, item 11, "World Population Plan of Action", in a working group which would be a sessional body of the whole. The meetings of the committees and the working group should be staggered in such a way that adequate time could be devoted to the consideration of the items assigned.

244. The Commission requested the Secretariat to prepare a revised time-table for the organization of the work of the Conference. Consequently, it received a conference room paper revising the draft time-table to reflect the above-mentioned decisions in order to assist the Commission during its consideration of the organization of the work of the Conference.

245. The Commission agreed to recommend the revised time-table (E/CN.9/302/Add.1/Rev.1) to the Conference for adoption, subject to certain changes designed to leave equal time for the consideration of each of the main items to be taken up in the committees and in the working group. Those modifications would also enable the committees to make good progress with their deliberations in the first few days so that matters of relevance to the working group could be made known to that body at an early stage. Towards the end of the Conference some additional time would be given to the working group so that it could complete its deliberations.

246. The changes adopted were the following:

(a) Committee II should consider item 9 in the afternoon of 20 August, as well as at the other times stated;

(b) Committee III should consider item 10 in the afternoon of 21 August, instead of the working group meeting that afternoon;

(c) Committee I should consider item 8 in the afternoon of 22 August, instead of the working group meeting that afternoon;

(d) The working group should hold an additional meeting in the afternoon of 26 August;

(e) The working group should hold its final meeting in the afternoon of 27 August rather than in the worning of that day.

Q. Preparation and adoption of the report of the Conference

247. The Director of the Office of the Secretary-General of the World Population Conference, referring to item 12 of the provisional agenda of the Conference, made a statement in response to a number of inquiries regarding the elaboration and presentation of the report of the Conference. 248. He stated that, as the Conference would be of short duration and its agenda would be full, and as there was no interval which would permit the preparation and approval of an exhaustive record of the Conference, it would be particularly important to follow the practice now accepted by the United Nations for such conferences, namely for the Rapporteur-General, with the assistance of the Secretariat, to summarize the discussion in the plenary meetings for inclusion in his report. Each committee and the working group would prepare a report to the Conference stating the proposals made and the action taken. Unless the Commission recommended otherwise, the Director of the Office of the Secretary-General of the World Population Conference proposed that those reports should not contain summaries of the discussions. They would be prepared by their respective rapporteurs, and would be adopted by the committees and the working group before their submission to the Conference. The discussions of those reports in the plenary meetings would be summarized.

249. All decisions and recommendations of the Conference, including the full texts of the reports of the committees and the working group, as well as any recommendations not adopted by the Conference, would be included in the report.

250. The Conference would be able to approve the summary of the general debate and other discussions in plenary. Because of the time factor, however, the summaries of the final deliberations might not be immediately available. Any such summaries could be circulated to delegations after the Conference for comment. Delegations would have the opportunity to propose changes to the Rapporteur-General within a given time. As was customary, delegations would also have the opportunity to insert in the report itself any reservations they might wish to make.

251. If an arrangement of that kind was acceptable to the Commission, it would be presented to the Conference for consideration and adoption. It would also be one of the subjects for informal discussion in the consultations that would take place in Bucharest immediately prior to the Conference.

252. In reply to questions, the Director assured the Commission that, although there would be no summary records, there would be a recording of the statements from the floor in committees and other sessional bodies. In the plenary meetings, recordings would be made in each language of the Conference and in Romanian, should the Government of Romania provide interpreters into Romanian. Those recordings would be available to all delegations during and after the Conference.

253. In agreeing to the arrangements for the preparation and adoption of the report of the Conference, the Commission sought to determine what specifically would be included in the report of a committee. It was concluded that, in addition to the recommendations, proposals and actions taken, the committee report should record concisely the main trends and salient features of the discussion, particularly those that indicated how the recommendations of the committee had been reached. The Commission further agreed that, since the report of the working group would constitute the World Population Plan of Action, a presentation along similar lines was not required.

254. The Commission was informed that the tentative arrangements for the preparation of the report thus agreed on by the Commission were consistent with the financial and planning provisions of the Conference secretariat.

B. Administrative and financial implications of the Conference

255. The Director of the Office of the Secretary-General of the Conference introduced the note by the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the administrative and financial implications of the Conference (E/CN.9/305) which had been prepared in response to the Commission's request at its seventeenth session for a clear and more elaborate presentation of the entire financial picture, including a breakdown of budget costing. 13/

256. The Commission reiterated its concern, expressed at its seventeenth session, that the Secretary-General of the Conference should have the necessary administrative and financial flexibility in matters relating to the preparations for the Conference, 14/ including the possibility of the reallocation of funds from one item to another, as appropriate. In particular, he should have available to him adequate funds for secretariat travel in preparation for the Conference, and for ensuring that sufficient staff were present at the Conference itself.

257. Several representatives expressed the hope that the \$22,000 cut made by the General Assembly in the estimated \$72,000 for additional funds to meet the cost of the translation, publication and distribution of background documents would not adversely affect the processing of those documents.

258. The Director of the Office of the Secretary-General of the Conference assured the Commission that the preparation of the selected background papers would not be affected by the reduced appropriation and that there was adequate provision for it in the existing budget. There was sufficient flexibility in the current Conference budget for the shifting of funds from item to item. The reallocation of funds between items was acceptable to the Executive Director of UNFPA provided that total extrabudgetary expenditure remained below the ceiling of the UNFPA support for the Conference and that the shift from any item did not exceed 5 per cent without prior approval of UNFPA. The Director indicated that there might be some savings that could be so applied. The Commission agreed that the Secretary-General of the Conference should have discretion in that respect.

259. In response to a question, the Director confirmed that the estimates in table 4 of document E/CN.9/305 did not include the additional costs to the United Nations of holding the Conference at Bucharest instead of at Geneva, as those additional costs would be met by the host Government under General Assembly resolution 2609 (XXIV).

<u>13</u>/ <u>Ibid</u>., para. 75. <u>14</u>/ <u>Ibid</u>., para. 70.

III. WORLD POPULATION YEAR, 1974

260. The Commission had before it a progress report from the Executive Director of UNFPA (E/CN.9/300), which dealt with the launching of World Population Year, 1974 and gave a review of the ongoing activities of which the Commission had been informed at its seventeenth session.

261. In introducing the report, the Executive Director drew attention to the widening support being generated by World Population Year activities at governmental and national levels and among communicators of all kinds, ranging from film-makers, writers and broadcasters to educators, teachers and community leaders. Improvements in communication channels were also worthy of note. Without doubt the establishment of regional news gathering and dissemination centres and the organization of seminars bringing together news media personnel and information officers was doing much to sharpen perception and increase understanding of national and regional population situations.

262. Much credit for the intensification of World Population Year programmes was due to the United Nations and its specialized agencies, which had greatly expanded their informational activities in order to reach their own audiences and add to the general availability of press and audio-visual material on population subjects.

263. Mention also had to be made of non-governmental organizations, both international and national, which had mobilized their members to take part in World Population Year activities and had launched numerous undertakings as a contribution to the Year. Their influence on general public opinon could not be over-estimated.

264. The promotion of this world-wide spread of interest in population had called for the closest collaboration on the part of all concerned with the Secretary-General of the World Population Conference in order to ensure that the maximum possible benefits would be obtained from the resources available.

265. All programmes being developed were geared to produce their maximum impact over the 12-month period designated for population emphasis. They were now at a point when serious thought had to be given to how the interest built up by the Year could be maintained. Considerable gains had been made. New contacts and working relationships had been established between the United Nations family and outside organizations and groups. Governments had been drawn into an international community of concern on population. More and more people had been awakened to the population factor as it affected their daily lives and what it meant in terms of personal responsibility to family and society.

266. The Executive Director felt that the most vital instruments for progress developed in connexion with the Year were the national commissions or similar authoritative bodies that had been set up to give impetus to national population programmes. Over 50 Governments had informed the Fund that such units had been brought into operation. He hoped that Governments would consider such bodies as an essential part of their organizational structures after the Year, when the recommendations of the Conference would have to become realities. 267. At the same time, it should not be forgotten that the United Nations, through UNFPA and the specialized agencies, had been able to maintain a steadily expanding programme of population assistance which had proved to be extremely responsive to the new directions and needs arising from the World Population Year campaigns. Without the backing of that substantive programme, the Year would have had little meaning and even less possibility of lasting effect. UNFPA and the agencies were keenly aware that, if the best hopes for success of the Year and the Conference were realized, they would be faced with an unavoidable obligation to meet greatly accelerated and expanded demands for population assistance. He warned that that would have important financial consequences.

268. It would be unrealistic, the Executive Director said, to look forward to 1975 without anticipating that the Conference would lead to widened concepts of population, rethinking of national plans, new approaches to population questions and perhaps radical transformations in the form and priorities of multilateral assistance.

269. The immediate effect would be an expansion of ongoing activities. It could be anticipated that the goals set by the World Population Plan of Action would increase the number of requests for assistance from countries setting quantitative growth targets and from countries agreeing to take censuses between 1975 and 1985. Requests were likely to increase in connexion with research and training. UNFPA in particular welcomed the proposal in the World Population Plan of Action that an international training programme in population should be carried out concomitantly with national and regional programmes, a policy to which it was already heavily committed.

270. The stage was set for greater involvement in international and global undertakings. The World Fertility Survey was one of the most ambitious research projects ever undertaken and marked a major step forward in man's endeavour to learn more about mankind.

271. Turning to the Conference, the Executive Director said that for the first time the basic issues of population would be considered by the world's principal governmental decision makers within the context of common needs for food, education, housing, technological development, health services and employment, as well as from the viewpoint of specific national situations.

272. Each representative would have much to contribute to and much to gain from those discussions. Administrators of external assistance would acquire better insight on ways of making the assistance more effective. But the implications of the Conference were infinitely more significant than the mere finding of solutions for current difficulties.

273. As indicated by the draft World Population Plan of Action, a strategy would be formulated which would be one of several that, taken together, would constitute the multidisciplinary approach of the international community to the solution of world problems in the field of social and economic development. Consequently, it would never again be possible to view population activities in isolation. Since population was the one element every other variable had in common, it might even turn out to be the binding element making a multidisciplinary approach possible.

274. The Commission expressed its satisfaction with the progress made and congratulated the Executive Director on the initiative shown and the success

obtained in launching the operational activities related to World Population Year, 1974. It shared his hopes that the programmes developed would lead Governments and peoples to a better understanding of population and that the additional demands for assistance that would be generated could be met.

275. In view of the great wealth of available World Population Year materials, a question was raised as to what mechanisms existed to ensure their adequate dissemination. It was felt that a comprehensive compendium should be developed to enable institutions and organizations in individual countries to select specific material for particular needs.

276. In reply, the Executive Secretary indicated that such a compendium was being drawn up and would be available upon request to UNFPA. He further referred to the media outlets that had been set up to facilitate the flow of information. Those were operating in Asia through the Press Foundation of Asia, and in Latin America through the Asociación Latinoamericana de Comunicadores Demográficos (ALACODE) in Bogotá. Preparations were also well under way for similar institutions in the Middle East and Africa. Those institutions were designed to continue functioning after the Year was over. In fact UNFPA was operating on the basic principle that another world population year would begin when World Population Year ended.

277. The Commission, finally, heard a statement by representatives of International Educational Development, Inc. on the activities that organization had undertaken as its contribution to the World Population Year.

IV. MATTERS RELATED TO WORLD POPULATION YEAR, 1974

A. African Census Programme

278. The report on the status of the African Census Programme as of 31 December 1973 (E/CN.9/298), prepared by the Secretary-General at the request of the Population Commission at its seventeenth session, was before the Commission for its consideration.

279. The Director of the Statistical Office provided additional information on the major problems that needed to be solved in relation to the recruitment of experts, the delivery of equipment and certain other administrative matters.

280. He stated that the problem of the recruitment of experts had already been solved substantially, and that five more experts would be in post by April. Steps were also being taken to overcome the difficulties encountered from the delay in the delivery of equipment, particularly vehicles, from delays in drawing upon funds approved by UNFPA, and from the lack of experience of certain census experts in the preparation of budget proposals and the like.

281. Those steps included the following:

(a) The provision of an administrative assistant where required;

(b) With regard to equipment, the preparation of a proposal for UNFPA to make a block allocation, so as to enable the purchase of equipment in bulk against future requirements;

(c) The establishment of a small steering committee composed of representatives of the technical and administrative units involved, which would meet once every two weeks in order to identify problems as they arose and expedite their solution. Furthermore, the close communication with the project offices in Addis Ababa would continue. Headquarters would provide additional assistance as required.

282. The Director of the Statistical Office also informed the Commission that the progress of work was affected by certain factors beyond the control of the United Nations, specifically delays in the provision of the necessary facilities by the Governments concerned, delays in the initiation of contacts between the various local agencies involved in the census operation, delays in the promulgation of census legislation or regulations, and a lack of continued effort even after a substantial amount of work had been initiated. The energy crisis similarly affected the progress of work because it made the provision of vehicles more difficult.

283. On the basis of the reassessment which had just been completed, a revised time-schedule of the African Census Programme could be given, as follows:

(a) Six countries had taken their census;

(b) Four countries would probably carry out their censuses in 1974, as planned;

(c) One country scheduled to take a census in 1974 had stopped its preparations, perhaps only temporarily;

(d) Six censuses scheduled for 1974 would probably have to be postponed until 1975, and another three were still scheduled for that year.

284. The Director noted further that, in compliance with the request of the Population Commission at its seventeenth session, the African Census Programme had been discussed November 1973 by the Conference of African Statisticians at its eighth session, and the discussions, which included all the topics raised by the Population Commission, were summarized in the report of that session (E/CN.14/611).

285. In closing, he reiterated that the closest collaboration between the various members of the United Nations family concerned with the execution of the African Census Programme was being maintained and that the programme could be a major landmark in the statistical history of the developing world.

286. In the discussions, a question was raised about the number of African experts who had been recruited for the African Census Programme and about the recruiting procedures. The Commission was informed that three African census advisers had been recruited and were in post. The Commission was further assured that recruitment was a continuing activity which included drawing names from the roster of potential candidates and from wherever candidates were available.

287. The Commission's attention was further drawn to the fact that the census experts' function was to provide a supplement to what the countries themselves undertook and that it was they who bore the main burden of the enterprise; emphasis was placed on the many local people, skills and facilities mobilized in a country. It was indicated, furthermore, that the countries provided an average of 61 per cent of the required funds; UNFPA had been contributing about 39 per cent of the total costs.

B. Interdisciplinary training in population matters

288. The Deputy Executive Director of UNFPA recalled that the Commission, at its sixteenth session, had requested the Secretary-General to establish an appropriate committee to develop a programme for interdisciplinary training in population matters, including the expansion of training programmes at existing regional and national institutions. The committee was to make recommendations for an experimental high-level programme of training to be initiated as soon as possible. Drawing on the experience gained from such a programme, the committee was also to make its comprehensive and concrete proposals for the consideration of the Commission at a future session.

289. The Commission was informed that in May 1973 the Secretary-General had set up a committee under the chairmanship of the Executive Director of UNFPA, with the Population Division providing the secretariat and with the specialized agencies concerned being represented as well as IPPF and the Population Council. The Commission was informed that four sessions of the Committee on Interdisciplinary Training in Population Policies and Family Planning had been held. The work of the Committee had so far concentrated on the planning of two courses - a one-year course on aspects of population policy, including family planning, and a short-term course on family planning with emphasis on administration. 290. The Commission was further informed that a consultant had visited several countries in Asia and had made recommendations for the organization of a one-year interdisciplinary course, and possibly two, to be set up at an existing institution in Asia and the Far East, and to be organized by the United Nations. A mission jointly sponsored by the United Nations, WHO and IPPF had visited Costa Rica and Mexico, and had submitted definite plans for a short-term course to be organized at the school of Public Health in Mexico. At the same time the Committee had initiated work on a world survey of facilities in interdisciplinary training on population matters, which was being carried out by the Population Division. Plans were being made to review the needs for training of that kind and, in that regard, to circulate a questionnaire to Covernments of Member States. While the establishment of two experimental training schemes was the immediate object, the long-term objective was to develop a plan for the total facilities needed all over the world for interdisciplinary training on population. UNFPA had pledged its full support for the work of the Committee and its readiness to provide the necessary consultant services.

291. The Secretary of the Committee on Interdisciplinary Training in Population Policies and Family Planning informed the Commission that at its fourth session on 1 March 1974, the Committee had had before it the report of a consultant which raised the question of the advisability of establishing two interregional training centres in Asia, one in the east and another in the west of the region. No firm recommendation as to sites had been made, but proposals regarding the curriculum for such centres, were they established, had been approved in principle. The Committee had agreed that the primary purpose of the interregional centres would be training, not research, although the latter could justifiably be undertaken as a training exercise, and as a means of providing illustrative data. Trainees would be selected largely from national development and planning agencies, and might also include some from academic and international assistance bodies.

292. The Commission was informed that an agreement regarding the short-term training course in the administration of family planning (see paragraph 290 above) was shortly to be signed between the Pan-American Health Organization and the Government of Mexico. The Committee on Interdisciplinary Training had noted, however, that many other national resources existed in the region that could be utilized for similar courses in the future.

293. The training developments in Latin America were welcomed by members of the Commission as a very useful contribution to the needs of the region, and details of future plans in the same field projected for Latin America were required as soon as they became available. The convenience of utilizing training institutions sponsored by the United Nations which had proved so efficient in the fields of research and technical training was also stressed. A case in point was the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE), whose participation in courses on population policy could be most useful.

294. According to the view of one member, not enough had been achieved by the Secretariat in pursuing the survey of world training facilities and needs that the Commission had recommended at an earlier session. A greater sense of urgency was needed in dealing with the crucial problem of training in population matters.

295. The Deputy Executive Director of UNFPA reminded the Commission of the fact that all the United Nations organizations concerned were deeply involved in the support of training activities of various types in the field of population. Such activities included the establishment and support of a number of regional demographic training and research centres, including the establishment of a new centre to be located in Bucharest, the convening of seminars, the award of fellowships and scholarships and the support of national training programmes. In so far as UNFPA was concerned, that organization committed about one third of its total resources to training. In all comprehensive country programmes supported by the Fund, training components were included as items of high priority. However, the task of promoting training programmes of an interdisciplinary nature was a new and difficult undertaking which, in accordance with the wishes of the Population Commission expressed at its seventeenth session, 15/ should be developed cautiously, in view of important difficulties that had to be overcome. The Director of the Population Division also reminded the Commission that a number of regional demographic training successfully. The need to establish new centres had to be carefully considered before implementation was decided upon.

296. Other members, while recognizing the difficulty of the undertaking, looked forward to a conclusion of the survey of world training facilities and needs, preferably by the end of 1974, or early in 1975.

297. In general, the Commission desired more information on the proposals of the Committee on Interdisciplinary Training in order to be able to formulate valid judgements and proposals, and felt that particular attention and priority in the allocation of resources should be given to the training needs of individual nations and to such regional training as could meet national needs more effectively.

298. The representative of TUSSP informed the Commission that his organization had collected much information relevant to a world survey of training, estimates of the need of trained demographers in international organizations and recommendations for the teaching of demography in relation to other subjects. and the organization would be pleased to make the data available. The representative of ECA drew the Commission's attention to the recommendations of the ECA meeting on training in demography and population programmes, held at Yaoundé, Cameroon, from 22 to 26 January 1974, which covered, among other things, a survey of existing training and research institutes dealing with population matters in Africa; the recognition of the interdisciplinary nature of population and the need to involve local experts and experts of the United Nations and its agencies in training and research programmes in African countries; different types of short-term courses (including forums or symposia) for policy makers, administrators and others; and the expansion of ECA's regional demographic advisory services to provide adequately for needs in demographic training and research in the region. It was hoped, the representative of ECA said, that the demographic training and research centres sponsored by the United Nations in Africa would benefit from, and be complementary to, interregional interdisciplinary training institutes.

299. The representative of ECAFE likewise made reference to activities in that region that were relevant to the topic under discussion, namely, the updating of the directory on research, teaching and training of demography, $\underline{16}$ / a study being

15/ Tbid., para. 248.

16/ Research, Teaching and Training in Demography: a Directory of Institutions in the ECAFE Region, Asian Population Studies Series No. 8 (E/CN.11/1007). undertaken on the assessment of needs and facilities for training in the field of family planning, and the convening of an expert group to prepare a curriculum for the training of family planning administrators.

300. In concluding the discussion, the Director of the Population Division stated that the Secretariat would present to the Population Commission at its next regular session a general account of world training facilities in the field of population, and would examine the possibility of including also a preliminary picture of world training needs.

301. On the adoption of the report of the Commission on its third special session, some members drew attention to the fact that the title of the Committee on Interdisciplinary Training in Population Policies and Family Planning seemed too restrictive to cover the mandate they considered it to have. They suggested, therefore, that it might be more appropriate to change the name in such a way as to reflect the broader concept of "population matters" instead of "population policies".

V. DEMOGRAPHIC PUBLICATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS

302. In introducing the note by the Secretary-General on demographic publications of the United Nations (E/CN.9/309), a member of the Population Division informed the Commission that the funds necessary for the expansion of the first two issues of the <u>Population and Vital Statistics Report</u> in 197⁴ had been made available and that work on that project was progressing in accordance with the plan approved by the Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Co-ordination of the Statistical Commission at its meeting in July 1973.

303. The Commission noted that a joint working group of the Statistical Office and the Population Division was considering the replies received to a questionnaire sent out to those users of the <u>Demographic Yearbook</u> most likely to be competent to make suggestions for improving it. Most replies received suggested the publication of additional material and the working group therefore had to study the questions of time and available space very carefully. It was also looking at the possibilities of restructuring the tables in the <u>Yearbook</u>, of changing their order of presentation and their periodicity. Special attention was being given to providing more data on fertility, marriage, households and families, deaths by cause and international migration, and of providing those data more frequently. Consideration was also being given to the desirability of devoting more attention to the evaluation of the data.

30⁴. The Commission expressed its satisfaction with the statements made, but was at the same time concerned with the new delays that had occurred in the publication of the <u>Demographic Yearbook</u>. Given the importance of the <u>Yearbook</u> as the only comprehensive source of international demographic statistics, there was a real need for it to be issued on time.

305. The Commission was informed that the Statistical Office was taking steps to improve the timing of the publication of the <u>Demographic Yearbook</u> and that possibly two volumes would be published during 1974.

306. The Commission, finally, welcomed the publication of volume I of The Determinants and Consequences of Population Trends: New Summary of Findings on Interaction of Demographic Economic and Social Factors, 17/ and strongly expressed the wish that the second volume of that very important publication, which had taken so many years to prepare, would soon follow. Funds to meet the remaining costs should be secured without delay.

^{17/} United Nations publication, Sales No. E.71.XIII.5.

VI. DATE AND PLACE OF MEETING OF THE NEXT SESSION

307. The Commission discussed the date and place of its next session at its 320th and 321st meetings and decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that it reschedule the Commission's eighteenth session for early spring, 1975. Holding the session in the spring would enable the Commission to consider what implications the recommendations of the World Population Conference would have for the programme of work of the Population Division and to make its own recommendations to the Economic and Social Council at its fifty-eighth session and would, in general, the Commission argued, bring the Commission's activities more into line with the budgetary cycle of the United Nations.

308. Several members expressed their preference for holding the session at United Nations Headquarters to permit more efficient servicing of the Commission's work, particularly in view of the fact that the Population Division was based at Headquarters.

VII. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

309. At its 321st to 324th meetings the Commission approved the report (E/CN.9/L.114 and Add.1-9, as amended) on its third special session.

VIII. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

Duration of the session

310. The Population Commission held its third special session at the United Nations Headquarters from 4 to 15 March 1974. The Commission held 18 plenary meetings (307th to 324th meetings).

Attendance

311. The session was attended by representatives and/or alternates of States Members of the Commission, observers from other States Members of the United Nations, an observer from a non-member State, and representatives of bodies of the United Nations system, other intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations. The list of participants is contained in annex I.

Election of officers

312. In accordance with the rules of procedure, the officers of the Commission, who, by virtue of their election at the seventeenth regular session will serve until the beginning of the eighteenth session, also served at the third special session. They were: Mercedes B. Concepcion (Philippines), Chairman; Virginia Russ (Romania), K. T. de Graft-Johnson (Ghana) and V. H. Morgan (Costa Rica), Vice-Chairmen; and D. J. van de Kaa (Netherlands), Rapporteur. However, in the absence of Virginia Russ (Romania), Mircea Malitza, representative of Romania, was elected by the Commission to serve as a Vice-Chairman at the third special session.

Agenda

313. At the 307th meeting, the Commission adopted its agenda. The agenda is repreduced in annex II.

Tribute to the memory of Mrs. Irene Taeuber

314. Immediately after opening the third special session the Chairman, on behalf of the Commission, paid a tribute to the memory of Mrs. Irene Taeuber, member of the United States delegation to the seventeenth session, who died in February 1974. The Commission expressed its sorrow at the loss of this distinguished scholar who had contributed so much to the discipline of demography and particularly to knowledge about the population of Asia. The Commission observed a minute of silence in memory of Mrs. Taeuber.

Annex I

ATTENDANCE a/

Members b/

BRAZIL Representative: Miguel A. Ozório de Almeida Alternates: Luis Augusto de Castro Neves Teodoro Oniga Pedro M. Pinto Coelho COSTA RICA . Representative: V. H. Morgan DENMARK Representative: M. Boserup Alternate: Kirsten H. Riberholdt ECUADOR Representative: Eduardo Santos EGYPT Representative: G. Askar Imam M. Selim Alternate: FRANCE Representative: A. Sauvy Henri Leridon Alternate: Gérard Calot Advisers: André Travert GHANA K. T. de Graft-Johnson Representative:

<u>a</u>/In accordance with the terms of General Assembly resolution 2836 (XXVI), paragraph 3 (\underline{f}), a full list of names of participants is not given in this report.

b/ Morocco did not attend.

INDIA

Representative:	A. Chandra Sekhar <u>c</u> /
Alternates:	Samar Sen <u>c</u> / N. P. Jain
Advisers:	A. Ghose T. Cherpoot
INDONESIA	
Representative:	R. Sardjono
Alternates:	Pek Poedjioetomo Kustijah Prodjolalito
JAPAN	
Representative:	T. Kuroda
Alternate:	Toshiaki Tanabe
MAURITANIA	
Representative:	Turkia Ould-Daddah
NETHERLANDS	
Representative:	D. J. van de Kaa
Alternate:	Henricus Gajentaan
NIGER	
Representative:	J. Ađehossi
PANAMA	
Representative:	Hildebrando Araica A.
PERU	
Representative:	C. N. Urrutia
PHILIPPINES	
Representative:	Mercedes B. Concepcion
Alternates:	Leandro Verceles Nona A. Zaldivar

c/ Since Mr. Chandra Sekhar was unable to attend the session Mr. Sen acted as representative in accordance with rule 13 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions.
ROMANTA

Representative:	Mircea Malitza
Alternates:	Vladimir Trebici Aurel Preda
Advisers:	Nicolae Ropotean Vasile Ghetau
RWANDA	
Representative:	François Bararwerekana
SWEDEN	
Representative:	Inga Thorsson
Alternate:	Carl E. T. Wahren
Advisers:	Hannes Hyrenius Hakah Granqvist Lars Jonsson Erik Belfrage
THAILAND	
Representative:	Visid Prachuabmoh
TUNISIA	
Representative:	Mezri Chekir
Alternate:	Bchir Mongi
TURKEY	
Representative:	Halük Cillov
UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC	
Representative:	Valentin F. Burlin
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS	
Representative:	Arkady Isupov
Alternate:	Aleksei I. Roslov
UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	
Representative:	Jean Helen Thompson
Alternate:	John E. C. Macrae
Adviser:	P. J. Laite

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Representative:	William H. Draper, Jr.
Alternates:	Philander P. Claxton, Jr. John W. McDonald, Jr.
Advisers:	Ward P. Allen, Jr. Lloyd Emerson Lydia Giffler

States Members of the United Nations represented by observers

Jim B. Marshall Stafford Mousky

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Bhutan, Canada, China, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Democratic Yemen, Fiji, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Germany (Federal Republic of), Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Senegal, Spain, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Yemen and Yugoslavia.

Non-member States represented by observers

Holy See <u>d</u>/

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 Economic Commission for Western Asia

United Nations bodies

United Nations Children's Fund United Nations Development Programme United Nations Fund for Population Activities

d/ The observer for the Holy See participated in the third special session inasmuch as the Commission held the session in its capacity as the intergovernmental preparatory body for the World Population Conference, 1974.

Specialized agencies

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

Other intergovernmental organizations

Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration League of Arab States Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development Organization of African Unity Organization of American States

Non-governmental organizations

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

Category I

International Council on Social Welfare International Planned Parenthood Federation

Category II

Commission of the Churches on International Affairs International Conference of Catholic Charities International Council of Jewish Women International Federation of University Women International Union for the Scientific Study of Population World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations

Roster

International Advisory Committee on Population and Law International Council of Voluntary Agencies International Educational Development, Inc.

Organizations concerned with parallel and associated activities

The Chairman of the Planning and Management Committee of the Population Tribune and the Convener of the International Youth Population Conference attended as observers.

Annex II

AGENDA#

- 1. Adoption of the agenda.
- 2. World Population Year, 1974:
 - (a) Related matters: African census programme;
 - (b) Related matters: interdisciplinary training programmes.
- 3. World Population Conference, 1974:
 - (a) Preparatory arrangements for the Conference;
 - (b) Draft World Population Plan of Action;
 - (c) Preliminary versions of basic Conference documents and reports of symposia, including the status of documentation;
 - (d) Report on the Second Inquiry among Governments on population and development;
 - (e) Draft annotated provisional agenda and proposed time-table for the World Population Conference, 1974;
 - (f) Revised preliminary draft provisional rules of procedure for the Conference;
 - (g) Parallel and associated activities;
 - (h) Administrative and financial implications of the Conference;
 - (i) Demographic publications of the United Nations.
- 4. Adoption of the report.

^{*} As adopted by the Commission at its 307th meeting, on 4 March 1974.

Annex III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Document No.	Agenda item	Title
E/CN.9/285/Rev.1	3 (f)	Revised preliminary draft of the rules of procedure for the Conference: note by the Secretary-General of the Conference
E/CN.9/292/Rev.1	З(Ъ)	Second draft of the World Population Plan of Action: report of the Secretary- General
E/CN.9/292/Rev.1/Add.1	3 (ъ)	Background document to the draft World Population Plan of Action
E/CN.9/297/Rev.1	l	Provisional agenda for the third special session and annotations
E/CN.9/298	2 (a)	Report on the African Census Programme: note by the Secretary-General
E/CN.9/299	l, 3 (b)	Report of the Advisory Committee of Experts on the World Population Plan of Action on its third meeting
E/CN.9/300	2	Progress report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities
E/CN.9/301	3 (a)	Progress report of the Secret ary-G eneral of the Conference
E/CN.9/302	3 (e)	Draft provisional agenda with revised annotations: note by the Secretary- General of the Conference
E/CN.9/302/Rev.1	3 (e)	Revised draft provisional agenda with revised annotations: note by the Secretary-General of the Conference
E/CN.9/302/Add.1	3 (e)	Proposed time-table for the work of the Conference: note by the Secretary- General of the Conference
E/CN.9/302/Add.1/Rev.1	3 (e)	Proposed revised time-table for the work of the Conference: note by the Secretary- General of the Conference

Document No.	Agenda item	Title
e/cn.9/303	3 (d)	Report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.9/304	3 (c)	Report of the Secretary-General of the Conference on recent population trends and future prospects
E/CN.9/305	3 (h)	Note by the Secretary-General
E/CN.9/306	3 (c)	Report of the Symposium on Population and Development
E/CN.9/307 and Corr.1	3 (c)	Report of the Symposium on Population, Resources and Environment
E/CN.9/308	3 (c)	Report of the Symposium on Population and the Family
E/CN.9/309	3 (i)	Note by the Secretary-General
E/CN.9/310 and Add.2	3 (a)	Progress report of the Secretary- General of the Conference
E/CN.9/310/Add.1	3 (g)	Progress report of the Secretary-General of the Conference
E/CN.9/311	3 (c)	Report of the Secretary-General of the Conference on population and the family
E/CN.9/312	1	Agenda of the third special session
E/CN.9/L.110	3 (f)	Romania: amendment to the revised preliminary draft rules of procedure for the Conference
E/CN.9/L.111	3 (f)	Brazil, India and Romania: amendment to the revised preliminary draft rules of procedure for the Conference
E/CN.9/L.112	3 (ъ)	Comments and suggestions by the International Forum on the Role of Women in Population and Development
E/CN.9/L.113	3 (f)	United States of America: proposal for possible language for the report of the Commission on the subject of "consensus"
E/CN.9/L.114 and Add.1-9	ţ	Draft report of the Population Commission on its third special session
E/CN.9/L.115	3 (f)	Text to be annexed to the draft provisional rules of procedure of the Conference

Document No.	Agenda item	Title
E/CN.9/L.116	3 (ъ)	India, Netherlands and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft statement to be included in the report of the Commission on its third special session
E/CN.9/III SS/CRP.1	3 (h)	Preliminary version of the concise report on the world population situation
E/CN.9/III SS/CRP.2	3 (a)	List of meetings related to the World Population Conference, 1974
E/CN.9/III SS/CRP.3 and Add.1	3 (c)	Reports of the Review Committee for Background and Symposia Papers of the Conference on its first and second meetings
E/CN.9/III SS/CRP.4	3 (c)	Report of the Symposium on Population and Human Rights
E/CN.9/III SS/CRP.5	3 (c)	Report of the Secretary-General on population, resources and environment
E/CN.9/III SS/CRP.6	3 (c)	Report of the Secretary-General of the Conference on population and development
E/CN.9/III SS/CRP.7	3 (Ъ)	United States of America: draft World Population Plan of Action
e/cn.9/ngo/8	3	Report of International Educational Development, Inc. regarding a series of educational seminars in the third world on population
E/CN.9/III SS/INF.1		Programme of work of the third special session
E/CN.9/III SS/INF.1/Rev.1		Revised programme of work of the third special session
E/CN.9/III SS/INF.1/Rev.2		Revised programme of work of the third special session
E/CN.9/III SS/INF.2		List of documents before the Commission
E/CN.9/III SS/INF.3		List of representatives to the third special session of the Commission

Arnex IV

INVITATIONS TO INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE CONFERENCE

(a) The Commission recommended that the Council authorize the Secretary-General of the Conference to invite the following intergovernmental organizations to be represented by observers at the Conference:

African, Malagasy and Mauritian Common Organization

Central African Customs and Economic Union

Council of Europe

Council for Mutual Economic Assistance

European Economic Community

Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration

League of Arab States

Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development

Organization of African Unity

Organization of American States

Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries

Regional Co-operation for Development

World Intellectual Property Organization

(b) The Commission recommended that the Council authorize the Secretary-General of the Conference to invite the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to be represented by observers at the Conference:

Category I

International Chamber of Commerce International Co-operative Alliance International Council of Women International Planned Parenthood Federation International Student Movement for the United Nations Inter-Parliamentary Union United Towns Organization Women's International Democratic Federation World Federation of Trade Unions

Category II

Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization Agudas Israel World Organization All-India Women's Conference Associated Country Women of the World Centro de Investigación para el Desarrollo Económico y Social Christian Democratic World Union Eastern Regional Organization for Public Administration European League for Economic Co-operation Friends World Committee for Consultation Inter-American Council of Commerce and Production Inter-American Planning Society Inter-American Statistical Institute International Alliance of Women - Equal Rights, Equal Responsibilities International Association of French-Speaking Parliamentarians International Association of Penal Law International Association of Ports and Harbours International Bar Association International Catholic Child Bureau International Catholic Migration Commission International Conference of Catholic Charities International Council of Scientific Unions: Committee on Space Research International Council on Alcohol and Addictions International Federation for Human Rights International Federation of Business and Professional Women International Federation of University Women International Hotel Association International Institute of Administrative Sciences International League for the Rights of Man International Organization - Justice and Development International Organization of Journalists International Society for Criminology International Statistical Institute International Union for the Scientific Study of Population International Union of Architects

International Union of Family Organizations Junior Chamber International Lions International - the International Association of Lions Clubs OXPAM Pax Romana Society for Comparative Legislation Women's International Zionist Organization Women's International League for Peace and Freedom World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations World Assembly of Youth World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts World Association of World Federalists World Confederation of Organizations of the Teaching Profession World Conference of Religion for Peace World Federation for Mental Health World Federation of Democratic Youth World Federation of the Deaf World Jewish Congress World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations World University Service World Young Women's Christian Association

Roster

Christian Peace Conference Commonwealth Human Ecology Council Foresta Institute for Ocean and Mountain Studies Friends of the Earth Inter-American Association of Broadcasters International Advisory Committee on Population and Law International Association for Cereal Chemistry International Association of Art - Painting, Sculpture, Graphic Art International Association of Gerontology International Association of Universities International Board of Co-operation for the Developing Countries International Confederation of Associations of Experts and Consultants

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International Co-ordinating Committee for the Presentation of Science and the Development of Out-of-School Scientific Activities International Council of Nurses International Council of Societies of Industrial Design International Council of Voluntary Agencies International Council on Archives International Educational Development, Inc. International Federation of Catholic Universities International Federation of Home Economics International Federation of Modern Language Teachers International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Associations International Federation of Surgical Colleges International Geographical Union International Peace Research Association International Schools Association International Social Science Council International Superphosphate and Compound Manufacturers' Association Limited International Theatre Institute International Union of Students Latin American Association of Development Finance Institutions Lutheran World Federation National Audubon Society Population Council. The SERVAS - International Sierra Club Society for Chemical Industry Society for International Development United Schools International Vienna Institute for Development World Federation of Scientific Workers World Medical Association World Psychiatric Association Young Christian Workers

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