



Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/ICEF/1994/2 (Part II)
6 April 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
Executive Board
Annual session 1994
2-6 May 1994

FOR INFORMATION

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SUMMARY

The present document provides an overview of developments in UNICEF programmes and operations in 1993. Chapter II, the programme overview, reviews progress in child survival, development and protection through major fields of activity, including primary health care, nutrition, water supply and sanitation, basic education and emergency operations. Major strategic components of UNICEF activity in 1993, including achieving the goals for the mid-decade and the year 2000, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the UNICEF priority to Africa, are also discussed in chapter II, in addition to other programme responses and support activities. Chapter III focuses on UNICEF operations, supply operations, administrative management, information resources management and internal audit.

CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
ABBREVIATIONS		6
I. INTRODUCTION	1 - 2	8
II. PROGRAMME OVERVIEW	3 - 29	8
A. Programme expenditure	9 - 11	9
B. Major strategic components	12 - 62	17
Achieving the goals for children in the 1990s	12 - 13	17
Monitoring the goals for children in the 1990s	14 - 18	17
Convention on the Rights of the Child	19 - 23	18
Advocacy and social mobilization	24 - 25	19
Development with a human face	26 - 32	20
United Nations operational activities for development	33 - 43	21
Actions undertaken to reach the poorest	44 - 53	23
National capacity-building and empowerment	54 - 57	26
Environment and sustainable development	58 - 62	27
C. Major fields of activity	63 - 163	29
Primary health care	63 - 64	29
Immunization and the Children's Vaccine Initiative ..	65 - 68	29
Control of diarrhoeal diseases	69 - 73	30
Control of acute respiratory infections	74 - 79	31
Strategy for prevention of HIV/AIDS	80 - 85	32
Women's health, safe motherhood, child spacing and family planning	86 - 88	34
Bamako Initiative	89 - 98	34
Nutrition and household food security	99 - 121	37
Basic education	122 - 134	42
		/...

CONTENTS (continued)

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
Water supply and environmental sanitation	135 - 139	46
Dracunculiasis (guinea worm disease) eradication programme	140 - 143	48
Gender in development and the girl child	144 - 150	49
Urban services	151 - 154	51
Children in especially difficult circumstances	155 - 160	52
Drug abuse control and healthy lifestyles for youth .	161 - 163	53
D. Other programme responses	164 - 194	54
Africa	164 - 172	54
Central and Eastern Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Baltic States	173 - 182	56
Emergency operations	183 - 189	58
International Year of the Family	190 - 194	59
E. Other supporting activities	195 - 292	61
Programme evaluation and research	195 - 209	61
Programme information management	210 - 212	63
Programme communication and social mobilization	213 - 219	64
Non-governmental organizations	220 - 225	65
Parliamentarians, mayors, religious leaders and personalities	226 - 235	67
National Committees for UNICEF	236 - 242	69
Education for development	243 - 245	70
Information, communication and media relations	246 - 275	71
Fund-raising	276 - 283	76
Greeting Card and related Operations	284 - 292	77

/...

CONTENTS (continued)

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
III. OPERATIONS	293 - 336	79
A. Overview	293	79
B. Income and expenditure	294 - 299	79
C. Financial management	300 - 301	84
Follow-up to audit recommendations	300	84
Review of financial accountability in UNICEF	301	84
D. Human resource management	302 - 313	84
Organization and priorities	302 - 303	84
Job classification and compensation issues	304	84
Recruitment and placement	305 - 307	85
Safety and staff security	308	85
Training and staff development	309 - 311	85
Staff relations	312 - 313	86
E. Supply operations	314 - 320	86
F. Administrative management services	321 - 327	87
G. Information resources management	328 - 331	89
H. Internal audit	332 - 336	89

List of tables

1. Total UNICEF programme expenditure by programme field	11
2. UNICEF general resources programme expenditure by programme field ..	12
3. UNICEF supplementary funds programme expenditure by programme field	13
4. UNICEF 1993 programme expenditure on emergency and rehabilitation by programme field	14
5. Total UNICEF programme and emergency expenditure by programme field	15
6. UNICEF programme expenditure by geographical region	16

/...

CONTENTS (continued)

	<u>Page</u>
7. Estimates of the magnitude and depth of poverty in the developing world, 1985-1990	24
8. UNICEF income by source of funding	80
9. Expenditure by type of input	81

List of figures

I. UNICEF income, 1988-1993	82
II. UNICEF expenditure, 1988-1993	82
III. UNICEF income by source, 1993	83
IV. UNICEF expenditures by sector, 1993	83

ABBREVIATIONS

ACC	Administrative Committee on Coordination
AfDB	African Development Bank
AIDS	acquired immune deficiency syndrome
ARI	acute respiratory infections
BBC	British Broadcasting Corporation
BFHI	Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative
CDD	control of diarrhoeal diseases
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
CNN	Cable News Network
CSD	Child survival and development
DOP	Division of Personnel
EFA	Education for All
EPF	Emergency Programme Fund
EPI	expanded programme on immunization
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FDP	Fund-raising Development Programme (GCO)
GCO	Greeting Card and related Operations
GIS	geographical information system
GPA	Global Programme on AIDS
GTZ	German Agency for Technical Cooperation
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
IBFAN	International Baby Food Action Network
ICAAC	International Conference on Assistance to African Children
ICDC	International Child Development Centre
ICN	International Conference on Nutrition
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IDD	iodine deficiency disorders
ILO	International Labour Organization
IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union
IUNS	International Union of Nutritional Sciences
JCGP	Joint Consultative Group on Policy
JCI	Junior Chamber International
JPOs	Junior Professional Officers
JUNIC	Joint United Nations Information Committee
MCH	maternal and child health
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
NGOs	non-governmental organizations
NYCEDC	New York City Economic Development Corporation
OAU	Organization of African Unity
ODA	official development assistance
ORS	oral rehydration salts
ORT	oral rehydration therapy
PEC	primary environmental care
PEM	protein-energy malnutrition
PHC	primary health care
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SCN	Subcommittee on Nutrition (of the Administrative Committee on Coordination)
UBS	urban basic services

/...

UCI	universal child immunization
UNDC	United Nations Development Corporation
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WABA	World Alliance for Breast-feeding Action
WHO	World Health Organization

I. INTRODUCTION

1. A heartening and enduring image from the last days of 1993 is that of Mr. F. W. de Klerk and Mr. Nelson Mandela signing the Declaration of the World Summit for Children following their joint acceptance of the Nobel Peace Prize. The signatures symbolized not only the commitment of the two leaders to build a future for their country, but also the world's growing acceptance that each country's future depends upon its children and that we all need to do better by them to achieve the future we seek. The first years of the 1990s have seen the vast majority of nations and their leaders establishing and working towards social goals to eliminate or reduce drastically the major threats to the health and well-being of children by the end of the decade. Indeed, world-wide progress to date and the knowledge gained from this experience indicate that child malnutrition, disease, disability and illiteracy can be largely overcome by the turn of the century. For this to happen, the cause of meeting the most basic needs of all children must now be taken up with a new determination and sense of urgency.

2. Poverty, population growth and environmental deterioration feed on each other, forming a pernicious spiral that threatens and negates the progress being made in the health and well-being of children. However, as the 1994 State of the World's Children report argues, investments in health, nutrition, basic education and family planning can create an upward spiral that would help to reduce population growth and alleviate environmental stress. Greater investment in meeting basic human needs, including by Governments and external donors, is needed for its own sake and as a means of preventing and reversing that downward spiral of poverty, population growth and environmental deterioration.

II. PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

3. In 1993, UNICEF cooperated in programmes in over 130 countries, the majority of which were in Africa, followed by Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and the Middle East and North Africa. UNICEF expanded its programme of support to Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

4. Immunization coverage has been maintained at close to 80 per cent globally. Universal child immunization (UCI) is being sustained in most parts of the world except for Africa, where there has been a decline in a number of countries affected by conflict and serious economic constraints. There are polio-free zones in the Americas and Southern and North Africa, and the incidence in Asia is significantly low. A drive will soon be under way in the Americas to immunize all children against measles to meet the mid-decade goals. The Vaccine Independence Initiative is moving forward.

5. A substantial number of countries continued to build on the successes of UCI and developed health systems by adopting a UCI-plus approach that will contribute to the achievement of the goals for health and nutrition by 1995. Recent experiences of disseminating both knowledge and use of oral rehydration therapy (ORT) and home-made solutions have given a global boost to programmes

/...

for the control of diarrhoeal diseases (CDD). Over two thirds of developing countries have operational plans of action for the control of acute respiratory infections (ARI). In 1993, the number of core countries implementing the Bamako Initiative increased to 28, with 25 in sub-Saharan Africa. The Bamako Initiative strategy will play a pivotal role in sustaining the gains made through UCI as well as in achieving other mid-decade goals and the health goals for the year 2000.

6. A majority of countries have adopted the basic elements of the UNICEF nutrition strategy, which was adopted by the Executive Board in 1990 (E/ICEF/1990/13, decision 1990/19). Many other countries are now reorienting their nutrition strategies in the same direction. Interest in nutrition and the global commitment to solve the nutrition problem were strengthened by two important events during the last year: the International Conference on Nutrition, held at Rome, with 159 Governments participating; and the Congress on Nutrition, held at Adelaide, Australia, attended by renowned nutrition scientists. The drive to eliminate iodine deficiency disorders (IDD) by 1995 is fast gaining momentum, and a number of heads of State or Government have indicated firm support. Over 124 developing countries have officially announced policies to end the distribution of free and low-cost supplies of infant formula. UNICEF is working with the World Health Organization (WHO), non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and industry on the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI).

7. The Education For All (EFA) Summit of nine high-population countries, accounting for 75 per cent of the world's illiterate population, was hosted by the Government of India and co-sponsored by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and UNICEF in December 1993 at New Delhi. In 1993, a concerted effort was made to promote universal primary education through a number of initiatives that place strong emphasis on capacity-building. Although considerable progress has been made at both national and international levels in raising consciousness, no real breakthrough will be possible without strong and sustained political and financial commitment in each country and internationally in favour of basic education. Substantial additional resources from external sources will be needed.

8. UNICEF provided assistance to over 90 developing countries in support of activities to help achieve the goals for water supply and sanitation for 1995 and the year 2000 goals. UNICEF promoted the advancement of women in all regions and in most country programmes and supported numerous activities aimed at empowering women at different levels.

A. Programme expenditure

9. Programme expenditure in 1993 totalled \$804 million (\$413 million from general resources and \$391 million from supplementary funds). This represents an 8 per cent increase over 1992 and 36 per cent over 1991. Programme expenditures were distributed among different programme fields, as shown in table 1. (General resources and supplementary funds programme expenditure by programme field are shown in tables 2 and 3.) Expenditures for emergency

/...

assistance increased substantially in 1993, from \$167 million in 1992 to \$222.5 million. The increase was primarily a result of the continuing emergency situations in Angola, Afghanistan, Iraq, Kenya, Liberia, Mozambique, Somalia, the Sudan and the former Yugoslavia. The distribution of programme expenditure on emergency and rehabilitation by programme field is shown in table 4. In 1993, 34 per cent of these expenditures were for health, 21 per cent for water supply and sanitation, 16 per cent for planning, advocacy and programme support, 10 per cent for community organization and development, 8 per cent for nutrition and the rest was shared by other programme fields.

10. Table 5 shows the distribution of regular programme and emergency expenditures by programme field. As compared to 1992, expenditures in health remained substantially the same, but some increases can be noted for nutrition, water supply and sanitation, education, other programme areas and planning, advocacy and programme support.

11. The geographical distribution of programme expenditure is shown in table 6. Africa still receives the largest allocation. The increased allocation for the Middle East and North Africa was mainly a result of increased emergency activities in Iraq and the Sudan. Similarly, emergency assistance for the former Yugoslavia accounted for the increased expenditure in Central and Eastern Europe.

Table 1. Total UNICEF programme expenditure by programme field

(In millions of United States dollars)

Programme	1970-1979 <u>a/</u>		1990		1991		1992		1993	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
Child health	31	34	251	43	202	34	228	31	210	26
Expanded programme on immunization			(150)	(26)	(98)	(17)	(106)	(14)	(92)	(11)
Oral rehydration therapy			(9)	(2)	(9)	(2)	(9)	(1)	(8)	(1)
Other health <u>b/</u>			(92)	(16)	(95)	(16)	(113)	(15)	(110)	(14)
Nutrition and household food security	9	10	29	5	31	5	32	4	31	4
Water supply and sanitation	16	18	82	14	73	12	84	11	84	10
Education <u>c/</u>	20	22	57	10	48	8	72	10	72	9
Other programme areas <u>d/</u>	5	5	41	7	39	7	53	7	57	7
Emergency - general	4	4	49	8	111	19	167	22	223	28
Planning, advocacy and programme support <u>e/</u>	6	7	75	13	87	15	108	15	127	16
Total UNICEF programme expenditure	91	100	584	100	591	100	744	100	804	100

a/ Annual average.

b/ Includes figures for emergency health activities in 1990-1992.

c/ Figures in 1990, 1991, 1992 and 1993 include young child development programmes.

d/ Consists of community development and organization, women's programmes and children in especially difficult circumstances.

e/ Consists mainly of planning and social statistics, advocacy and programme support.

/...

Table 2. UNICEF general resources programme expenditure by programme field

(In millions of United States dollars)

Programme	1990		1991		1992		1993	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
Child health	128	40	119	37	134	34	120	29
Expanded programme on immunization	(67)	(21)	(56)	(18)	(58)	(15)	(41)	(10)
Oral rehydration therapy	(6)	(2)	(6)	(2)	(7)	(2)	(7)	(2)
Other health	(55)	(17)	(57)	(18)	(69)	(18)	(72)	(17)
Nutrition and household food security	16	5	21	7	21	5	20	5
Water supply and sanitation	34	11	31	10	38	10	44	11
Education <u>a/</u>	47	15	35	11	55	14	57	14
Other programme areas <u>b/</u>	25	8	23	7	33	8	32	8
Emergency	8	3	16	5	23	6	39	9
Planning, advocacy and programme support <u>c/</u>	61	19	73	23	86	22	101	24
Total UNICEF programme expenditure	319	100	318	100	390	100	413	100

a/ Includes young child development programmes.

b/ Consists of community development and organization, women's programmes and children in especially difficult circumstances.

c/ Consists mainly of planning and social statistics, advocacy and programme support.

/...

Table 3. UNICEF supplementary funds programme expenditure by programme field

(In millions of United States dollars)

Programme	1990		1991		1992		1993	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
Child health	122	46	83	30	94	27	91	23
Expanded programme on immunization	(82)	(31)	(42)	(15)	(48)	(14)	(51)	(13)
Oral rehydration therapy	(3)	(1)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)
Other health	(37)	(14)	(38)	(14)	(44)	(12)	(38)	(10)
Nutrition and household food security	13	5	10	4	11	3	11	3
Water supply and sanitation	48	18	42	15	46	13	40	10
Education <u>a/</u>	10	4	13	5	17	5	15	4
Other programme areas <u>b/</u>	16	6	16	6	20	6	24	6
Emergency	41	16	95	35	144	41	184	47
Planning, advocacy and programme support <u>c/</u>	14	5	14	5	22	6	26	7
Total UNICEF programme expenditure	264	100	273	100	354	100	391	100

a/ Includes young child development programmes.

b/ Consists of community development and organization, women's programmes and children in especially difficult circumstances.

c/ Consists mainly of planning and social statistics, advocacy and programme support.

/...

Table 4. UNICEF 1993 programme expenditure on emergency and rehabilitation by programme field

(In millions of United States dollars)

Programme	Amount	%
Expanded programme on immunization	12.3	6
Oral rehydration therapy	1.1	0
Other health	63.1	28
Total, Health	76.5	34
Nutrition	17.9	8
Household food security	9.6	4
Water supply and sanitation	47.6	21
Education	7.7	3
Other programme areas		
Community organization/development	21.7	10
Women's programmes	0.1	0
Children in especially difficult circumstances	5.4	2
Planning, advocacy and programme support	35.5	16
Not distributed	0.5	0
GRAND TOTAL	222.5	100

/...

Table 5. Total UNICEF programme and emergency expenditure
by programme field

(In millions of United States dollars)

Programme	1970-1979 <u>a/</u>		1990		1991		1992		1993	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
Child health	31	34	267	45	245	40	287	39	286	36
Expanded programme on immunization			(154)	(26)	(110)	(18)	(115)	(16)	(104)	(13)
Oral rehydration therapy			(9)	(2)	(11)	(1)	(11)	(1)	(9)	(1)
Other health <u>b/</u>			(104)	(17)	(124)	(21)	(161)	(22)	(173)	(22)
Nutrition and household food security	9	10	36	6	45	8	55	7	59	7
Water supply and sanitation	16	18	88	15	93	16	120	16	132	16
Education <u>c/</u>	20	22	59	10	51	9	75	10	80	10
Other programme areas <u>d/</u>	5	5	51	9	51	9	69	9	84	10
Emergency - general	4	4	3	1	3	1	4	1	1	0
Planning, advocacy and programme support <u>e/</u>	6	7	80	14	103	17	134	18	162	20
Total UNICEF programme expenditure	91	100	584	100	591	99	744	100	804	100

a/ Annual average.

b/ Includes figures for emergency health activities in 1990-1993.

c/ Figures in 1990, 1991, 1992 and 1993 include young child development programmes.

d/ Consists of community development and organization, women's programmes and children in especially difficult circumstances.

e/ Consists mainly of planning and social statistics, advocacy and programme support.

/...

Table 6. UNICEF programme expenditure by geographical region

(In millions of United States dollars)

Region	1970-1979 <u>a/</u>		1990		1991		1992		1993	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
Africa	19	21	216	37	210	36	284	38	299	37
Asia	52	57	233	40	200	34	250	34	236	29
Americas and the Caribbean	8	9	58	10	61	10	68	9	80	10
Middle East and North Africa	10	11	57	10	90	15	95	13	119	15
Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union					3	1	16	2	32	4
Interregional	2	2	20	3	27	5	31	4	38	5
Total	91	100	584	100	591	100	744	100	804	100

a/ Annual average.

/...

B. Major strategic components

Achieving the goals for children in the 1990s

12. In 1993, UNICEF moved into "high gear" in assisting countries to achieve the goals for children and development approved by the Executive Board in 1990 (E/ICEF/1990/13, decision 1990/2). In the first quarter of the year, there were three major consultations between headquarters and field offices in Africa, the Middle East, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean to review and refine strategies for achieving the goals for the decade. These consultations reaffirmed and clarified the goals set to be achieved by mid-decade, identified the interim "stepping-stone" targets for reaching the decade's goals and defined programme priorities and actions, focusing on the intermediate and decade goals. Following these consultations, all country offices prepared work plans so as to redirect and refocus their activities, within the framework of the UNICEF country programme and the national programme of action, to support national efforts to achieve these goals. A major activity of the Programme Division in 1993 was to review these work plans and assist in their elaboration as necessary.

13. With more than 90 per cent of the world's children covered by national programmes of action that either have been finalized or are in draft, the groundwork of national planning for children has been laid. The great majority of UNICEF country programmes now are elaborated within the framework of the national programme of action and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. A significant development in 1993 was the intensified preparation of subnational programmes of action at provincial and municipal levels in a large number of countries. High-level intergovernmental forums in different regions of the world again have assessed progress towards and endorsed the goals, an example of which was the Ministerial Meeting of the East Asia and Pacific Countries, hosted by the Government of the Philippines at Manila in September 1993. WHO and UNICEF, working together through the mechanism of the Joint Consultative Group on Policy (JCGP), have endorsed a series of mid-decade targets and strategies for achieving them. On the third anniversary of the World Summit for Children, national representatives attended a round table at United Nations Headquarters convened by the Secretary-General to review efforts made in their countries and to affirm their support for, and determination to reach, the goals. The Executive Board will review a report on follow-up to the World Summit for Children (E/ICEF/1994/12) at its 1994 annual session.

Monitoring the goals for children in the 1990s

14. During 1993, there were several important advances in monitoring progress towards the goals for children, including the publication of the first issue of The Progress of Nations, an inter-agency agreement with WHO on recommended health indicators, the development of the mid-decade goals and related monitoring guidelines, and a range of data-related improvements.

15. The Progress of Nations, released in September, provided a first assessment of the well-being of children and of individual countries' progress towards the goals to which 156 Governments have committed themselves. Countries' coverage of national achievements in child survival, nutrition, health, education, family

/...

planning and progress for women was presented through a unique mix of tables, charts, photos and text. When the report was launched in individual countries, particular attention was paid to each country's specific successes and challenges.

16. UNICEF reached an agreement with WHO on jointly recommended indicators for monitoring health as related to the goals of the World Summit for Children. These indicators provide a substantial basis for further collaboration between UNICEF and WHO in support of national monitoring of the health of children and of health for all. In addition, the evolutionary development of the mid-decade goals has given added impetus to monitoring activities.

17. Although The Progress of Nations drew attention to the inadequacy of the statistics by which social improvements are measured, some advances were made in this area during 1993. Work continued on improvement of child mortality estimation and country profiles were disseminated on children who were underweight, stunted or wasted. New data on children suffering from IDD resulted from joint work with WHO, and data were collected on national progress towards universal salt iodization. Development measurements of the causes of death continued, and a start was made on improving the foundation for estimates of water supply and sanitation coverage. A joint project was initiated with UNESCO to improve educational statistics systems in sub-Saharan Africa, with results from several countries expected in 1994.

18. UNICEF field offices have been proactive in national-level monitoring in all regions across the health, education and nutrition sector and through the use of administrative sources and household surveys. The Data Entry Enhancement and Display System (DEEDS), a computer software package initially developed in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Regional Office, has been developed further for use at the country level worldwide to manage a wide range of social data and to generate reports on progress towards achieving the goals.

Convention on the Rights of the Child

19. At its 1993 session, the Executive Board requested the Executive Director to offer advice and assistance, as appropriate and within the UNICEF mandate, to enable States to become a party to the Convention on the Rights of the Child as soon as possible. The Board also endorsed the year 1995 as a target date for universal ratification of the Convention (E/ICEF/1993/34, decision 1993/13). There has been rapid progress in terms of both ratification and implementation, with implementation beginning to affect how the needs and rights of children are perceived and cared for around the world.

20. A total of 154 countries had ratified the Convention by the end of 1993; of the 36 remaining, many are nearing ratification. The Convention has already been adopted and ratified by more countries than any other international treaty to date. The goal of universal ratification by 1995 clearly is within reach.

21. UNICEF continued to work with a number of important child rights partners during 1993, including the Centre for Human Rights of the United Nations Secretariat and the 10-member Committee on the Rights of the Child, which had a number of meetings to review a total of 11 country reports. By early December,

/...

the Committee had received 30 additional country reports. The Committee met with several Governments during 1993 and used these opportunities to discuss such issues as economic exploitation and its impact on children.

22. During 1993, UNICEF completed a child rights training package and conducted a related training programme in the MENA region. UNICEF also developed an electronic child rights database, which should facilitate and more closely link the work of field offices, National Committees for UNICEF and the Committee on the Rights of the Child with regard to ratification and monitoring of the implementation of the Convention.

23. The UNICEF Consultative Group on Child Rights, which meets annually, also focused on a number of issues related to the role of the organization in supporting implementation of the Convention and the work of the Committee on the Rights of the Child. Among the conclusions reached during the Group's 1993 discussions were the importance of linking implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and the need for UNICEF to intensify its work against the sexual exploitation of children and on behalf of children affected by armed conflict.

Advocacy and social mobilization

24. Advocacy at global meetings, summits and intergovernmental gatherings continued to be a major element of UNICEF efforts to build support for achieving the mid-decade goals and the goals for the year 2000. Through global forums such as the World Conference on Human Rights, where UNICEF played a leading role in the full day devoted to child rights, the organization worked closely with a broad spectrum of human and social development groups to galvanize commitment and action for children.

25. In cooperating with a growing number of intergovernmental organizations, UNICEF emphasized obtaining commitment to national programmes of action and achieving the mid-decade goals at the highest political levels, as well as encouraged ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. These forums included the Ministerial Council of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, which strongly endorsed the mid-decade goals, and the Council of Ministers and the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), which adopted the Consensus of Dakar and made a commitment to the mid-decade goals and to universal ratification of the Convention. Following a mandate from the 1991 Francophone Summit, ministers responsible for children met at Dakar in June 1993 and approved the Dakar Declaration, which encompassed the mid-decade goals; this was subsequently endorsed by the Francophone Summit held in Mauritius in October 1993. In the same month, in Cyprus, the Commonwealth Heads of Government issued a strong statement which made special mention of the mid-decade goals and the Convention. Similar commitments were made in 1993 by such regional organizations and groups as the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), the South Pacific Forum, the Ibero-American Summit and First Ladies from Latin America.

/...

Development with a human face

26. The Office of Social Policy and Economic Analysis was designated in 1993 as a focal point for development with a human face, with organizational responsibility for initiating, coordinating and implementing the initiative. With the addition of a regional economic adviser in the South Asia region, the UNICEF capacity for dealing with macroeconomic issues and their implications for social sector and programme costing was strengthened further.

27. UNICEF inter-agency collaborative efforts in this area were strengthened by the publication of a report entitled 20/20: Mobilizing Resources for Children in the 1990s. The "20/20" idea was first introduced in the 1992 State of the World's Children report and in the Executive Director's address to the International Development Conference (Washington, January 1993), as a vision for securing resources for social development. Drawing upon the 1991 and 1992 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Human Development Reports, the concept refers to a proposal to fund specific priority interventions on the human development agenda. It has been estimated that the additional financial resources required to achieve the goals set by the World Summit for Children will be \$25 billion per year. Devoting at least 20 per cent of government budgets of developing countries to priority social sectors for children and other vulnerable groups, with a commensurate level of official development assistance (ODA) from donors, would be a major step towards filling the resource gap. The 20/20 concept is a powerful advocacy tool for mobilizing resources for children and provides a shared framework for national Governments and the donor community. With national programmes of action, this initiative will allow for serious dialogue because of its emphasis on quantifiable social expenditure targets to address the worst aspects of poverty.

28. Financing development with a human face requires a wide range of options, of which an important one is the restructuring of national budgets. The Office of Social Policy and Economic Analysis has initiated studies on restructuring national budgets in a number of selected countries. Work is continuing in Guinea, Nepal, the Philippines and the United Republic of Tanzania to examine current patterns of government expenditure and, more importantly, the scope for both intersectoral and intrasectoral restructuring. To go beyond mere analysis, the study will work with national government counterparts to examine ways of bringing about the desired budget restructuring process.

29. The office has also initiated a study in a number of countries to examine the policy dimensions of economic growth and human development. Countries have taken conscious policy decisions that have led to considerable achievements in human development. A retrospective study of those countries will provide policy options that can be considered by others. Costa Rica, Cuba, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tunisia, Zimbabwe and Kerala State in India have been selected initially, and there are plans to extend the coverage of the study.

30. Country-level support in refining cost estimates and financing options of national programmes of action was continued in 1993. The work carried out in Bangladesh, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Mauritius, Oman, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam has focused attention on this key issue.

/...

31. The "debt relief for children" initiative continued in 1993. Social sector programmes in Bolivia, Ecuador, Jamaica, Madagascar, the Philippines and the Sudan have benefited from swaps of commercial bank debt arranged by UNICEF. To date, UNICEF has carried out 15 debt conversion transactions. Debt with a face value of \$90 million has been converted into local currency valued at more than \$20 million at a total cost of some \$11 million. UNICEF has developed a degree of expertise in debt conversion and is in regular contact with the World Bank and other United Nations organizations to promote further use of this mechanism. UNICEF is currently developing additional debt conversion operations in more than 10 countries. Programmes selected for debt conversion funding are those included in the UNICEF country programme and which, therefore, have been developed and approved by the Government of the debtor country. By limiting the total size and spreading expenditure over a three- or four-year period, UNICEF does not anticipate any adverse inflationary impact.

32. UNICEF involvement with countries in Central and Eastern Europe and the CIS continued in 1993, with an emphasis on making the process of transition as humane and as human as possible. With a view to facilitating systematic social sector planning for human development, social statistical database systems have been established in these countries.

United Nations operational activities for development

33. In the autumn of 1992, the General Assembly undertook its triennial policy review of the operational activities (that is, field activities) of the United Nations system. The review produced the landmark resolution 47/199 of 22 December 1992. The resolution is far-reaching in scope and calls for a number of major new directions in the United Nations system.

34. One of the areas emphasized by resolution 47/199 is the need for a country strategy note, which details common goals and strategies of United Nations organizations working with a recipient Government, based on the priorities of that Government. UNICEF has found that common goals and strategies are central to successful collaborative efforts and also must serve as the starting point around which administrative measures then can be moulded. The country strategy note is to be formulated by interested Governments with the assistance of organizations in the United Nations system, under the leadership of the resident coordinator. Focusing on key development challenges, the country strategy note is expected to take into account the contribution the United Nations system can make to the requirements identified by recipient Governments.

35. UNICEF has been supporting those Governments which have chosen to undertake a country strategy note or similar exercise. UNICEF has also supported its United Nations system partners, particularly the resident coordinators, who have a lead responsibility for this activity. The Executive Director has sent to country offices a series of guidelines, stressing the UNICEF expectation that they will give high priority to support to Governments and the United Nations team. He has also emphasized that such issues as those emerging from national programmes of action might serve as important elements for the country strategy note and prove to be a useful tool for mobilizing international support and coordinating national action for those goals.

/...

36. In many countries, UNICEF offices have made staff and consultant resources available to support the preparation of country strategy notes. UNICEF has also supported efforts at the international level such as the recent seminar organized at the International Labour Organisation (ILO) International Training Centre at Turin, Italy, attended by UNICEF headquarters and field staff and 11 government delegations.

37. The United Nations Secretariat will make a full report on the country experience to the Economic and Social Council, but for UNICEF, the experience to date largely has been a positive one. Although initially, interest and progress in providing support may have been not as rapid as might have been expected, in recent months developments have been moving at a noticeably faster pace. In some cases, more attention should be paid to ensuring full consultation with all relevant parts of Governments and to full involvement by members of the United Nations team. UNICEF has discussed its experience with its partners and in JCGP, and has every expectation of continued progress.

38. In a number of countries, Governments have not yet found that a full country strategy note exercise will be useful, but the United Nations organizations and the Governments have found that other, similar exercises were well warranted and helped to achieve the basic objectives of a country strategy note. Examples include preparing a common United Nations system-wide policy document (such as the one on human development in Bangladesh, which was prepared under the leadership of UNICEF with the participation of 10 United Nations organizations, including the Bretton Woods institutions). Other examples include common sessions for mid-term reviews of programmes (as was done in India by UNICEF and UNDP), or common elements of situation analyses, which has been done in a number of countries.

39. Another key element of resolution 47/199 is the importance for all United Nations operational organizations to adopt a programme approach. As the Executive Board is well aware, this approach has been at the heart of UNICEF operations for some time. The core of a programme approach is the establishment of a set of common goals and strategies and then "unbundling" assistance so that it is provided in a flexible form moulded around the programme objectives. In its participation in Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) subcommittees and JCGP, through bilateral contacts at headquarters and through daily contacts with partners at the country level, UNICEF seeks to share its experience with the programme approach and support a transition by the rest of the United Nations system from a project to a programme approach.

40. Resolution 47/199 also calls for strengthening of the functioning of the resident coordinator system, one element of which is the broadening of the pool of those eligible to be appointed resident representatives/resident coordinators. UNICEF welcomes those developments and JCGP has now finalized the necessary measures to do so. Exchanges of UNICEF staff had been undertaken even prior to the agreement.

41. Another important element in strengthening the resident coordinator system is the establishment of field-level committees to provide guidance and advice on key inter-agency programme issues. UNICEF has long encouraged this approach, particularly with the establishment of subcommittees focused on specific themes

/...

or priority issues (as called for in ACC guidelines). The Executive Director has reiterated this support in his guidance to UNICEF field staff and hopes that reports to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly will reveal that resident coordinators have made progress in this area.

42. UNICEF also finds that one important and extremely valuable part of the strengthening of field coordination by resolution 47/199 is its emphasis on building on the strengths of existing structures. For example, the resolution stresses that the separate identities and, where appropriate, the field representation of individual organizations should be maintained, and that, in strengthening the resident coordinator system, there should be no additional bureaucratic layer between the organizations' field representatives and the Government.

43. Because these issues will be under review at ACC and JCGP meetings to be held in the spring, and because there is a need to provide up-to-date information, as in previous years, at the time of the Executive Board session the Executive Director will provide a follow-up note on operational activities.

Actions undertaken to reach the poorest

44. The World Bank estimates that over the past 25 years, average per capita consumption in real terms has increased by 70 per cent in developing countries, average life expectancy has increased from 51 to 63 years and primary school enrolment has reached 89 per cent. At the same time, however, in 1990, over 1.1 billion people lived on less than \$1 a day (at 1985 prices). During the 1980s, progress in improvement of living standards slowed down and almost stopped in the last half of the decade. The proportion of the population living in poverty in developing countries decreased slightly from 30.5 to 29.7 per cent, but the absolute number increased by over 80 million, as indicated in table 7 below.

Table 7. Estimates of the magnitude and depth of poverty in the developing world, 1985-1990 a/

Region	Number of poor (Millions)		Headcount index (percentage)		Poverty gap index (percentage)	
	1985	1990	1985	1990	1985	1990
Aggregate	1 051	1 133	30.5	29.7	9.9	9.5
East Asia and the Pacific	182	169	13.2	11.3	3.3	2.8
Eastern Europe	5	5	7.1	7.1	2.4	1.9
Latin America and the Caribbean	87	108	22.4	25.2	8.7	10.3
Middle East and North Africa	60	73	30.6	33.1	13.2	14.3
South Asia	532	562	51.8	49.0	16.2	13.7
Sub-Saharan Africa	184	216	47.6	47.8	18.1	19.1

Source: World Bank, Implementing the World Bank's Strategy to Reduce Poverty: Progress and Challenges, 1993, table 1.

a/ The poverty estimates are for 86 countries, representing about 90 per cent of the population of developing countries. They have been updated from those used in the 1990 World Development Report and are based on national household sample surveys from 31 countries, representing roughly 80 per cent of the population of developing countries, and on an econometric model to extrapolate poverty estimates to the remaining 55 countries. The estimates do not include the countries of Indochina or of the former Soviet Union. The poverty line is \$31.23 per person per month at 1985 prices. It is derived from an international survey of poverty lines and represents the typical consumption standard of a number of low-income countries. The poverty line in local currency is chosen to have constant purchasing power parity across countries based on 1985 purchasing power parity exchange rates. The headcount index is the percentage of the population below the poverty line. The poverty gap index is the mean distance below the poverty line (zero for the non-poor) expressed as a percentage of the poverty line.

45. Across regions, as table 7 shows, only in South Asia and in East Asia and the Pacific has the proportion of the population living in poverty declined since 1985. The proportions rose in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East and North Africa and sub-Saharan Africa and were estimated to be the same for Eastern Europe. The relative improvement in South Asia was not enough to prevent an absolute increase in the number of poor people. This region had the highest incidence of poverty, accounting for one half of the world's poor as well as the highest concentration of poverty, with almost one half of the population in the region subsisting on less than \$1 a day.

/...

46. Not all poor people living below the poverty line suffer the same depth of poverty. The intensity of poverty (measured by how far below the poverty line is the average consumption level of the poor) indicates the magnitude of the task a country faces in reducing or eliminating poverty. This measure of the poverty gap index in table 7 attempts to quantify the much tougher problem that sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia and the Middle East and North Africa face compared to Eastern Europe, East Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

47. A convergence of views has emerged that the major elements of poverty reduction policies and strategies are (a) a broad-based economic growth, accompanied by efforts to make public expenditures and economic policies beneficial to the poor; (b) investment in human resources, including basic education, primary health care (PHC) and basic social services, that enable the poor to take advantage of opportunities generated by economic growth and economic policy reforms; and (c) safety nets to protect the poor's nutrition, health and basic consumption level as economic reforms and adjustment policies are implemented.

48. According to the World Bank's projected forecasts of growth in aggregate consumption in the rest of the 1990s, growth will be high enough to have a favourable impact on the reduction of the number of the poor in the East Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and South Asia regions. In sub-Saharan Africa, however, the growth rate is projected to be significantly lower than the rate required for reducing the number of poor. In the first three regions, by the year 2000, the proportions of the population in poverty are expected to decrease, although the absolute numbers will still increase in the Middle East and North Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean. In sub-Saharan Africa, however, both the proportions and absolute numbers are projected to increase substantially (from 47.8 to 49.7 per cent of the population or from 216 million to 304 million people between 1990 and 2000, as also noted in last year's report).

49. The challenge for UNICEF is greater than ever (a) to contribute to policies and programmes for expanding and improving the effectiveness of basic social services; (b) to help design and implement affordable social safety nets for the most vulnerable groups; and (c) to support advocacy and policy dialogue in favour of economic reforms and adjustments that promote poverty alleviation.

50. UNICEF programme strategies, especially in the larger countries with significant economic and ecological disparities among regions and population groups, have emphasized extension of basic services to the disadvantaged groups and underserved areas. In the Philippines, for example, the country programme includes area-based projects in the 10 poorest provinces and has given special attention to 18 underserved provinces in the maternal and child health (MCH) programme. In China, 300 counties (out of more than 2,000 rural counties) designated as poverty-stricken receive the bulk of UNICEF assistance in PHC and education programmes. The impoverished north-eastern provinces of Brazil have been the focus of special advocacy and technical assistance.

51. Elaboration of the goals for mid-decade and the year 2000 and of action priorities in many countries have focused increased attention on disadvantaged

/...

population groups. With regard to such major sectoral activities as primary education, water supply and sanitation, immunization, ORT and micronutrient deficiencies, it has emerged that priorities must be directed to identifying and reaching the underserved populations in order to achieve the goals.

52. Increasing interest in decentralized, area-based and community-focused programme design and implementation has become a means of sharper targeting of benefits to the poor. As noted elsewhere, decentralized planning and management are emerging as key features in all sectoral activities. Urban basic services (UBS) are an example of decentralized participatory programming that is directed exclusively at the poor in rapidly growing urban and peri-urban populations. In 1993, UNICEF assisted programmes that include urban services with significant community organization and community development features in over 60 countries.

53. Increasing investment in essential social services for children is a major advocacy priority for UNICEF both globally and in individual countries, as illustrated by the 20/20 approach. An important element of the resource mobilization effort is collaboration with other external donors, especially the international financial institutions. The priority given to poverty alleviation by the World Bank has opened new possibilities for strengthening such collaboration and for providing effective support to national action on human and social priorities. In the last two years, UNICEF has been associated at the country level in several of the poverty assessment exercises undertaken by the World Bank, notably in Bangladesh, China and Ghana. These assessments are intended to be the basis for national poverty alleviation policies and programmes. UNICEF expects to be involved in many of the over 60 additional assessments planned to be carried out by 1995. Cooperation with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), both at headquarters and at the country level, has helped to develop complementary and collaborative assistance for high-priority social services for children and women in Latin America.

National capacity-building and empowerment

54. In its decision 1992/23 (see E/ICEF/1992/14), the Executive Board requested the Executive Director to include in his annual report a section on measures taken with regard to support for building national capacity to carry out programmes for children in a sustainable way. In his 1993 report (E/ICEF/1993/2 (Part II)), the Executive Director stated that national capacity-building is a key strategy for achieving the goals for the 1990s, and is also both a specific objective and an underlying strategy in different sectoral activities supported by UNICEF. The components of capacity-building found in country programmes include in-service training of national personnel, demonstrations and trials, technical assistance to fill capacity gaps and to provide "hands-on" experience, in-country and international experience exchanges, operations research and participatory evaluation and monitoring activities.

55. In its decision 1992/23, the Executive Board also emphasized that national capacity-building should be an integral component of country programmes in the areas of the formulation of policies and the selection of programme priorities, as well as in the design, implementation and evaluation of national programmes and projects. The process of articulating goals for children in the 1990s and translating these into operative programmes in each country, which for UNICEF is

/...

done through its country programmes of cooperation, has been a vehicle for capacity-building through national policy development and selection of priorities. The elaboration of national programmes of action and the preparation of programmes of action at provincial and municipal levels have required policy makers and officials in many countries to take a comprehensive and longer-term view of children's needs. The need to consider goals within a time-frame, to set quantified intermediate targets and to address constraints that impede progress towards goals has helped national institutions and personnel to focus attention and effort on issues of programme design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. To varying degrees and depending on specific needs, UNICEF country programmes have supported the preparation of subnational programmes, the assessment of costs and resources, the strengthening of implementation and management mechanisms, the improvement of monitoring methods and indicators and the translation of national and subnational programmes of action into annual activities and budgets through workshops, studies, technical assistance and continuous contacts between UNICEF staff and their national counterparts.

56. Between 6 and 7 per cent of UNICEF programme expenditure in recent years has been spent on supporting training of national personnel. Another 27 to 29 per cent has been devoted to non-supply cash assistance for such activities as management and implementation support, technical assistance, studies, evaluation and experience exchange, all of which contribute to building national capacities.

57. Almost all the annual reports from field offices in 1993 mentioned national capacity-building as a key theme in UNICEF programme cooperation. The Executive Board's emphasis on capacity-building has heightened the awareness of country offices regarding this dimension of the country programme. The experience of UNICEF in Ghana can be taken as a typical example. In discussing a programme recommendation now under preparation, the Ghana country office said that at the national level, increased collaboration with the Department of Community Development, the Ministry of Agriculture (Women's Extension Service) and the Ministry of Education (Non-Formal Education Division) would seek to build capacity to carry out long-term, integrated development efforts. In order to accelerate activities for the three northern regions, special emphasis will be given to strengthening regional and district structures of the Ministry of Local Government. At the community level, emphasis will be placed on participatory assessment and planning, both through local government institutions (Unit Committees) and community groups and local NGOs.

Environment and sustainable development

58. The main theme in the 1994 State of the World's Children report is the mutually reinforcing relationships between the worst effects of absolute poverty, the continuation of rapid population growth and the degradation of rural and urban environments throughout much of the developing world. It also emphasizes the threat to a sustainable future caused by environmental pressures arising from the industrialized world's levels of consumption and pollution and the need for industrial countries to redefine their own concepts of growth and progress. The report concludes that pursuing today's low-cost opportunities to promote the health, nutrition and education of women and children in the

/...

developing world is one of the most effective and affordable ways of weakening the grip of poverty, population growth and environmental deterioration.

59. The adverse impact of environmental degradation on the well-being of children and women is being recognized more prominently and has led to the inclusion of the environmental perspective in a growing number of country programmes. This is reflected, for example, in programmes of countries in the Amazon region (Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Guyana, Peru, Suriname and Venezuela); in drought-ridden Eastern and Southern Africa (Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe); in the Sahel region (Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania and the Niger); in countries with deforested mountain regions (Bolivia, Ethiopia, Nepal and Peru); and in countries with seriously polluted and poverty-stricken environments (Chile, Colombia, Egypt, Pakistan, Senegal and Thailand). Emphasis is placed on the application of primary environmental care (PEC) and environmental education.

60. Advocacy for the active participation of children and youth in activities concerning environment and sustainable development is another area that is gaining a lot of momentum. This is best exemplified by the publication of Rescue Mission: Planet Earth, A Children's Edition of Agenda 21. It represents an extraordinary effort by thousands of children from nearly 100 countries to find out what was agreed at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, what it means to them and what they can do. Written and illustrated by children for children, it is certain to inspire young people all over the world to join the rescue mission to save our planet, our only home. UNICEF, UNDP, the United Nations Environment Programme and UNESCO provided support to Peace Child International, an NGO, to undertake this important task. For advocacy concerning the link between poverty alleviation and environment and sustainable development, UNICEF supported the representation of African, Asian and Latin American participants at the Conference for Education and Communication on Environment and Development as well as "ECO-LINKS", the newsletter put out by ECO-ED, the conference organizer.

61. Following the adoption by the Executive Board of its decision 1993/14 (see E/ICEF/1993/14), UNICEF developed a set of guidelines with the help of an expert consultation meeting on PEC and the UNICEF programming process, which was held in October-November 1993. These guidelines address how the PEC perspective could be included in sectoral as well as integrated basic services programmes. They focus on the facilitating role of UNICEF in building partnerships of NGOs, government agencies and international organizations to encourage local groups to take community-based action in rural and urban areas where environmental degradation threatens people's livelihoods. The guidelines also contain strategies for environmental education to ensure the active participation of children, youth and women in these endeavours.

62. To foster greater inter-agency cooperation, UNICEF is participating actively in the meetings of the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development and the JCGP Advisory Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development. The Executive Director addressed the first substantive session of the Commission on Sustainable Development on the UNICEF response to Agenda 21 and the UNICEF commitment to children, environment and sustainable development.

/...

C. Major fields of activity

Primary health care

63. Strengthening the PHC system continues to be a major objective of UNICEF, working in close partnership with WHO. UNICEF has focused its efforts in three principle areas:

(a) Strengthening local governance, participation and financing of PHC activities through the Bamako Initiative and related efforts. This work has included the continuing national-level policy reform required to facilitate these community-level activities in countries where the Bamako Initiative is under way;

(b) Strengthening national-level programmes that rely on and, in turn help to strengthen, the PHC system. Most notable among these activities has been the continued support of UNICEF for childhood immunization efforts, with increased emphasis on improved community-level disease surveillance as a means of strengthening community outreach and overall quality control;

(c) A broad array of health information and social mobilization efforts to create awareness and informed demand in communities for essential MCH services.

64. In order to build on those efforts and to expand the scope and reach of the PHC system, further emphasis has been placed on community partnerships, improved technical intervention packages, first-referral capacities and continued access to quality supplies. Community-based surveillance modalities are under further development in several programme areas as are efforts to strengthen partnerships between the PHC system and women, youth, community groups, schools and religious institutions. Developmental work is also under way to help strengthen the first-referral-level linkages between PHC centres and district hospitals, particularly in the areas of paediatric and emergency obstetric care. Collaboration has been expanded with WHO and other partners in the development of technical intervention packages for the care of the well child, the sick child and for reproductive health and safe motherhood. Finally, UNICEF activities in the provision of vaccines and essential drugs are being reviewed with a view towards expanded efforts and with particular attention to the quality control and sustainability of these critical functions.

Immunization and the Children's Vaccine Initiative

65. Immunization coverage has been maintained at close to 80 per cent globally, with about one third of developing countries showing improved performance and one third a decrease in coverage. Many of the countries experiencing declines are either confronted by severe economic difficulties or civil unrest and conflict. UNICEF has continued to support the development of infrastructures and institutions to extend routine services to all children. Some countries that can offer access to immunization continue to have high drop-out rates. These countries have been encouraged to emphasize mobilization activities aimed at reducing the drop-out rates and missed opportunities to immunize children.

/...

66. Countries with high coverage levels have begun to implement such special supplementary activities as national immunization days to begin eradicating polio, eliminating neonatal tetanus and controlling measles. China, the Philippines and Viet Nam have had successful immunization days, offering polio and other vaccines. Egypt and most of the countries of the MENA region are also working towards the 1995 target for the eradication of polio.

67. Disease surveillance is essential for reaching the immunization goals and guiding the application of vaccines. UNICEF has been collaborating closely with WHO and other partners to strengthen the capacity of several countries for timely and effective disease surveillance.

68. The provision of adequate vaccines to meet programme needs was a special priority during 1993. As a consequence of a significant increase in vaccine prices, country programmes have been struggling to find the resources to meet their needs. The Children's Vaccine Initiative, which is sponsored by WHO, UNDP, the World Bank, UNICEF and the Rockefeller Foundation, has been preparing an analysis of the global vaccine situation. UNICEF and WHO have jointly organized teams of experts in vaccine production and quality control to visit countries which are expected to rely upon domestic production. The teams have visited Bangladesh, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Pakistan, the Philippines and Viet Nam. The teams have assessed both quality control and production capacity and made recommendations to increase production levels to meet national requirements and to ensure that vaccines meet WHO quality requirements. Specific proposals for donor support for each country are being developed and will be submitted to interested donors. The Vaccine Independence Initiative, a mechanism for supporting countries to procure vaccines through UNICEF using national budgets, has been initiated in Morocco and the Philippines, and discussions are under way in an additional 10 countries. The strategic plan for vaccine research has been finalized. The priority for vaccine development during the next several years will be to develop multi-antigen vaccines using the platform of the combined diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus vaccine.

Control of diarrhoeal diseases

69. Diarrhoea and dehydration continue to take the lives of 3 million children every year. Although a quarter of a century has passed since its discovery, today only one third of families in developing countries use ORT. Increasing use rates for ORT in combination with continued feeding of the child remained the focus of UNICEF efforts in 1993. A target of 80 per cent of the families using ORT by 1995 has been established, with the eventual goal of halving deaths caused by diarrhoea by the year 2000.

70. ORT, described by Lancet, the British medical journal, as potentially the most important medical advance of the century, can save nearly 10,000 children every day from death by dehydration and protect an even larger number from related malnutrition. Even in an advanced country like the United States of America, universal adoption of this technology could prevent 200,000 hospital admissions and save an estimated \$500 million per year.

/...

71. On the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the discovery of ORT, a 15-month global programme was launched in Mexico to give impetus to increased use of ORT. On 18 October 1993, 37 ministers and other officials from Africa, Asia and Latin America met in Mexico during the National Health Week. The week saw the distribution of 7 million packages of oral rehydration salts (ORS) and the training of 600,000 mothers in ORT use. The 37 delegates signed a declaration to intensify action, including increased use of ORT by families, to save the lives of young children. Nations around the world are now making ORT a family habit through intensified mobilization and communication efforts.

72. Where heads of State or Government have decided to make a personal commitment to prevent deaths due to diarrhoea, significant progress has been made, as in Mexico. Deaths caused by diarrhoea have been reduced by one half in 11 Mexican states within the short span of 18 months. This success story has demonstrated the importance of intensive community mobilization; in Mexico, the "white flag programme" (when every mother knows the correct use of ORT, a white flag goes up in the village) is an example of community mobilization and empowerment. Another lesson is the importance of the personal commitment and involvement of the head of State or Government; again in Mexico, the President took up the challenge of achieving an ORT use rate of 80 per cent by 1994, and Mexico now monitors ORT use rates every six months. The Junior Chamber International (JCI), an international voluntary organization of business leaders, has also committed itself to the goal of 80 per cent ORT use by 1995.

73. To achieve the ORT goal for 1995 and the goal of halving deaths caused by diarrhoea by the year 2000, preventive activities such as breast-feeding and hand-washing are being promoted along with ORT. Comprehensive district plans have been developed to strengthen case management at health facilities in several countries and guidelines have been developed to involve the commercial sector in increasing ORS production and promotion. Immunization coverage surveys have been modified to include questions on diarrhoeal diseases, thus facilitating monitoring at subnational levels.

Control of acute respiratory infections

74. ARI, specifically pneumonia, continue to be the single most important cause of child mortality in the world, causing 3.6 million deaths of children under five years old each year, with 19 countries accounting for 80 per cent of deaths from pneumonia in children under five years of age. Over two thirds of the developing countries have operational plans for the control of ARI, but only 12 per cent have nationwide activities for the control of pneumonia. The challenge is to implement these programmes throughout each country and to locate facilities for the management of pneumonia as close to people as possible.

75. In 1993, the major emphasis was on expanding services. Almost all countries in Asia and Latin America have adopted the mid-decade goal of offering standard case management for pneumonia in at least 25 per cent of health facilities, leading to a reduction in mortality caused by pneumonia. According to WHO, strengthening health facilities for correct case management, with appropriate information to families for prompt referral, is the key strategy for the reduction of mortality due to pneumonia.

/...

76. Operational strategies have been initiated or strengthened in most countries. With the participation of WHO, a series of meetings was held in Africa, Asia and Latin America to promote the involvement of NGOs in the control of ARI, particularly pneumonia. In remote rural areas, NGOs are sometimes the only source of health care. In countries where operational plans exist, steps have been taken to increase training. As the Bamako Initiative expands, drugs for the management of pneumonia are being made available in larger areas. Discussions are under way to strengthen and expand drug cooperatives in countries where they have been established, such as Indonesia and Thailand. Ethnographic surveys were conducted in several countries to adapt programmes to local conditions. For example, Bangladesh and the Islamic Republic of Iran are redesigning their communication strategies and messages, using locally acceptable terms, based on the findings of such surveys.

77. Increasingly, more countries are decentralizing health planning and health care to the district level, as in Nigeria, where UNICEF conducted a workshop to develop plans for all 64 local government districts. The plans dealt with the definition of operational strategies, training, monitoring, supply and logistics and communication needs. The plans were integrated into the existing PHC system. Based on this experience, guidelines were developed to implement ARI control programmes at the district level.

78. Household surveys developed by WHO serve as useful programme planning, monitoring and evaluation tools. In a meeting of four countries, held in Bangladesh, questions on ARI treatment and referral services were designed for use in household surveys. The immunization coverage surveys have been modified to include specific questions on maternal knowledge related to ARI and pneumonia. This will provide regular information wherever such surveys are carried out and will provide data for monitoring on a larger scale.

79. The "sick child initiative" is a collaborative effort between UNICEF and WHO which treats in an integrated manner cases of children suffering from diarrhoea, measles, malnutrition, pneumonia and malaria. Treatment charts were finalized during the past year following testing of the method's efficacy, and training manuals will now be developed.

Strategy for prevention of HIV/AIDS

80. In many countries, the increased mortality among adults and children due to acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) has raised concerns that the epidemic may begin to reverse recent gains in reducing infant mortality rates. Currently, WHO estimates that by the year 2000, there will be a cumulative total of between 30 million and 40 million men, women and children infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), of which over 90 per cent will be in developing countries. WHO also estimates that by the end of the 1990s, between 5 million and 10 million children under 10 years of age will have been orphaned as a result of the AIDS-related death of one or both parents.

81. The UNICEF strategy for HIV/AIDS prevention and care, endorsed by the Executive Board in 1992 (E/ICEF/1992/14, decision 1992/26), starts from the premise that the pandemic cannot be curtailed without addressing the underlying societal conditions that give rise to, and continue to fuel, its global spread.

/...

Indeed, the sexual behaviours conducive to the spread of HIV infection are based on societal attitudes which place women and young people at greatest risk; women, because they are all too often unable to influence the behaviour of their partners, and young people, especially girls, because of pressure to engage in sexual activities.

82. During 1993, UNICEF made a major effort to accelerate its activities in HIV/AIDS prevention and care by focusing on five programming areas: (a) youth health and development promotion; (b) school-based interventions; (c) sexual and reproductive health promotion; (d) family and community care; and (e) mass communication and mobilization. For each of these areas, technical support groups were established and began to function as a way to exchange experiences and mobilize technical resources required to support country programmes. The groups cluster approximately six countries deemed to have a comparative advantage in one of the programming areas by the WHO Global Programme on Aids (GPA), other relevant United Nations organizations, technical institutions and NGOs.

83. Bangladesh, Mauritania, the Philippines, Rwanda and Uganda are working closely together in the area of youth health and development promotion. Central to this work is the involvement of young people in the design and implementation of activities. In Burundi, Cameroon, the Caribbean, Thailand and Zimbabwe, UNICEF is also providing support to programmes for youth, primarily through schools. The most advanced programme is in Zimbabwe, where a major focus has been on the development of learning materials for the classroom. The materials focus on relationships, human growth and health, thus approaching the issue of HIV/AIDS within the larger context of life skills. The countries focusing on sexual and reproductive health include Benin, Colombia, India, Madagascar and Zambia. In all the countries, HIV/AIDS prevention is linked to other high-priority sexual and reproductive health issues. Thus, in Zambia, support is provided to improve syphilis control among pregnant women, while in Colombia, where the high rate of teen pregnancy is of particular concern, UNICEF is providing support to strengthen the availability of family planning and education activities through the health services network.

84. UNICEF has also strengthened its involvement in the area of family and community care. While maintaining a strong emphasis on children affected by AIDS, particularly AIDS orphans, UNICEF-assisted programmes aim to strengthen the capacity of families and communities to cope with the disease. In Thailand, this is being done by providing support to NGOs operating at the local level; in the United Republic of Tanzania, by working through existing child survival and development (CSD) committees; and in the Congo and Ghana, where preliminary activities began during 1993, plans are being developed in the context of the Bamako Initiative, which aims to strengthen community control over local health services. Finally, in the area of mass communication and mobilization, the focus is on promoting real dialogue among young people. These activities are being pursued through the media as well as through other mobilization channels in Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Honduras, Kenya and Senegal.

85. During 1993, coordination with other United Nations organizations, NGOs and technical institutions was intensified further. Through the technical support groups, UNICEF has brought together these three types of bodies with the

/...

specific purpose of providing support to programme development and implementation at the country level. For example, a collaborative agreement was drawn up with the International Children's Centre, which will work with UNICEF to provide support to the Congo, Haiti and, possibly, Thailand. At the headquarters level, UNICEF has played an active role, together with WHO/GPA, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA and the World Bank, in developing a joint, co-sponsored programme for HIV/AIDS prevention and care (see E/ICEF/1994/13, decision 1994/R.1/8, E/ICEF/1994/L.14 and E/ICEF/1994/L.15). UNICEF also chaired the Inter-agency Advisory Group on AIDS.

Women's health, safe motherhood, child spacing and family planning

86. UNICEF efforts in the areas of women's health, safe motherhood, child spacing and family planning were strengthened in the past year, and a substantial expansion is expected in the coming year following the recruitment of a senior adviser for women's health at headquarters. At the global level, the collaborative relationship with the WHO Division of Family Health has been strengthened further, particularly in the area of adolescent health. UNICEF continues to provide support to the inter-agency secretariat of the Safe Motherhood Initiative, which includes WHO, UNDP, the World Bank and the Population Council. UNICEF has also served as the convener of the Sexual and Reproductive Health Technical Support Group, an interregional effort to provide technical support to strategic programming countries in each region. This effort has been undertaken in collaboration with the Rockefeller Foundation, WHO/GPA, the WHO Adolescent Health Section, Family Health International, Family Care International and the Karolinska Institute.

87. A policy review on family planning was presented to the Executive Board in 1993 (E/ICEF/1993/L.5) and an Executive Directive was issued to all UNICEF field offices calling for expanded collaboration with WHO and UNFPA, each in its areas of responsibility and expertise, when requested to do so by ministries of health. Child spacing continues to be an essential component of UNICEF advocacy at global and country levels, as emphasized in the 1994 State of the World's Children report and Facts for Life.

88. At the country level, UNICEF continues to advocate improved prenatal care and is the largest supplier of iron and folic acid for pregnant women. In India, among other countries, UNICEF is a principle supporter of the Government's Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme, providing material and training support for the development of referral strategies and improved access to emergency obstetric care. Draft programming guidelines for safe motherhood have been prepared and are under review at the country level. Expanded efforts are expected in the coming year as a part of the UNICEF commitment to the goal of reducing maternal mortality by 50 per cent by the year 2000.

Bamako Initiative

89. The Bamako Initiative continues to provide strong support for the improvement of health services delivery, the empowerment of local communities and the sustainability of basic health systems. In many countries, its implementation has been a key element in maintaining and expanding such

/...

preventive programmes as immunization and CDD. In the coming years, the Bamako Initiative strategy can play a pivotal role in sustaining the gains made through UCI as well as achieving other health goals for the year 2000. The 1993 World Development Report stated that although the Initiative is only five years old, its achievements are impressive, and proposed increased community control and financing of essential health care as one of the five principles of health policy reform for low-income countries.

90. In 1993, the number of countries implementing the Bamako Initiative increased to 28, 25 of which are in sub-Saharan Africa (Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, the Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo and Zambia). The Initiative is also well established in Peru, Myanmar and Viet Nam, and preparatory action is under way in several countries in Africa, Latin America and Asia, including Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nepal and Pakistan.

91. From 1988 to 1993, in its continued efforts to support preparation and initial implementation, UNICEF invested approximately \$72 million, \$15 million in 1993 alone. Increasingly, more countries are requesting use of the Special Working Capital Fund established by UNICEF at the global level to assist Governments with short-term loans for the purchase of essential drugs. In order to consolidate and sustain the gains made to date, and most importantly to create a favourable framework for achieving health goals in countries with weak PHC structures, increased support is necessary to accelerate the Initiative.

92. The Bamako Initiative has begun to demonstrate that utilization of public sector health services increases once the quality of care improves. Households are prepared to pay reasonable charges for health care provided that the quality improves, that the resources generated are retained in the community and utilized locally and that the community participates in the management of the health facility.

93. The success of the Initiative has led some countries to expand their programmes to include other health-related activities. Examples include the construction of wells to ensure the supply of safe water in Mauritania and the use of the community revolving fund to promote the sale of low-cost mosquito nets and their periodical chemical impregnation for malaria control in the Gambia and Kenya.

94. Operations research is a fundamental aspect of the Bamako Initiative in many countries. The importance of and need for further research have been emphasized by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in its evaluation of the Initiative and by the Executive Board. In collaboration with other donors, UNICEF plans to carry out operations research, especially in sub-Saharan Africa. The specific topics are community participation, equity of access to health services, motivation of health staff, sustainability of health structures and systems, drug management and quality assurance and improvement of the quality of health care. Furthermore, in order to meet the growing demand for the exchange of information on the Initiative's country activities, UNICEF has begun rapid assessments in seven countries of the status of implementation

/...

of the Bamako Initiative, of lessons learned and of perspectives for future directions. UNICEF also continues to promote the rational use of drugs through the newsletter "The Prescriber", which now has a distribution of 50,000 copies in 90 countries. In addition to health service providers in developing countries, research and teaching institutions are also interested in "The Prescriber".

95. As part of the national capacity-building process in the context of the Bamako Initiative, UNICEF is developing a basic manual to provide countries with a framework and guidelines for training the various actors in the health system at community and health facility levels. Another major ongoing effort is the training of African economists and physicians in the analysis of health costs, resource use and financing at the district level. Following two major training workshops in 1993, several countries have already prepared national action plans aimed at adapting the costing methodology in their respective countries.

96. While significant progress has been made in reviving and strengthening government health systems, there are still major challenges to which the Bamako Initiative must respond. The issues of functional referral systems and cost-effective drug procurement/distribution systems still require urgent action. In this respect, particularly for the overall distribution chain, new partnerships need to be explored between the private and public sectors. Local capacity to purchase good quality drugs at reasonable prices is still weak, and the utilization of generic drugs remains low despite its proven advantages world-wide. There is a need to assist countries in procuring generic drugs and securing advantageous terms in international negotiations, especially when substantial loans from international financial institutions are being made available. Another problem high on the Bamako Initiative agenda is the issue of equity. The development of pre-payment schemes could be one of the possible alternatives to improve access of the poorest to health services.

97. At the community level, health management committees in many countries are gaining confidence in their ability to manage the financial aspect of health services. This trend needs to be encouraged and support should be provided to increase community awareness to enable communities to negotiate with government health services and strengthen capacity to manage health at household and community levels. In many developing countries, women continue to be passive recipients of health care. The Bamako Initiative has yet to respond to the challenge of reversing this situation and ensure that women participate actively in the management of community health services and in the promotion of health.

98. UNICEF has been working closely with various agencies on the Bamako Initiative, notably WHO, the World Bank, the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Government of France and the European Community. In 1992, UNICEF signed a memorandum of understanding with GTZ that lays the ground for closer collaboration in the process of revitalizing basic health systems, using each organization's comparative advantages. In 1994, in addition to joint country support in specific areas, the two organizations plan to coordinate efforts in operations research in at least three major areas of common interest: the revitalization of district hospitals; the issue of equity and pre-payment schemes for health care; and strengthening community involvement in PHC.

/...

Nutrition and household food security

Protein-energy malnutrition

99. Data on the prevalence of protein-energy malnutrition (PEM) are now available in many developing countries, of which three categories can be identified. The first group, including Thailand, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zimbabwe and several countries in the MENA and Latin America regions, shows a trend that will lead to the achievement of the mid-decade goal of 20 per cent reduction of PEM prevalence by 1995 and 50 per cent reduction by the year 2000. A second group, including China, Indonesia, Kenya and Mexico, must increase the rate of reduction to reach the mid-decade goal, but can probably do so by accelerating implementation of existing strategies and programmes. The third category, including Bangladesh, Ethiopia, India, Nigeria and several countries affected by war, will need to revise current strategies and develop new ones to achieve the goals. South Asia is of special concern because it has the highest prevalence of PEM, combined with a large population. Of the world's 184 million malnourished children, 101 million live in South Asia. Achieving the global goal for reducing PEM will require an extraordinary effort in this region.

100. During the last three years, UNICEF has supported the development by the ACC Subcommittee on Nutrition (SCN) of a series of country-wide case studies in Brazil, India, Indonesia, Thailand, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe to identify critical success factors in improving nutrition. The approach to solving the problem of PEM in most of these countries indicates the need for a new development paradigm in which poor people are recognized as key actors in poverty reduction, rather than as passive beneficiaries of commodities and services. Development is achieved through a learning process rather than a blueprint, leading to capacity-building and empowerment and encouraging participation, decentralization and effective communication. Priority is given to human resource development, with special emphasis on reducing gender disparities. Success most often results from a combination of "top-down" promotion of sound policies and political commitment to achieving human development goals, and "bottom-up" planning and demand for higher-level support. Both communities and Governments must feel that they have ownership of successful programmes. In most countries where the approach has been successful, it has been integrated and multisectoral and has used multi-level nutrition information systems, including growth monitoring and promotion and surveillance.

101. UNICEF, whose nutrition strategy was adopted by the Executive Board in 1990 (E/ICEF/1990/13, decision 1990/19), was the first United Nations organization to adopt such a strategy based on this new development thinking. A number of countries have adopted the basic elements of the strategy, including Bangladesh, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Ecuador, Malawi, Mali, Namibia, Nigeria, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Thailand, the United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam. Many others are in the process of reorienting their nutrition strategies in the same direction. In several countries, including Bangladesh, Ghana, Nigeria and Viet Nam, UNICEF is working with other organizations, particularly the World Bank, in helping Governments to reorient their strategies. The UNICEF strategy has been promoted through advocacy, policy dialogue and reorientation of UNICEF

/...

support programmes. About 200 UNICEF field staff have been trained in the promotion and use of this strategy. UNICEF is supporting the training of government staff in the implementation of the new strategy in such countries as Bangladesh, Bolivia, Ghana, India, Pakistan, the United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam.

102. Global interest in nutrition and the commitment to solve the nutrition problem were strengthened by two important events during the last year. The International Conference on Nutrition, organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and WHO, was held at Rome, with 159 Governments participating. The International Union of Nutritional Sciences (IUNS) held its Fifteenth Congress on Nutrition at Adelaide, Australia, which was attended by 2,500 nutrition scientists. UNICEF participated actively in both conferences. The International Conference on Nutrition endorsed the goals of the World Summit for Children and agreed on additional goals to end starvation and to control malnutrition in emergency situations. Strategies were identified to achieve the three necessary conditions for nutritional well-being: household food security; access to basic health services, including a healthy environment; and adequate care of children and women.

103. A review of national programme of action reports from 79 developing countries has indicated that Governments are responding strongly to the challenge to improve nutrition according to the goals established by the World Summit for Children. Almost all the countries reviewed had targets to reduce malnutrition, low birth weight and micronutrient deficiencies. The national programmes of action often recognized the linkage between malnutrition and mortality, but did not reflect it in their strategies. Key components included promoting improved feeding practices and PHC, micronutrient supplementation or fortification, community participation, nutrition education and nutrition surveillance.

Right to food

104. Sub-Saharan Africa continues to be the area of major focus for UNICEF household food security activities. In the regional context of severe economic constraints, political instability, continued conflict and recovery from drought, UNICEF has provided support to women's groups for activities designed to improve women's access to resources in situations of food insecurity. Partners such as the World Bank (in Ghana, Nigeria and Uganda), the International Fund for Agricultural Development, FAO, the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research and some bilateral organizations have enabled UNICEF to promote activities in the area of sustainable food production. An emerging partnership with the NGO Freedom from Hunger, which has launched credit and education programmes to enable African women to address food security and control resources, made promising gains in West Africa during the year.

105. A World Alliance for Nutrition and Human Rights was created in 1992 by a joint initiative of the Norwegian Institute of Human Rights and UNICEF. Members of the Alliance, mostly NGOs, met during the International Conference on Nutrition, the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna and the IUNS Congress. A special workshop on "Nutrition, Ethics and Human Rights" was organized in New York in January 1993. The Alliance has established task forces on monitoring

/...

and implementation of the right to food, children's nutrition rights and the use of food as a weapon of war or for political reasons.

Breast-feeding and the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative

106. BFHI remains the major UNICEF strategy to attain the goal for the year 2000 of exclusive breast-feeding of all infants from birth until four to six months of age, with continued breast-feeding and appropriate and adequate complementary foods, up to two years of age or beyond. At present, only 25 per cent of the world's infants breast-feed exclusively for the first four months. If most infants were to breast-feed exclusively as recommended, an additional 1.5 million infants per year would be spared death from diarrhoea and ARI alone.

107. During 1993, the number of countries implementing BFHI increased from 90 to 171 (124 developing countries, including newly industrialized countries, and 47 industrialized countries). The number of target institutions in developing countries grew from 767 hospitals and maternity facilities in 1992 to 24,000 in 1993. Out of these, 924 were designated "baby-friendly" in accordance with the UNICEF/WHO global criteria set forth in the "10 steps to successful breast-feeding".

108. In 72 developing countries where the distribution of free and low-cost supplies of breast-milk substitutes to hospitals and maternity facilities was the norm, all except two, Senegal and Kuwait, have taken governmental action to end the practice. More than 40 other developing countries where the practice does not exist, have been encouraged to adopt a preventive policy. In countries where breast-milk substitutes have not been easily available to date, there is evidence of a growing marketing of breast-milk substitutes, which makes preventive policy an important and immediate need.

109. National breast-feeding training and resource centres are being identified and supported in each region. One example is the centre at Santos, Brazil, which, with multisectoral support, including that of the Pan American Health Organization, publishes training materials and offers three residential courses for health workers each year. Materials generated by the centre are of particular importance for the development of BFHI in other Portuguese-speaking countries.

110. Although formal monitoring systems are still in the process of being established, preliminary reports from UNICEF field offices indicate that non-compliance with government policies is evident in a number of countries and that loopholes in some government policies have allowed a level of distribution to continue. Information received from 34 UNICEF offices indicates that the practice of distributing free and low-cost supplies was continuing in 20 countries whose Governments had already prohibited it, including Argentina, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Morocco, Thailand and Venezuela.

111. UNICEF has continued to work closely with international NGOs, including the International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN), the World Alliance for Breast-feeding Action (WABA), La Leche League International, the International Code Documentation Centre, Wellstart and the International Lactation Consultants Association. WABA is the umbrella organization that coordinates efforts for

/...

implementation of the Innocenti Declaration on the Protection, Promotion and Support of Breast-feeding. In order to help eliminate continued transmission of misinformation on infant feeding to trainee health workers, UNICEF has supported a WHO/IBFAN project to review medical training textbooks from around the world to ensure that the publishers replace or remove outdated information.

112. The BFHI goal for industrialized countries is the adoption of measures to end the distribution of free and low-cost supplies of breast-milk substitutes to hospitals and maternity facilities by June 1994. The practice continues to be widespread in these countries, where there is a need for government commitments to end it and support the "10 steps", as well as voluntary compliance by the Association of Infant Formula Manufacturers. The entrenchment of the bottle-feeding culture in most industrialized countries and the lack of support from Governments pose a serious threat to reaching the June 1994 goal, especially in North America and Japan. As directed by the Executive Board, UNICEF continues to encourage Governments world-wide and manufacturers and distributors to stop the distribution of free and low-cost breast-milk substitutes to all facilities that provide care for women and children.

113. In 1993, UNICEF used advocacy and cooperation with a wide range of partners to build momentum towards the BFHI goals. UNICEF and WHO convened three meetings with representatives of major international health professional organizations and NGOs to mobilize their support and develop a common approach regarding BFHI strategies and materials. A fourth meeting, in December 1993, focused on the goals of ending the distribution of formula by June 1994 in industrialized countries.

114. UNICEF participated in a number of regional and international conferences, including the annual meetings of the International Paediatric Association and the International Lactation Consultants Association. UNICEF assisted in the development of a number of BFHI exhibits, including one depicting the role of BFHI in the history of breast-feeding promotion, one on the importance of support for breast-feeding in wealthier countries and another outlining the essential roles of employers and Governments in enabling employed women to breast-feed.

115. BFHI News, a UNICEF-supported monthly information and advocacy newsletter, was distributed to partners world-wide to keep relevant United Nations organizations, UNICEF field offices, National Committees for UNICEF and interested NGOs apprised of new developments and materials and to share news, information and ideas among BFHI partners.

Micronutrient malnutrition

116. A consensus is growing among national policy makers (beyond the scientific community and experts, whose verdict has been unambiguous for several years) that interventions for micronutrient deficiencies, "the hidden hunger", are a highly cost-effective action for CSD. For example, IDD continue to retard the mental and physical growth of millions of children, even though the remedy is within the reach of the poorest of countries.

/...

117. Over the last two years, it has become increasingly clear that the most feasible, cost-effective and sustainable strategy to eliminate IDD is the iodization of all salt intended for human and animal consumption. The goal of universal salt iodization in all countries with an IDD problem by the end of 1995 is feasible and is a matter of political choice. A meeting at UNICEF headquarters in September attended by UNICEF representatives from 23 countries with major IDD problems reviewed the UNICEF strategy for IDD elimination, endorsed the strategy of universal salt iodization and developed further cooperation with major donors, Kiwanis International and the World Bank. Also in 1993, two UNICEF consultants provided technical support on the identification of IDD problems and salt iodization through 37 country visits. The International Consultative Council on Iodine Deficiency Disorders and the Programme Against Micronutrient Malnutrition (which is funded by USAID and affiliated with Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, United States), which UNICEF continued to support, provided additional technical, advocacy and training support.

118. In August 1993, the Government of China, the country with the largest number of people affected by IDD, declared its commitment to universal salt iodization. During the year, clear, feasible plans were also developed or refined further, and a government commitment was obtained for universal salt iodization in Bangladesh, India and the Philippines. Plans were also developed for IDD elimination using iodized salt in Ghana and Nigeria, while Namibia, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe continued to make rapid progress in increasing the proportion of adequately iodized salt. An evaluation of Ecuador's IDD control programme confirmed that almost all salt consumed in the country is adequately iodized and IDD are well on the way to elimination. Most salt in South America and Eastern Europe is already iodized, although improvements are needed in quality and monitoring. In October, Central American countries made a commitment to reintroduce salt iodization, and a Central American Federation of Salt Producers was formed to support and sustain the process. Large multinational salt producers also agreed to support universal salt iodization through training, awareness-raising and technology transfer, as well as through encouraging trade in iodized salt. The goal of iodizing all salt consumed by people and animals in countries with IDD problems by the end of 1995 appears to be within reach, which will ensure the first global elimination of a nutritional problem.

119. A study in Ghana confirmed that vitamin A supplements led to the reduction of child mortality by almost one quarter and showed a similar reduction in young child deaths in an area where clinically evident vitamin A deficiency was rare. The Ghana study also demonstrated that improving vitamin A status resulted in substantially fewer visits to hospitals and health centres. Together with SCN, USAID and the International Vitamin A Consultative Group, UNICEF has continued to advocate and develop its strategy to ensure the virtual elimination of vitamin A deficiency. UNICEF emphasizes a focus on children under 24 months of age who will benefit most from improvements in vitamin A status and a strategy that seeks to link the provision of vitamin A supplements (usually delivered in conjunction with the expanded programme on immunization (EPI)) with food fortification and/or dietary diversification. National efforts to implement the strategy have been reinforced through UNICEF-supported meetings in Brazil and Ghana.

/...

120. UNICEF continues to be a major supplier of iron supplements for women and, with WHO, supported a joint study on ways to improve the effectiveness of iron supplementation programmes. The feasibility of a weekly, instead of a daily, iron supplement is being investigated jointly by UNICEF, WHO and the United Nations University. A consultation organized by UNICEF on the importance of zinc for nutrition in developing countries held at Brisbane, Australia, concluded that zinc deficiency was a factor that compounds poor growth in children in many developing countries and that poor zinc status also hindered the absorption of vitamin A. Dietary approaches to improving iron status will also have an effect on improving zinc status.

Nutrition information strategy

121. UNICEF is preparing a new comprehensive strategy on nutrition information systems that will be based on evaluations of growth monitoring and promotion and nutrition surveillance. Nutrition information systems work only if assessment and analysis lead to action. Perception and understanding of the problem, effective demand for information and capabilities and resources to act are the critical factors for a successful nutrition information systems at all levels, including growth monitoring and promotion and national surveillance. During 1993, Bolivia, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam received funds from the Inter-Agency Food and Nutrition Surveillance Fund.

Basic education

122. The goals for basic education for the decade, as articulated by the World Conference on Education for All and reaffirmed by the World Summit for Children, provided impetus and vision for all UNICEF activities in the education sector during the year. In 1993, activities focused on articulating mid-decade targets and strategies, which in turn led to a sharper programmatic focus on the universalization of primary education. The universalization "package" includes access, completion, learning achievement, equity and efficient and effective primary schools that use flexible approaches. Most UNICEF education activities at national and international levels were undertaken in collaboration with sponsors of the World Conference on Education for All and other partners.

123. The EFA Summit of nine high-population countries (Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria and Pakistan), held at New Delhi from 12 to 16 December 1993, was hosted by the Government of India and co-sponsored by UNICEF, UNESCO and UNFPA. The heads of State or Government, or their personal envoys, of the nine countries adopted the Delhi Declaration and Framework for Action, pledging (a) to find a place, teachers and learning materials for every child; (b) to accord higher priority in resource allocation to basic education; and (c) to monitor systematically the indicators on enrolment, attendance, completion and learning achievement. The leaders of the nine countries have also expressed the desire to continue their collaboration as a group in support of basic education in their own countries and globally. The initiative has created new opportunities for advocacy and for reinforcing political will in these countries to review critically their education situations, to develop and apply appropriate universalization strategies and to mobilize resources with a greater sense of urgency.

/...

124. Progress towards the goals for the decade was the subject of strategy meetings for senior field and headquarters staff held early in 1993 at Bangkok, Santa Fe de Bogota and Nairobi. The meetings re-examined the role of UNICEF in basic education, set intermediate goals and focused on how UNICEF could influence the education components of national programmes of action. During these discussions and through programme development work at the country level, trends and strategies have become clearer. For example, to achieve universalization of primary education by the year 2000, the enrolment rate of eligible entry-age children must reach 100 per cent in the next two to three years, and their enrolment, attendance, completion of course and learning achievement have to be tracked and monitored systematically.

125. As the cutting edge of basic education, primary education received the bulk of the UNICEF support in education in 1993. UNICEF has focused on (a) a critical analysis of the present situation of primary education; (b) the formulation and development of action plans for enrolment and retention; (c) upgrading the planning capacities of ministries of education; (d) curriculum reform/review; (e) the production of textbooks and teaching aids; (f) the training of school principals and teachers; and (g) strengthening the participation of parents and communities in the planning, management and monitoring of schools. In Bhutan, for example, UNICEF supported a review of primary education, with special emphasis on new approaches. In Egypt, community-managed village schools were initiated by UNICEF with community and government support. In India, village education committees are being promoted to work with government schools to improve classroom practices, enhance the use of resources and introduce decentralized management of primary education, supported by improved capacities for management and planning at the district level. In Bhutan, Colombia and Viet Nam, UNICEF support to multi-grade schools helped to improve enrolment and reduce the drop-out rate of ethnic minority children. In Nicaragua, promising steps are being taken to reduce drop-out rates in the first two grades of primary schools by assigning the best teachers to the first two grades, providing light school meals to students, automatic promotion of students from the first to the second grade and the establishment of assessment at the end of the second grade.

126. Strong emphasis was placed on capacity-building, policy dialogue and an appraisal of progress made towards reaching the EFA goals for selected African countries. UNICEF held primary education policy seminars for the West and Central Africa region in Burkina Faso and for the Eastern and Southern Africa region in Uganda, in collaboration with the UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning. The seminars critically examined the progress made and constraints experienced by the participating countries in implementing national plans and programmes. Ministers, senior policy makers and researchers from Botswana, Burkina Faso, the Central African Republic, Chad, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, the Niger, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe attended the seminars, sharing successes and failures and outlining future initiatives. A regional workshop on comprehensive education analysis was held at Nairobi for senior education planners from the ministries of education and UNICEF education programme officers from Eastern and Southern Africa. In collaboration with the International Multi-Channel Action Group for Education, which is based at Oslo, a proposal for primary education services for children in emergency situations was drafted and discussed with the UNICEF

/...

Somalia team for possible implementation there and in other complex emergency situations.

127. As more and more countries formulate coherent national programmes of action, the need for additional resources is becoming apparent. Many countries, including those in South Asia and some sub-Saharan African countries, have increased their budgetary allocations for basic education. However, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon and Namibia, among others, are reporting difficulties in raising supplementary funds for their education programmes. Many countries where UNICEF is urging a greater effort in primary education are asking for the assurance of predictable external support for a longer period of time. UNICEF has been coordinating its activities with the World Bank in such countries as Bangladesh, Burkina Faso and India to ensure adequate resources for universal primary education. UNICEF is also encouraging Governments to re-examine their budgetary allocations to basic education and to find ways of reducing the unit costs of education while improving access and quality. In this context, education cost studies are under preparation in Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Myanmar, Uganda and Viet Nam. UNICEF, however, has not received adequate support for its education effort from donors; under 9 per cent of supplementary funds in 1993 were earmarked for education.

128. Countries in Asia (Bangladesh, China, India, Nepal and Pakistan), Africa (Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Malawi, Namibia, Rwanda and Uganda), the Middle East and North Africa (Algeria, Egypt, Morocco and Yemen) and Latin America (Ecuador) have included the reduction of gender disparity in primary school enrolment and completion among their mid-decade goals. Some countries are conducting surveys and preparing diagnostic studies, while others, such as Burkina Faso and Morocco, have already developed specific plans of action for the education of girls.

129. The Pan-African Conference on the Education of Girls, sponsored by UNESCO and UNICEF, was a major regional initiative to promote the education of girls through creating political will, raising social awareness and mobilizing broad-based societal support. The Ouagadougou Declaration adopted by the Conference called upon Governments to design and implement strategies to reduce gender disparity in education and to report on progress made at the Fourth World Conference on Women, to be held in 1995. UNICEF cooperated with the World Bank in a subregional seminar in eight Sahelian countries to mobilize high-level political support and provide technical assistance in developing programmes to improve girls' enrolment and retention in primary schools. In MENA, the reduction of gender disparity in primary education has become a priority focus, and regional as well as country-specific strategies have been developed and are being implemented.

130. The UNICEF/UNESCO Joint Committee on Education has urged the two organizations to collaborate in promoting the education of girls. The African Education Working Group on Female Education has launched a research and capacity-building initiative in Africa in collaboration with the African Academy of Science. UNICEF is one of nine donors supporting this initiative. Several countries needed additional financial support to initiate and/or implement education projects which benefit primarily girls. With a special contribution from the Canadian International Development Agency, UNICEF was able to support

/...

such projects in Algeria, Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, the Gambia, the Niger, Senegal and Zambia.

131. UNICEF was invited to organize a panel discussion at the Second International EFA Forum, held at New Delhi from 8 to 10 September 1993, on the role of non-formal education. A dossier was prepared on non-formal approaches and universal primary education, consisting of a policy paper and summaries and illustrations of 12 national experiences. The dossier illustrated the need for diversified formal and non-formal approaches within a common unified programme strategy for universal primary education and the importance of concentrating on "second chance" primary education for older children. UNICEF is advocating support for non-formal basic education for young people rather than traditional adult literacy programmes, the outcome and sustainability of which are debatable. UNICEF provided technical and financial assistance for literacy to Bolivia, Botswana, Egypt, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Mozambique, Senegal and South Africa.

132. UNICEF efforts for early childhood development have centred on an integrated approach to meeting the growth and development needs of young children through systematic attention in all social services, including health care, nutrition, basic education and women's programmes. During 1993, UNICEF prepared a policy review, entitled "Early Child Development, the Challenge and the Opportunity". This report has formed the basis for discussion during programme reviews in 10 countries and served as a reference for five training workshops and several international forums, including the Francophone Summit. The second edition of Facts for Life includes a set of messages addressing child development. UNICEF has strengthened its partnerships with several organizations in addition to its main United Nations partners and has worked more closely with the Christian Children's Fund, Save the Children Fund (United Kingdom and United States) and the Organization of American States. Joint efforts are now taking shape in the Sahel (Mali and the Niger) and in Bolivia, Costa Rica, the Philippines and Thailand. Interesting work on parenting skills and knowledge has started in six countries in the MENA region through innovative media approaches.

133. Effective universalization of basic education will depend on each country's ability to monitor learning achievement. In 1993, UNESCO and UNICEF jointly implemented monitoring projects in China, Jordan, Mali, Mauritius and Morocco. The team is in the process of compiling the lessons learned from these countries in respect of methods and instruments. These results will be disseminated widely, while the team will also work with other selected countries in a second phase. The main aim of the project is to assist countries to develop tools to assess learning achievement and to improve the database for monitoring of learning. Jordan, one of the five initial countries, has already instituted an ongoing, bi-annual system of learning achievement assessment. In addition, UNICEF and UNESCO have embarked on a project for the development and application of a technical assistance package for the compilation and analysis of indicators for monitoring progress on primary education and data quality assessment in five African countries. At the end of the project, the package and technical assistance services will be available for wider dissemination and implementation. The South Asia Regional Office and the country office in Bangladesh organized a regional seminar at Dhaka in February 1993 on the

/...

adaptation of the assessment of basic competencies methodology. The participating countries were Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal and Pakistan.

134. Although considerable progress has been made at both national and international levels in raising consciousness, diagnosing situations, developing policy and technical tools and strengthening the capacity of executing bodies, much remains to be done. Only six years remain to achieve the goals for the year 2000, yet some 130 million children have no access to school and nearly 1 billion adults are illiterate. No real breakthrough will be possible without strong and sustained political and financial commitment in each country and internationally in favour of basic education. Substantial additional external resources will be needed, especially for low-income countries in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, which are experiencing difficulties in mobilizing internal resources.

Water supply and environmental sanitation

135. In 1993, UNICEF provided assistance to over 90 developing countries in support of activities to help achieve the water supply and sanitation goals for the mid-decade and the year 2000. Although the scope of this assistance varied from country to country, in essence UNICEF provided support for capacity-building for enhanced sector planning; policy formulation; the promotion of hygiene education; studies on cost-reduction and cost-effectiveness; time and energy studies of water collection; service delivery for water supply and environmental sanitation through the application of appropriate technologies; monitoring and evaluation of sector activities; technical exchange/cooperation among organizations; and sectoral fund-raising. The limited sector global funds were used to support innovative, country-level approaches in water supply and environmental sanitation programmes. It is envisaged that going to scale with these approaches will have a catalytic effect for achieving the mid-decade and decade goals and those of Agenda 21.

136. The overall mid-decade goal is to reduce the gap between 1990 levels and universal access by the year 2000 by one fourth for water supply and by one tenth for sanitation. The work plans prepared by field offices show that the greatest challenge is in Africa, where coverage levels are presently the lowest and are projected to remain low. Both massive resource mobilization and changes in policy will be necessary in Africa. In assisting Governments in Africa in the next two years, UNICEF may need to focus on a two-pronged approach consisting of (a) helping them to mobilize additional financial resources, especially where the unserved population exceeds 10 million people, as in Ethiopia, Kenya, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, the Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zaire; and (b) helping eight countries with better performance rates (Botswana, Burkina Faso, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, the Gambia, Swaziland and Zimbabwe) to reach 100 per cent coverage. Most countries in Asia and Latin America are expected to achieve the targets set for water supply coverage. Major emphasis now needs to be placed on environmental sanitation and hygiene education in Asia, especially in Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines and Viet Nam.

137. There were significant shifts in global and country-level strategies for UNICEF water supply and environmental sanitation programmes in 1993. These

/...

changes are aimed at moving away from the traditional role of mere service delivery towards a focus on the health and socio-economic benefits of water supply and sanitation programmes and a greater linkage to environmental protection. This shift in programme strategy would make water supply and environmental sanitation an essential element of the efforts to promote sustainable development and to achieve the goals for the mid-decade and the year 2000. In order to elaborate this new approach, UNICEF organized a workshop that brought together experts from international organizations in the fields of water, sanitation, hygiene education, epidemiology, health, nutrition and development planning. The general conclusion of the workshop was that UNICEF had played an important role in accelerating service coverage in the 1980s, although much needed to be done to enhance programme benefits by giving attention to the following areas: (a) advocacy for development of a sector plan and strategy as a central component of all water supply, sanitation and hygiene education programmes; (b) capacity-building, focusing at district and community levels, especially for hygiene education, and community organization; (c) service delivery, linked with complementary activities, leading to an accumulation of health and socio-economic benefits over time; (d) empowerment of communities (especially women) through greater participation in decision-making, planning, design, management and evaluation of sector programmes; and (e) linkages with other strategic sectors, particularly health, education and the environment.

138. Already, steps are being taken to put the new programme approach into practice. Guidelines are being developed for hygiene education to maximize the health and socio-economic benefits of water supply and sanitation programmes. The draft guidelines, which will provide clear and consistent methods for achieving behavioural changes aimed at reducing water- and excreta-related diseases, are expected to be ready by the end of 1994. This work is being conducted in close collaboration with WHO and the International Reference Centre for Water and Sanitation at The Hague.

139. The staggering growth rate of the world's urban population has created huge new demands for water supply and environmental sanitation services. With UNICEF assistance, the city of Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras, whose population had trebled over the past 20 years, has developed an innovative approach to providing the peri-urban poor with these services. The approach uses community participation in planning, design, decision-making and management; low-cost technologies; hygiene education; and cost-sharing and recovery. Communities now receive a regular safe drinking water supply at approximately 10 per cent of the cost of what they had been paying for irregular supplies of poor quality water from vendors in the past. This example is now being studied by several water authorities in many developing countries, some with UNICEF assistance. Similarly, Bangladesh is addressing the monumental challenge of sanitation in an innovative way by focusing on the socio-cultural aspects of sanitation promotion, rather than the conventional health issues. The success of this approach is evident in the achievement of coverage today of over 30 per cent compared to only 16 per cent in 1990. Other countries such as Benin, Guinea, India, Uganda and Viet Nam have developed innovative approaches to community management of rural sanitation which have the potential for wider application in other developing countries. These approaches will be promoted actively through improved technical cooperation among developing countries in 1994.

/...

Dracunculiasis (guinea worm disease) eradication programme

140. At its 1991 session, the Executive Board approved the interregional programme for dracunculiasis eradication (E/ICEF/1991/P/L.34) in order to provide technical, programme planning and monitoring support and training assistance in establishing the surveillance systems and technical capacity required to eradicate dracunculiasis in this decade (E/ICEF/1991/15, decision 1991/12). Dracunculiasis is endemic in 18 countries in Africa and Asia, and, as of December 1993, there were approximately 170,000 known cases in 21,000 villages. More than 90 per cent of the known cases occur in just eight countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, the Niger, Nigeria and Uganda), with a major concentration in the Sudan. Other countries where dracunculiasis is known to be endemic are Chad, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mauritania, Senegal and Togo. Cameroon, India and Pakistan have nearly eliminated the disease.

141. Established programmes in the most endemic countries are reducing the number of new cases by about 50 per cent per year. All endemic countries have appointed national programme coordinators for dracunculiasis eradication and most have prepared a plan of action to implement the required interventions. Surveillance and control activities have been initiated in all endemic countries, except in Kenya, where eradication interventions are scheduled to start early in 1994. A monthly, village-based reporting system is now operating in Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Nigeria, Pakistan, Togo and Uganda. Other endemic countries are establishing the system.

142. UNICEF is supporting operational research activities in health education and alternatives to diversify low-cost water supply activities so that they can be extended to the small and remote villages in which dracunculiasis is found and where boreholes often are not cost-effective. In collaboration with the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Global 2000, the Peace Corps (United States) and other agencies, a guideline document entitled "Water Supply Options for Guinea Worm Eradication and Health Improvement in Rural Areas", which sets out the range of appropriate technologies options, was developed. Other relatively new areas of intersectoral collaboration include support to a geographical information system (GIS) for mapping of endemic areas, monitoring of specific interventions and support to decision-making. GIS is currently used mostly in programmes in Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Mali and Nigeria. UNICEF also continues to work closely with UNDP, WHO, USAID, the Japanese International Cooperation Agency, the World Bank and other international, bilateral and national agencies and NGOs in supporting relevant technical cooperation activities. A joint UNICEF/WHO inter-agency technical support team of two professionals was established in Burkina Faso in 1992.

143. Future priorities for the UNICEF dracunculiasis eradication programme include regular monitoring of the programme, mapping of all endemic areas and, in all endemic villages, the establishment or strengthening of monthly case reporting, health education, implementation of interventions to interrupt transmission and integration of surveillance activities with other community interventions.

/...

Gender in development and the girl child

144. The year 1993 was rich in promising developments for women's advancement in several countries. UNICEF provided support to national initiatives to establish or refine policies on the advancement of women, while field offices promoted better understanding of gender issues through intensive regional and country-level training programmes. Through the establishment of a global network of gender resource persons, it was possible to implement the plans for capacity-building within UNICEF. This effort was aimed at bringing gender perspectives into UNICEF programmes, using the Women's Equality and Empowerment Framework, a tool to incorporate action for gender equality and the empowerment of girls and women. A policy paper on gender and development (E/ICEF/1994/L.5) will be presented to the Executive Board at its 1994 annual session.

National policies

145. In many countries, the reorganization of government institutions, often accompanying the democratization process, has led to the establishment or reinforcement of national departments for the development of policies for the advancement of women. UNICEF supported this process, mainly through advocacy, in Brazil, Burundi, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Mauritania, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam and Zambia. In Pakistan, UNICEF, as a member of a donors' group on women, contributed to the Eighth National Development Plan, the Social Action Plan process, preparations for the World Conference on Human Rights, the AID Consortium and other opportunities for raising issues related to women. In Ethiopia, UNICEF played a catalytic role in the consultative process in the development of a national programme of action for women and the subsequent adoption of a national policy for women. Some UNICEF field offices, such as those in Argentina, India, Indonesia and Zambia, are using the preparations for upcoming global meetings, particularly the International Conference on Population and Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women, as opportunities for emphasizing gender dimensions in their programmes. In Brazil, UNICEF supported the Regional North and Northeast Network for Studies and Research on Women, which allowed the study centres working locally in the region to interact as a network. In the United Republic of Tanzania, UNICEF activities in support of empowering women included the development of a gender empowerment handbook for use by government, community and voluntary organizations. UNICEF is also participating in the Tanzanian Advisory Group on Gender Statistics, with the objective of facilitating the wider availability of data on the situation of women and the girl child.

Gender training

146. A gender training package relevant to UNICEF mandates and the country programme process has been developed and finalized to build capacity for addressing gender issues within UNICEF and its counterparts. The module describes and demonstrates the application of the Women's Equality and Empowerment Framework in UNICEF advocacy and programming actions at country and project levels. A corresponding module was developed to orient senior UNICEF managers and representatives on the need and methods for gender-responsive programming. During 1993, in-house regional training programmes were conducted

/...

in four of the six regional offices, involving some 220 UNICEF programme officers and representatives. More than 300 staff members in field offices in Bangladesh, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Peru, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania received gender training. UNICEF organized gender training based on the Women's Equality and Empowerment Framework for government counterparts and other partners in Bangladesh, Brazil, Eritrea, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan, Sierra Leone and Viet Nam.

Gender and the goals of the World Summit for Children

147. Many countries have recognized the need to pay increased attention to gender issues in the achievement of the mid-decade goals and those set by the World Summit for Children; these include Guinea-Bissau, Egypt, Kenya, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, Viet Nam and Zambia. In Kenya, the proposed country programme of cooperation introduced gender analysis at every stage of programme preparation, with much success. In other offices, particular emphasis was placed on the goal of reducing by one third gender disparities in primary school enrolment. Activities undertaken or supported by UNICEF included operational research and studies on the education of girls in Burundi, China, Chad, Ethiopia, Mauritania, the Sudan and Togo; and advocacy at policy-making levels to increase awareness of the issue both within the concerned educational bodies and at grass-roots levels in Nepal, Pakistan, the Sudan and Zambia. In Benin, girls from rural areas were exempted from paying school fees, and in Honduras, school texts were revised to eliminate sexual stereotypes. In Sierra Leone, gender-sensitive strategies established for achieving the mid-decade goals in primary education include making use of flexi-time, improving the formal system through the upgrading of schools and community involvement in school management. In China, activities to create educational opportunities for girls and young women include the establishment of special classes for girls in primary schools and of special vocational classes for older girls. Where the gender differential affects boys, as is the case in the Caribbean, research is being carried out on ways to improve the enrolment rates of boys.

Promotion of women's participation

148. UNICEF continued to support and advocate initiatives to increase the participation of women in decision-making at different levels and in all sectors. In Brazil, UNICEF supported the "Women's Rights in Law and Life" programme, which aims to inform and counsel women's organizations on the legislative process, as well as advise congressmen on gender issues to ensure the achievement of equality between men and women. Also in Brazil, a radio programme aims to make women aware of their social and citizenship rights. In the United Republic of Tanzania, implementation of the national programme of action gave special attention to reducing the workloads of women and to different aspects of their empowerment. Opportunities for advocacy were created through high-level meetings, participation in seminars, sponsorship of theatre groups and through training activities in child survival, protection and development. At subnational levels, opportunities for advocacy were provided by annual programme reviews, integrated district planning workshops and other contacts with key officials. The Women's Association of Cambodia received support for two project components aimed at empowering women through increasing

/...

the income they control and raising their level of education. In Sierra Leone, community-level development committees promote gender parity in decision-making and community resource management. These committees have a key role in all sectoral interventions aimed at addressing the medium- and long-term goals of the national programme of action. So far, 100 village development committees have been formed, and 20 per cent of the animators who have been trained to work in two pilot districts are women.

The girl child

149. Special activities focusing on the girl child continued to be implemented in several countries. In Sri Lanka, UNICEF advocacy has led to priority attention being accorded to the sexual exploitation of children, particularly of girls as commercial sex workers; the police, the Tourist Board and government immigration authorities are collaborating on this issue. In Nepal, UNICEF has acted as a catalyst in the development of a communication strategy to disseminate information at all levels on women's and girl's issues, a video on the girl child, "Ujeli", has been produced as a means of raising awareness, and a study on trafficking of girls as commercial sex workers was sponsored.

150. The prevalence of harmful traditional practices, particularly female genital mutilation, is another area of importance for programmes for the girl child. In the Sudan, the eradication of such practices was set as a goal for the year 2000, and a national steering committee was formed to devise a strategy for its achievement. The committee includes representatives of the Ministries of Health, Social Welfare, Education and Planning, as well as of NGOs, a national committee against harmful traditional practices and UNICEF. In Guinea-Bissau, an agreement has been reached with the Islamic Association to combat these practices and to improve the quality of life of women and girls.

Urban services

151. In 1993, the Executive Board endorsed the revised UNICEF urban policy (E/ICEF/1993/14, decision 1993/8), which emphasizes both the relevance of the goals for the decade for urban children and a participatory, community-based approach to achieving those goals in urban communities. An expert consultation was held at the end of 1993 to discuss implementation of the new policy. In addition to country programmes that have established urban programmes, some of the country programme recommendations being presented to the Executive Board in 1994 include specific urban components.

152. In the past two years, UNICEF has co-sponsored international colloquiums of mayors to encourage them to develop municipal plans of action for implementing the mid-decade goals and those for the year 2000. Several UNICEF offices are reporting interest among the mayors who have participated, some follow-up meetings are under way at both regional and country levels and municipal plans of action are being formulated.

153. In collaboration with WHO, UNICEF held a regional urban health consultation in South Asia which produced draft work plans for supporting municipal plans for achieving the goals. A regional meeting for urban focal points from the Americas and the Caribbean was held in November. In the Middle East and North

/...

Africa, a subgroup has been formed of field offices that face the most serious urban problems and have or are planning urban programmes.

154. In order to disseminate useful operational lessons, several case-studies have been produced on experiences with UBS programmes. "Urban Examples", a series of monographs, has now published its nineteenth issue, on urban nutrition. UNICEF also responded to about 150 requests for information in 1993 and distributed about 700 publications to other organizations, NGOs and institutions.

Children in especially difficult circumstances

155. More and more countries are reporting increased national concerns about and new programmes for working children. The recent SAARC resolution on the goal of progressive and accelerated elimination of child labour by the end of the decade has been followed up by Governments and NGOs. In the wake of proposed legislation banning the import of goods made with child labour into some industrialized countries, export industries have moved to comply with the stipulations, with both positive and short-term, negative consequences for the child labourers and their families. In these countries, UNICEF is working closely with all parties, including ILO, both to seek innovative ways of responding to the situation and to help monitor it. Other studies, including those from Algeria, Bolivia, the Niger and Pakistan, reveal the perilous condition of child labourers and the link between the use of child labour and recession in some cases.

156. UNICEF continued to work closely with the Committee on the Rights of the Child on the issue of child labour and made special presentations to it on the subject. Some countries, such as Peru, are working on new legal codes concerning children and adolescents, or on constitutional articles protecting children, as in the Niger. In Chad, studies have been conducted on the application of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and Burundi has introduced the Convention into school curricula.

157. The number and instances of children affected by armed conflict are increasing because of conflicts in a large number of locations. In Eritrea, where 50 per cent of returnees are children, UNICEF work in this area has included support for unaccompanied children. In Chad, where 40 per cent of households have been separated from children because of conflicts, UNICEF continues to support treatment and training; an assessment workshop held in November 1993 proved very useful to practitioners, government representatives and UNICEF.

158. Street children are a cause for concern in many countries. A survey in four towns in Ethiopia has shown that the causes of this situation are urban poverty, conflicts or migration, and that the majority of such children still live with their families while working on the streets. The International Child Development Centre (ICDC), which sponsored the survey, convened a meeting of the mayors and other officials from the towns' studies and has issued the results of the studies.

/...

159. Other activities in support of children in especially difficult circumstances were a seminar on street children and working children held at Florence, Italy, with the collaboration of ICDC and ILO, and support for meetings on street children at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. A regional meeting of UNICEF focal points in Africa held last year has resulted in increased attention to the problem by African field offices, but a lack of "seed money" for trying out some ideas is a barrier to continued progress. Global, state-of-the-art reviews of education and health issues affecting working children and of education and adolescent health were completed in 1993. The programme implications of these reviews are under consideration.

160. UNICEF has been supporting NGOs working on behalf of abused and neglected children and is incorporating appropriate elements into its work for street and working children.

Drug abuse control and healthy lifestyles for youth

161. Substance abuse continues to have a devastating impact, both directly and indirectly, on the health and development of children and young people. Therefore, UNICEF is collaborating with WHO (the Adolescent Health Programme, the Programme on Substance Abuse, GPA, the Division of Health Education and the Division of Mental Health), UNESCO and NGOs to support policy and programme developments that focus on the health and development of youth. A key objective for the coming year will be to strengthen further collaboration with other United Nations organizations that have specific responsibilities for substance abuse and youth.

162. In view of the clustering of problem behaviours and the many linkages between them in terms of cause and impact, UNICEF has placed the issue of substance abuse within its broader approach to youth health and development. The technical support groups for school-based interventions and youth health and development promotion have initiated a process of peer support and review for the UNICEF offices in Burundi, Cameroon, Chile, the eastern Caribbean, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, the Philippines, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Uganda and Zimbabwe. In addition to improved access to accurate information and quality services, young people need a supportive environment and the development of life skills. To supplement policy reviews and developments, the UNICEF offices in Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Honduras, Kenya, Senegal and South Africa are therefore working with the media to influence societal values and norms that have a negative impact on the health and development of young people.

163. The UNICEF offices in Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras, Ghana, India and the Philippines are responding to the problem of substance abuse through programmes for children and youth in especially difficult circumstances, since they are often particularly at risk.

/...

D. Other programme responses

Africa

164. In 1993, the Executive Board again reaffirmed the commitment of UNICEF to Africa as the region of highest priority and its commitment to assist countries in Africa to fulfil the human development goals of the 1990s (E/ICEF/1993/14, decision 1993/4). Within the context of each specific national programme of action and country programme, UNICEF assistance to Africa is focused on achieving the mid-decade goals and the goals for the year 2000. The question of adequate financial resources and the need for substantial debt relief measures continue to be of paramount importance, as does the severity of emergencies in some countries.

165. The 1992 OAU International Conference on Assistance to African Children (ICAAC) and the "Consensus of Dakar" adopted by the Conference helped to mobilize political will for achieving the mid-decade and decade goals in Africa. A series of consultations in early 1993 on how UNICEF and its partners can contribute to achieving the goals in Africa has led to the development of operational work plans in most African countries that outline strategies, activities and the additional financial resources required.

166. In several African countries, the key strategy for achieving the six mid-decade goals that pertain to health is to strengthen existing community health care systems. These systems are based on the Bamako Initiative principles of raising community awareness, ensuring that adequate infrastructure and essential drugs and health care personnel are in place and empowering communities through the development of a series of structures that give them financial and managerial control over the provision of these services. The health systems will create an environment that will support acceleration of "EPI plus" (a strategy for using the thousands of contacts developed through EPI to deliver other essential health services). Regarding the major goals for children and women in such areas as basic education, nutrition and water supply and sanitation, UNICEF has attempted to develop differentiated strategies adapted to the varying situations of economic crisis, political instability and civil conflict. A policy review on goals for child survival, protection and development in Africa will be presented to the Executive Board at its 1994 annual session (E/ICEF/1994/L.4).

167. Reaching the goals will require increasing and sustaining financial resource allocations for human development, both from African Governments and communities and from external sources. The first step in this process, the elaboration of national programmes of action in most African countries, has resulted in the setting of priorities and the costing of necessary interventions. Integrating these plans into public investment and national development programmes will emphasize the need for targeted investments in the social sector and national infrastructures.

168. The adverse macroeconomic conditions which most African Governments are facing mean that modifications, including gains in cost-effectiveness, will be required in some structural adjustment programmes if investments in social sector programmes are to increase. Increased transparency in the allocation and

/...

use of central Governments' budgets and a decentralization process through which communities are given greater control of resources will allow both African Governments and donors to realize tangible results from their investments. Through the debt relief for children initiative, UNICEF is working with several African countries on conversion of official bilateral debt.

169. UNICEF field offices in Africa have indicated that if the mid-decade and decade goals are to be achieved, it is essential that a mix of strategies be developed at the country level that takes into account political, social and cultural contexts. The same applies to UNICEF partnerships with Governments, NGOs, civil institutions, the private sector and bilateral and multilateral agencies. Building partnerships and alliances at the country level, particularly with international and regional financial institutions, including the World Bank and the African Development Bank (AfDB), has emerged as an important element in all country programmes. If these alliances are to benefit women and children, the comparative advantages of UNICEF, including its ability to work at subnational levels and its flexibility in channelling resources to innovative areas to lay the groundwork for investments by other donors, must be nurtured effectively.

170. Achieving the goals for children and women in Africa will also require a certain level of peace, stability and security. Although conflicts continue to rage in Angola, Liberia and Somalia and civil disturbances have undermined the capacity to improve social services in several countries, the end of the drought in southern Africa, the transition to democracy in South Africa, the peace process in Mozambique and the building up of democratic participatory institutions in several African States all bode well for improving the situation of children and women. A further step in the democratization process will be the enactment of legislation to protect and safeguard the rights of African children. Drawing on recent encouraging experiences from Namibia, UNICEF has the unique opportunity both in Eritrea and South Africa to ensure that concerns for children and women are integrated fully into their emerging national development agendas. A first step in this direction has been support for the preparation of situation analyses.

171. The establishment of majority rule in South Africa confronts the incoming Government and the international community with the challenge of addressing massive social and economic inequality, including in terms of access to basic services in health, education and shelter. Following the joint signing of the Declaration of the World Summit for Children by President F. W. de Klerk and Mr. Nelson Mandela, a crucial step will be the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by the new Government and its reflection in the new constitution. In the light of South Africa's overall economic and technical capacities, UNICEF resources will be used most effectively in collaborating with the Government in the revision of social policies and the restructuring of resource allocations to benefit the majority of South African children. The UNICEF programme approach in South Africa is discussed in detail in the recommendation for a short-duration country programme (E/ICEF/1994/P/L.19) which will be presented to the Executive Board at its second regular session of 1994.

172. Commemorated on 16 June, in 1993 the annual Day of the African Child was an occasion for virtually every African nation to call attention to national

/...

programmes of action, World Summit goals and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Heads of State or Government, first ladies, foreign ministers, religious leaders, artists, intellectuals, educators, the media and thousands of children were involved in advocacy events. Major activities organized by National Committees for UNICEF also took place in Australia, Italy, Japan, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States. A week-long commemoration at United Nations Headquarters and in New York City was chaired by three first ladies, Mrs. Leila Boutros-Ghali, Mrs. Matilda Cuomo and Mrs. Joyce Dinkins. Events included a lecture by New York State Governor Mario Cuomo, an inter-faith religious service, an educational and cultural event for 700 schoolchildren and showings of films by African directors.

Central and Eastern Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Baltic States

173. In 1993, UNICEF assistance on behalf of children in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the CIS and the Baltic States was provided in accordance with the mandate and policy guidelines established by the Executive Board in decision 1992/19 (see E/ICEF/1992/14). That decision authorized UNICEF to undertake a programme comprising the development of national programmes of assistance for countries qualifying for UNICEF assistance; continued support for advocacy, policy development, preparation of situation analyses and national programmes of action; and provided emergency support. UNICEF-assisted activities in the region have been carried out in close collaboration with the United Nations system, other international organizations and NGOs.

174. During the past year, the process of transition to market-oriented economies in Central and Eastern Europe and the CIS has been associated with profound economic and social disruptions. Recession and sharp declines in production have affected virtually all countries in the region, with large sections of the population experiencing a serious reduction in real wages and social benefits, a rise in the cost of living, rapidly growing unemployment and increasing homelessness. Infectious diseases are on the rise owing to the inadequate quality of vaccines and other causes. A number of countries have reported outbreaks of tuberculosis, diphtheria and cholera. These events have been compounded by a significant increase in complex emergencies and devastating environmental problems. As a result, the health and welfare of the populations in this part of the world are being severely undermined, with a disproportionate share of the impact borne by the most vulnerable - children, women, the elderly and the unemployed.

175. During 1993, the region witnessed a dramatic increase in emergencies caused by natural disasters, civil strife and ethnic, religious and political conflicts. The continuing armed conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia over the disputed enclave of Nagorny Karabakh has created major humanitarian problems. The crisis in Georgia has led to serious destruction of infrastructure and massive displacement of populations. Together with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the World Food Programme, UNICEF has taken part in consolidated inter-agency appeals for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Tajikistan. Advances from the Emergency

/...

Programme Fund (EPF) enabled UNICEF to respond quickly in all of these countries, but on a limited scale.

176. In early 1993, in response to a UNICEF request based on the findings of its February 1992 missions with WHO to CIS countries, the Government of Canada contributed \$5.7 million to assist children and women in Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine. UNICEF rapidly implemented a project for emergency child health assistance and by October 1993, two thirds of the required vaccines, cold-chain equipment, essential drugs and other medical supplies had been delivered to the three republics. Other ongoing activities in these countries are the elaboration of national programmes of action, a Russian-language adaptation of Facts for Life, capacity-building for local NGOs and media-based health training and promotion.

177. In 1993, the Executive Board approved "bridging" programmes for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan (E/ICEF/1993/14, decision 1993/9). UNICEF is gradually establishing a presence in these countries and arrangements are already under way for the recruitment of staff and the opening of field offices. Assessment missions have been sent to plan activities and to determine priority actions for programmes in Armenia and Azerbaijan. National plans of action for immunization are being developed in Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, while modest supplies of vaccines and syringes have been delivered to Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. A country programme recommendation for Georgia is being submitted to the Executive Board at its second regular session of 1994 (E/ICEF/1994/P/L.28).

178. In Albania, a three-year country programme for the period 1993-1995 is currently being implemented, with emphasis on the provision and promotion of basic services for women and children, especially in the health, nutrition and education sectors; support for implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the development of a national programme of action; and assistance to establish a better database of social indicators. In July 1993, a three-day donor consultation on assistance to the Albanian education sector organized by UNICEF and UNDP focused attention on educational needs.

179. In Romania, the two-year supplementary-funded programme for 1993-1994 approved by the Executive Board in 1993 has shifted the focus of UNICEF activities from emergency interventions for institutionalized children to more systematic efforts to protect children and promote their development. The new programme emphasizes intersectoral efforts to educate and inform families and communities and equip them to respond better to the needs of children. Several projects have been initiated with relevant government organizations and NGOs. UNICEF and the Government are currently at work on completing a situation analysis, which will provide the basis for longer-term programmes.

180. UNICEF assistance to victims of the Chernobyl disaster has been provided in collaboration with UNESCO. A joint project implemented in early 1993 supports the establishment of four community rehabilitation centres for affected children and families in Belarus, Ukraine and the Russian Federation.

181. As of October 1993, 21 countries in Central and Eastern Europe and the CIS had ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child. A number of countries,

/...

including Albania, Belarus, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, the Russian Federation and Slovakia, have begun to prepare national programmes of action. UNICEF convened two regional meetings to assist countries in the region develop strategies for children during the transition, with a specific focus on preparing national programmes of action.

182. As important partners of UNICEF, NGOs are playing a key role in organizing various workshops and seminars and in mobilizing government action to meet the needs of children. National Committees for UNICEF have also made a vital contribution in this respect. To date, National Committees have been created in the Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovakia and Slovenia.

Emergency operations

183. In 1993, UNICEF involvement in emergency operations increased, continuing an upward trend begun in 1990. In 1990, UNICEF provided emergency assistance to 29 countries in emergency situations; this number quickly grew to 50 in 1991, to 54 in 1992 and, by 1993, the organization was providing emergency assistance to 64 countries. Total UNICEF emergency expenditure in 1993 was \$223 million, of which \$189 million, or 85 per cent, was for the countries with the most serious emergency situations. In these countries, 1,033 staff (220 international Professional and 813 National Officers) are serving in 55 locations.

184. In 1993, Africa remained the continent in greatest need of emergency assistance and consequently was afforded the highest priority by UNICEF. Thirty-five per cent of EPF allocations were for Africa, which also received the largest share of all emergency expenditures in 1993. The conflicts in Angola, Liberia and Somalia are continuing, with tragic effects on children. New conflicts and large population movements in Rwanda and Burundi will require major assistance in 1994. UNICEF continued to provide support for other emergencies in Eastern and Southern Africa, in Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya and Mozambique, and in West and Central Africa, in the Congo, Côte D'Ivoire, Ghana, Liberia, Togo and Zaire. This trend is likely to continue in 1994. UNICEF, through EPF, allocated significant resources to Africa both for country-specific activities and for building regional capacity in prevention, planning, stress and trauma management and emergency training. Because of the increase in emergencies in West and Central Africa, efforts also focused on establishing early warning systems, emergency preparedness activities, emergency training and improving emergency communication systems in the region.

185. Emergency assistance in Asia, apart from in Afghanistan, focused on providing an immediate response to natural disasters such as the earthquake in India and floods and landslides in Nepal and the Philippines. UNICEF also provided assistance to strengthen emergency response capacities in Cambodia following the withdrawal of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia. The conflict in Afghanistan escalated dramatically at the end of 1993 with the major cities coming under heavy attack, resulting in a huge population exodus from Kabul and other cities towards safe areas. The evacuation of international personnel from the country temporarily interrupted ongoing emergency assistance. Monitoring and distribution of supplies is now undertaken and coordinated by national staff members who remain in the country, including Kabul, running the UNICEF office and programme.

/...

186. Central and Eastern Europe and the CIS continued to be areas of major concern throughout 1993, with the tragedy in parts of the former Yugoslavia dominating world attention and creating the biggest political, military and humanitarian crisis in Europe since the Second World War. The impact of this conflict on children has been devastating, with thousands killed, displaced or under siege. The conflict is also having a major destabilization effect beyond Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), affecting also the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and other neighbouring countries. Fighting continues in the enclave of Nagorny Karabakh, affecting both Armenia and Azerbaijan, while an eruption of conflict in Georgia resulted in an acute humanitarian emergency in Ossetia, Abkhazia and other nearby regions. The conflict in Tajikistan continues to claim lives and displace thousands of families. The onset of winter in many of these countries exacerbates already tragic situations. UNICEF continues to provide all of these countries with relief and survival equipment, essential medical supplies, drugs, vaccines and clothing.

187. In the Middle East and North Africa, 1993 was dominated by ongoing relief efforts in northern Iraq, the largest UNICEF emergency operation, and in the Sudan, where the conflict in the south continues to have devastating effects on an estimated 4 million people. At the request of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, UNICEF successfully coordinated humanitarian assistance in both countries. In northern Iraq, UNICEF coordinated the timely storage and distribution of 120 million litres of heating and cooking fuel to families and institutions. In southern Sudan, UNICEF assistance to children and women through Operation Lifeline Sudan - South reached 45 locations in 1993, up from 7 in 1992. In Lebanon, UNICEF moved from providing immediate relief assistance towards a reconstruction and development programme. The political situation in Algeria remains precarious and is expected to deteriorate further in 1994, with the possibility of repercussions for civilian populations. As a consequence, UNICEF is concentrating its interventions on emergency planning and preparedness activities and on enhancing emergency communication, security and training.

188. In the Americas and the Caribbean region, the continuing political crisis in Haiti required UNICEF to support emergency relief efforts to meet the needs of children and women. As part of the inter-agency appeal, UNICEF provided support for PHC, immunization services and water supply and sanitation in rural areas. With funds from EPF, UNICEF provided assistance for children and women affected by floods and landslides in Ecuador, for victims of a tropical storm in Cuba and in Honduras and for children in the indigenous region affected by insurgencies in Peru.

189. A complete review of UNICEF emergency operations in 1993, as well as a discussion of the use of EPF, will be presented to the Executive Board at its 1994 annual session (E/ICEF/1994/11).

International Year of the Family

190. UNICEF perceives the International Year of the Family as an opportunity to strengthen and safeguard the family as the "smallest democracy at the heart of society" and as the most viable instrument for achieving children's rights and

/...

the global goals for the survival, development and protection of children. The UNICEF mandate to assist children and women in developing countries and to act as the global advocate for children involves it directly in matters of relevance to the family. As the basic unit of society, families are the focus of programmes and are being mobilized to carry out actions for children and women in most UNICEF-assisted programmes.

191. In preparing for the Year, UNICEF has undertaken a thorough review of its policies and programmes with respect to their relevance and ability to respond to changing trends in family structures as well as to the mobilization of families in support of global goals for children. UNICEF is collaborating with other United Nations organizations and NGOs in several related activities at global, regional and national levels. One area of concern is the way in which the often neglected role of fathers in family life and child-rearing has been treated in UNICEF policies and programmes. Another problem is the possible conflicts and workload arising from demands made on women by child-rearing, home management, economic production and social and community services.

192. All UNICEF programmes for child survival, protection and development are centred around the children and women in the family. UNICEF programmes are diverse and reflect the country programming approach that addresses the specific needs of children and women in each country. For example, in Liberia, there is a project to trace children who have been separated from their families because of the civil war and to reunite them with their families. War-trauma counselling centres reach out to families supported by the community social service centres, which provide credit, child care and training to single-parent families. The family life empowerment programme in Namibia supports early childhood protection and development of children and women in especially difficult circumstances. Programmes directed at the involvement of parents and siblings in early childhood education in Costa Rica, Ecuador and the Philippines have received both popular support and the commitment of government counterparts. In China, changing family structures have required that grandparents participate in child care; in the UNICEF-assisted family and parent education project, grandparents participate along with parents in community-based education programmes on child development.

193. In several countries, UNICEF is working closely with the national committees formed for the Year in the planning and preparation of a plan of action. UNICEF counterpart ministries have been designated as focal points, which has resulted in close collaboration. In some countries, UNICEF is a member of interministerial committees and is playing an active role in advocacy and formulation or reorientation of "family-friendly" programmes.

194. UNICEF offices have taken advantage of public events to focus on the Year. For example, in Swaziland, the family was the theme of the observance of the Day of the African Child in June 1993. Field offices have also sponsored a number of activities. These include a regional seminar on "The Arab Family: Support Systems and Networks", organized in collaboration with the Arab Thought Forum at Amman in May 1993; and an international symposium on child development and the family held at Beijing in July 1993. In Latin America and the Caribbean, regional proposals are being developed to combine actions for children with multisectoral and integrated programmes targeted at strengthening families.

/...

E. Other supporting activities

Programme evaluation and research

195. In recognition of the close links between evaluation and operational research and the need to enhance these capacities throughout UNICEF, the Evaluation Office is now known as the Evaluation and Research Office. The reorganized Office also includes the Programme Publications and Library sections and will serve as a knowledge centre on women and children in support of field offices. A progress report on evaluation and research activities will be presented to the Executive Board at its 1994 annual session (E/ICEF/1994/L.3).

196. The Office has continued the work in developing the evaluation database, which contains lessons from evaluation and studies that can be shared with field offices. The database currently includes over 6,000 evaluations and studies carried out by UNICEF since 1987. A test edition of the database was distributed on CD-ROM disks in May to regional offices and selected country offices in order to evaluate its format and suitability for users. A country-specific test edition containing records available on a country basis was also sent to each field office to determine how this management tool can best serve the needs of field offices.

Follow-up to the multi-donor evaluation

197. The multi-donor evaluation and the ensuing Executive Board discussion remained a stimulus for strengthening evaluation activities in UNICEF in 1993. Instructions have been issued in the form of executive directives to ensure proper follow-up of the recommendations made in the multi-donor evaluation. Through these directives, field offices were advised on the need to pay increased attention to capacity-building and empowerment and on the need for greater transparency in the mix of strategies in country programmes, strengthening of collaboration with NGOs, taking effective steps to incorporate the gender perspective in programmes, strengthening analysis of cost-effectiveness and making the evaluation of country programmes an integral part of the country programming exercise.

198. Guidelines were also provided on action to be taken to improve the management of the evaluation and research functions, including enhancing capacities for essential national research for children and women; improved planning of resources for evaluation and research; field offices serving as knowledge centres on women and children; effective use of lessons learned from programme experience; and the role of the regional office in strengthening the management of the evaluation function.

199. The multi-donor evaluation identified an important role for regional offices in strengthening the management of the evaluation function. The Evaluation and Research Office has collaborated with the MENA Regional Office to provide an example of how a regional office can strengthen the process of learning from evaluations and studies, the sharing of lessons learned and the building of knowledge networks. Through this collaboration, the MENA Regional Office established a regional network on management tools and methods for

/...

sustainable EPI programmes. The MENA Regional Office tested an external peer review process for UNICEF evaluations and studies by tapping into a number of consultative networks of experts from within the region in the areas of health, child survival and nutrition. The review was found to be especially useful and was followed by a second review on CDD involving a network of experts on epidemiological measurement.

200. All regional offices have begun to systematize a learning process for programme and policy development by carrying out regional analytical reviews of evaluation results. Regional reports were prepared and synthesized into a global report by the Evaluation and Research Office. The Office has developed the terms of reference and guidelines for the evaluation of the overall country programme at the end of the programme cycle. Country programme evaluations are being conducted in a limited number of countries on an experimental basis.

201. Evaluation capacity-building has continued to receive high attention. In accordance with recommendations by the Executive Board, Africa was the major focus of efforts in this area. Intensive hands-on training was conducted in Chad, Liberia, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Somalia and Zimbabwe. The Evaluation and Research Office provided assistance in developing an integrated evaluation plan for the country programme recommendations in Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, and the Niger; and, through consultations with the regional offices, in Brazil, Guyana, Honduras, Nicaragua and Thailand.

202. The Canadian Committee for UNICEF participated in the joint evaluation of the Philippines services for street children project in order to gain direct experience in how UNICEF evaluations are conducted, as well as to increase their understanding and interpretation of evaluation results as reported by UNICEF. The findings included documented evidence of the effectiveness of the project and the recommendation that it be used as a model for other such projects globally.

203. Other issues raised by the multi-donor evaluation, including budget, financial monitoring and transparency, coding systems and accountability in general, are under review. An analysis of responses received from field offices on the multi-donor evaluation will be presented to the Executive Board for review at its 1994 annual session (E/ICEF/1994/L.7).

Thematic and sector-specific actions

204. In 1993, thematic and sector-specific actions, some of them suggested by the multi-donor evaluation, were taken to strengthen programme evaluation and implementation. The Gender in Development Section at headquarters has conducted extensive training exercises at regional and country levels to build capacity for gender-responsive programmes in implementing the mid-decade goals and the goals for the year 2000. The Women's Equality and Empowerment Framework has been developed to serve as the basis for gender analysis and programming. The Section, together with external gender experts in different regions, has been providing technical support to country offices in the preparation of country programme recommendations.

/...

205. The Water and Environmental Sanitation Section held a workshop on planning for health and the socio-economic benefits of water supply and sanitation programmes. The workshop's recommendations are being used to develop a new sector strategy which strives not only to accelerate service coverage in a sustainable manner, but also to improve the impact of programmes. Monitoring and evaluation tools and indicators will be used to assess behavioural changes at household and community levels.

206. The Office of Emergency Programmes adopted most of the recommendations of the multi-donor evaluation, such as those on staffing of the Office and maintaining an updated roster of external consultants. The Office also developed a conceptual framework which was used in a review of emergency operations in Somalia carried out by the Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office. An evaluation of the Liberian emergency programme was carried out to identify "corporate lessons" of emergency programmes from Liberia and the surrounding countries of Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea and Sierra Leone. This experience resulted in the development of an emergency evaluation methodology that is less expensive, rapidly applicable and that yields necessary data for programme management, advocacy and interaction with donors.

207. The Programme Division health cluster has begun to develop a global health strategy for the decade with the aim of defining explicitly the strategic choices for health programmes. This strategy will be based on a broad-based consultation of field offices, donors, aid agencies and United Nations organizations working in the health field. As a part of the thematic evaluation rolling plan, the Evaluation and Research Office, together with the Child Survival Unit, conducted a review of the existing literature on experiences with diarrhoeal diseases in the last decade. The results of the review will be used for policy and programme formulation.

208. In collaboration with the intersectoral cluster and the Office of Emergency Programmes, the Evaluation and Research Office organized the first global UNICEF workshop on psycho-social trauma of children affected by armed conflict. The purpose was to share experiences, discuss the conceptual framework and practical methodologies for implementing and evaluating support programmes and recommend activities at country, regional and global levels. UNICEF programme officers from 16 countries, including from the former Yugoslavia, their key national counterparts and international experts were brought together.

209. The Office collaborated with the Consultative Group for Early Childhood Care and Development to organize a workshop on child-rearing practices and beliefs in sub-Saharan Africa. The purpose of the workshop was to identify existing research in this area and to provide baseline information on the current state of knowledge for use in policy and programme formulation.

Programme information management

210. The emergence of a set of global and national goals for children in the 1990s and the preparation of national programmes of action pose new challenges in developing programme management and information systems that take advantage of new computer and communication technology. The programme manager project was initiated in 1991 to address this need, among others. The objective of the

/...

project is to improve UNICEF capacity to support Governments to monitor the goals established in their national programmes of action as well as to record and report country programme information efficiently for use by headquarters and field offices. The plan is to develop a network of information systems linking planning, implementation, monitoring, reporting and evaluation functions. These systems include ones for programme planning, implementation and monitoring; situation analysis and goal monitoring; financial supply and personnel operations; a computer text-based document system; and cost analysis.

211. In the past year, there has been progress in preparing the conceptual design of the programme planning and monitoring subsystems for the programme manager system. This conceptual design has been put into a computerized prototype and has been sent to 21 field offices for feedback. An extended prototype will be ready in early 1994.

212. A system of monitoring global goals for children has been developed in collaboration with the MENA Regional Office and is being introduced into country offices. It will be integrated into the overall programme manager system and the evaluation system being developed by the Evaluation and Research Office. The current finance, supply and personnel systems will also be adjusted to conform with the needs of programme planning, monitoring and reporting. Work has also progressed on designing a document management system and a cost-analysis system. The UNICEF office in Bangladesh has contributed significantly to defining the scope and potential of cost analysis by developing a prototype which will be reviewed and developed further in 1994.

Programme communication and social mobilization

213. The past year has seen the finalization of three case-studies on social mobilization in programmes benefiting children in Brazil, the Philippines and the United Republic of Tanzania. These experiences demonstrated the role and importance of social action processes in bringing about sustained achievement of goals for women and children. The role of UNICEF has been to identify various social forces and actors engaged in social action and to support and facilitate the positive elements in society.

214. The case-studies underscore the importance of creating opportunities for peer group participation in communities and at different levels of government, from policy-setting and decision-making echelons to the province, district and subdistrict, as well as in the private sector, NGOs and institutions of the civil society.

215. The research further identified the need for supporting communication methods that use interpersonal communication to engage individuals and groups in dialogue to assess, analyse and act upon their problems. Mass media, it was found, play a supportive role, raising issues and questions to elicit discussion, especially for advocacy purposes, and serve as a channel for feedback and timely information. Community-based workers provided the necessary component of interpersonal communication in effective social mobilization initiatives.

/...

216. This understanding has been reflected in a number of country programmes. In Sierra Leone, to take one example, the Government and UNICEF are training community change agents to work with communities in identifying and analysing their own problems and taking the first steps in local action to achieve their goals. Through this work, animators emerge from within the community who are motivated to fulfil self-identified objectives. This multiplier effect achieves a faster spread of self-reliant development and reduces dependence on external agents, and consequently costs to government.

217. Community mobilization requires strengthening appropriate communication practices through the development of, and training in, relevant tools, techniques and strategies. A number of such orientation and training initiatives have been undertaken this year through workshops tailored for interested field offices and involving both UNICEF personnel and government counterparts. The tools and techniques tested as helpful in mobilizing for sustainable social action will be incorporated into a more formal training package. This work has also demonstrated potential for strengthening social mobilization in programme approaches such as the Bamako Initiative, the global nutrition strategy and PEC.

218. In 1993, with UNICEF support, the Global Social Mobilization Training and Research Programme at Tulane University (New Orleans, Louisiana, United States) conducted a prototype training for social mobilization strategists on programmatic and managerial skills, analytical and evaluation abilities and communication competencies. The programme has developed a network of institutions of higher learning in Ecuador, the Philippines and the United Republic of Tanzania committed to implementing similar social mobilization training and research programmes.

219. The year 1993 saw the 10 millionth copy of Facts for Life, which is now in circulation in more than 180 languages. In the United Republic of Tanzania, Facts for Life is used in the group discussion process by community-level "animators". In Brazil, 1 million copies printed by the printing trade federation are to be used by health agents, community workers and radio journalists, some of whom have already been trained in using the information in group discussion. The area of "life skills" education, which includes problem-solving, critical thinking and interpersonal communication, was also explored for its usefulness in enhancing the application of information contained in Facts for Life. Some countries have now begun to develop training that would provide those who use Facts for Life with such skills as well as other communication and education methods for "facilitation" or "animation". The synergism between communication techniques and education processes has proved crucial to enhancing the sustainability of the mobilizing experience examined in the case-studies.

Non-governmental organizations

220. NGOs are among the strongest and most important allies of UNICEF in contributing to the achievement of the mid-decade goals. For example, a growing number of NGOs are involved in promoting the ratification, implementation and monitoring of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Defence for Children International and Rädda Barnen are working with UNICEF, other United Nations

/...

organizations and other NGOs in the development of an information network on child rights, while the Geneva-based NGO Group on the Convention is supporting the development of national NGO coalitions to raise public awareness about the Convention and monitor its implementation. In March, the NGO Committee on UNICEF organized a consultation in New York to generate increased support for the Convention by other United Nations organizations and, in November, the NGO Committee on UNICEF, with support from local UNICEF offices, organized a Central American conference on "Advancing the Rights of Children: Call to Action for NGOs". Among the main results were an increase in the number of NGOs working on implementation and monitoring of the Convention, a keener awareness of the importance of working with, and not just for, children and indigenous peoples, and the development of joint NGO national plans of action.

221. During 1993, international NGOs continued to play a vital role in the accomplishment of major programme goals. JCI, for example, continued to be an active partner and renewed its commitment to the UNICEF goals by accepting the challenge to mobilize its members to help achieve the mid-decade goal of 80 per cent usage of ORT. A new campaign to raise funds for the provision of water wells by UNICEF in selected countries was undertaken by JCI during 1993 and will be continued in future years.

222. Rotary International continued to support efforts to reach the goal of polio eradication by the year 2000 and has given increased attention to raising global public awareness about this goal. Rotary clubs are also supporting the EFA goals, with special emphasis on basic literacy and education for girls. A new initiative during 1993 was the announcement by Kiwanis International of its global fund-raising campaign for UNICEF, which aims to virtually eliminate IDD by the year 2000 by mobilizing its 330,000 members in over 80 countries, as well as the 210,000 university and high school students who are members of its Circle K and Key Clubs.

223. A number of international NGOs such as La Leche League International, IBFAN, the International Lactation Consultants Association, the International Confederation of Midwives, the International Council of Nurses and WABA have been vigorously pursuing the BFHI mid-decade goals by organizing training programmes on lactation management and assessment procedures for health professionals, advocating hospital practices conducive to breast-feeding (the "10 steps") and monitoring industry compliance with government action to end the distribution of free and low-cost supplies of breast-milk substitutes to hospitals and maternity centres. A regional training seminar on the Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes for participants from countries in Central and Eastern Europe was also organized by IBFAN at Prague in May 1993. These partnerships with NGOs have been central to UNICEF efforts to promote breast-feeding in Europe.

224. NGOs have also been active in seeking ways to support better the family as the most important environment for healthy child development. At the NGO World Forum on the International Year of the Family held in Malta in November, key NGO partners of UNICEF organized several workshops on priorities including substitute families, child rights, women's work and breast-feeding and strengthening the role of fathers in child care within the family.

/...

225. Coordination with and assistance to NGOs working in Central and Eastern Europe was intensified and a number of joint activities were planned and implemented. These centred around three objectives: facilitating information and experience exchange; capacity-building of local NGOs, using the skills of international NGOs; and promoting an ethos of "children first" through the promotion of the principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Parliamentarians, mayors, religious leaders and personalities

226. During 1993, international parliamentary groups such as the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) consistently addressed children's issues at their global meetings, resulting in the adoption of a number of important resolutions. In New Delhi, the eighty-ninth Inter-Parliamentary Conference adopted a resolution which addresses the need for universal primary education and calls on parliaments of the richer nations to give all possible assistance to developing countries in their efforts to provide education. In Budapest a meeting organized by IPU and UNICEF for parliamentarians from Central and Eastern Europe discussed social welfare legislation. Participants adopted a statement reaffirming their support and commitment to the principles of the Convention and to the goals set by the World Summit for Children, and pledged to advocate strengthening of social policies and safety nets for children. In Kyoto, Japan, more than 300 spiritual leaders, parliamentarians and others met to discuss value change for global survival, singling out children as humankind's greatest victims and those in need of greatest protection.

227. Parliamentarians are also addressing the needs of children and providing support at regional and national levels. For example, the Central American Parliament is working with UNICEF to promote implementation of national programmes of action and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as well as the iodization of salt. In Brazil, a parliamentary coalition for children was established in 1993 to protect the rights of children and adolescents, guarantee financial resources for children and mobilize Brazilian society; the coalition has adopted the goals of the World Summit for Children. In the Gambia, a three-day workshop was organized by the parliamentary-media task force on child survival and development, with the participation of opinion leaders, religious leaders and representatives of youth and women's groups. Participants examined the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Africa Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, and recommended that their provisions be incorporated into the country's laws and school curricula. In close cooperation with National Committees for UNICEF, intensified contacts were made with European institutions seeking their support for the World Summit goals, resulting in the subscription by European ministers for the family to the idea of a "first call for children" and the development of a European strategy for children.

228. Hosted by the Mayor of Mexico City and UNICEF, the Second International Colloquium of Mayors as Defenders of Children was held at Mexico City, from 5 to 6 July 1993, with 80 mayors and governors from cities in 45 countries participating. Participants discussed children's problems, shared their experiences and proposed specific solutions to create a more supportive environment for urban children. They also discussed how mayors and municipal leaders can undertake concrete measures at the local level to support their country's national programme of action. A final Declaration and Plan of Action

/...

was adopted, calling on all the mayors of the world to join this world-wide effort. Since the Colloquium, the participants have widely promoted and distributed the Declaration and Plan of Action to other mayors, the media and relevant sectors of their communities. Follow-up activities have included regional meetings for Latin American and West African mayors.

229. National meetings of mayors were also held this year in Argentina, Bolivia, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, the Dominican Republic and Thailand. A meeting of Spanish mayors, which focused on promoting solidarity with children of developing countries and education for development, is expected to serve as a model for other mayors of industrialized countries. During 1993, municipal plans of action were developed in cities in Bangladesh, Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia, Kenya and Senegal. Mayors are also promoting increased use of ORT and immunization coverage in countries such as Cameroon and Pakistan.

230. Religious leaders of all faiths also continue to serve the cause of children. In 1993, they promoted the provision of humanitarian assistance to women and children in war-torn areas, the use of ORT and the increase of immunization coverage. Religious leaders held services in their different faiths and traditions throughout the world in commemoration of the Day of the African Child and inter-faith services were held as a symbol of solidarity in support of African children. A regional conference of religious leaders of Asia and the Pacific, "Keeping the Promise", sponsored by the World Conference on Religion and Peace, the Australian Committee for UNICEF and UNICEF, was held in August at Melbourne, Australia. Over 100 participants drawn from eight religions and indigenous traditions from 14 countries discussed how religious leaders and people of faith can work for the implementation of the Convention to help achieve the mid-decade goals. A Declaration and Plan of Action was adopted, calling on religious bodies at every level to carry out specific tasks in their own communities.

231. In November, a conference entitled "The Child is the Future of Society" brought expressions of renewed commitment by the Holy See to meet the challenges for children in this decade. The conference culminated with a statement by Pope John Paul II urging swift ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and praising UNICEF and its partners for their outstanding service on behalf of children.

232. UNICEF remembered Goodwill Ambassador Audrey Hepburn at a memorial tribute held at United Nations Headquarters on 30 April that was hosted by Roger Moore. The event also served as a launching for the Audrey Hepburn Memorial Fund, which will support UNICEF-assisted programmes in Ethiopia, Somalia and the Sudan.

233. The year 1993 was the twenty-fifth anniversary of the appointment of Sir Peter Ustinov as UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador. In July, he completed a two-week mission to the Russian Federation, where in schools, hospitals, shelters and care facilities in five cities he met with children most affected by the transition period. The television film of the mission will help to build awareness of the situation of children in the Russian Federation today. He also participated in a concert for Bosnia and Herzegovina at Salzburg, Austria, a concert with Roger Moore in London and a benefit with Sir Edmund Hillary at Toronto, Canada.

/...

234. Liv Ullmann tied successful benefits for National Committees to the opening of her film, "Sofie", at Brussels, Toronto, Canada and San Juan, Puerto Rico. While participating in the Johannesburg Film Festival, she met with Nelson Mandela for a discussion of UNICEF IDD and immunization programmes, followed by a press briefing. To support emergency programmes for the former Yugoslavia, Ms. Ullmann recorded television and radio appeals and authored a fund-raising support letter to be used by National Committees. Tetsuko Kuroyanagi continued her successful fund-raising and advocacy through her television outreach in Japan. In early December, she visited UNICEF-assisted programmes in the Sudan.

235. Roger Moore participated in UNICEF-related activities in Los Angeles, Chicago, at the Kiwanis World Congress in Nice and made two appearances for the "Hamburg for UNICEF Campaign" in Germany. He also taped campaign appeals for the Canadian, Netherlands and Swedish National Committees. Mr. Moore also took part in a major initiative supporting UNICEF concerns, "Artists Against Racism and Violence", organized by Vanessa Redgrave with a group of international stars in Hamburg, Germany. Ms. Redgrave continued this programme with a concert in Manchester, United Kingdom. In December, throughout former Yugoslavia, she and other artists took part in concerts titled, "Wake Up World - Put Children First". Greek singer Nana Mouskouri was appointed Special Representative for the Performing Arts in October. She visited UNICEF-assisted projects in Mexico, and began her support activities in Canada, France and Greece. Renato Aragao and other artists participated in the "Children and Hope" campaign in Brazil.

National Committees for UNICEF

236. The high level of recognition enjoyed by UNICEF in industrialized countries is largely the result of the work of National Committees for UNICEF, which serve both as a lead voice for children and as channels of public support. National Committees help to create a deeper understanding of the needs and rights of children while supporting UNICEF work for children in developing countries. In 1993 alone, approximately one fourth of the UNICEF budget was contributed by National Committees through the sale of greeting cards and a variety of other fund-raising activities.

237. In 1993, the scope of the National Committees' work broadened to include more active advocacy in many countries. The Convention on the Rights of the Child and the goals of the World Summit for Children have opened the way for National Committees to create awareness of issues related to children in their own countries. For example, several Committees have been instrumental in their Governments' ratification of the Convention, and some have been called upon to assist their Governments in subsequent reporting to the Committee on the Rights of the Child. Others have become involved in education and information activities related to children's rights. The goals of the World Summit for Children are also being integrated into the work of National Committees and many have assisted their Governments in drawing up national programmes of action.

238. Direct involvement by National Committees in national child-related issues is already leading to broader networks of partners. For example, advocacy for BFHI has led some National Committees to establish new relations with medical institutions, professional organizations, concerned NGOs and consumer groups.

/...

National Committees also expanded their base of support by working with municipal leaders through the Mayors as Defenders of Children Initiative in 1993. Others strengthened or formed ties with NGOs, religious leaders, parliamentarians and others to pursue common goals for children.

239. During the past year, National Committees in Europe cooperated with the UNICEF Geneva Office in providing assistance to victims of rape and other violations in some of the republics of the former Yugoslavia and advocated better protection of children in armed conflict in general, as well as for the protection of children from land-mines. Several National Committees raised funds for children affected by the conflicts in Somalia and the former Yugoslavia. At their annual meeting, held at Athens in May, the National Committees took the unprecedented action of issuing a joint statement denouncing the growing victimization of children in armed conflict.

240. In 1993, information and communications officers of National Committees met with their UNICEF counterparts from headquarters and field offices at a National Committee information workshop in Bangladesh. The workshop resulted in intensive technical exchange and the development of strategies for future work and collaboration.

241. Four new National Committees were recognized officially by UNICEF in 1993, bringing the total number to 35 world-wide. Committees in Latvia, Lithuania, the Republic of Korea and Slovakia began full operations, and in an additional 10 countries, identification of appropriate partners is under way.

242. Consultations on a new cooperation agreement between UNICEF and the National Committees are approaching a consensus and hopefully will be followed by a new agreement, which would be based on recommendations made by the Executive Board in 1990 in relation to an evaluation and analysis of UNICEF external relations. Provisions will be made for more transparency and equity, and for better monitoring and evaluation of performance. The draft agreement updates the relationship between UNICEF and the National Committees, taking into account recent developments such as the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the World Summit for Children.

Education for development

243. The National Committees renewed their commitment to education for development by holding a workshop dedicated to this topic at Annecy, France, in September. The workshop included sessions on the Convention on the Rights of the Child and child participation and on education for development as a response to growing intolerance and ethnocentrism.

244. The focus of UNICEF work in the area of education for development was on training activities and the development of publications related to youth's understanding of the Convention and, more importantly, their participation in the process of making it "real" in their communities.

245. In 1993, new initiatives in environmental education and in peace education were carried out in the former Yugoslavia, Lebanon, Liberia and Sri Lanka. Work was done with the UNICEF offices in the former Yugoslavia to assess the

/...

possibilities of launching a programme of education for tolerance for children and young people and to determine the most appropriate mass media for the promotion of tolerance among various communities. A workshop on interactive learning techniques to deal with conflict resolution was organized at a symposium in the former Yugoslavia and was attended by 1,000 primary school teachers.

Information, communication and media relations

246. The mid-decade goals and the Convention on the Rights of the Child were the main thrusts of UNICEF advocacy efforts in 1993. These priorities were supported by the simultaneous launches of the first edition of The Progress of Nations and Child Neglect in Rich Nations in September and the participation of United States President Clinton in the launch of the 1994 State of the World's Children report. These launches spearheaded important advocacy events in most countries around the world.

247. The first edition of The Progress of Nations, a publication that monitors progress achieved on the goals set by the World Summit for Children, was launched in London by the Executive Director at a well-attended press conference on 22 September. By covering issues in industrialized as well as developing countries, the report serves as a global advocacy document that can also provide a local story in each country. These were reinforced with background materials, including national summaries and data sheets based on the facts and figures in the report.

248. Advocacy for the report was further strengthened in industrialized countries by the publication of Child Neglect in Rich Nations, which draws attention to the deteriorating situation of many children in these relatively affluent countries.

249. The 1994 State of the World's Children report put action for children at the centre of measures needed to address the global problems of poverty, rapid population growth and environmental deterioration. It was launched by United States President Clinton at a White House ceremony on 21 December attended by religious leaders, members of the diplomatic corps, representatives of major NGOs, national health and women's organizations, civil rights leaders and government officials. President Clinton committed his Administration to improving the lives of children in the United States and in other countries, saying that investing in children of the world can be the most cost-effective way not only to relieve suffering, but also to advance economies, to promote self-sufficiency, to promote democracy and to avert future conflicts. A press briefing by the Executive Director for 40 correspondents preceded the launch, which was followed by a White House press conference.

250. In Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the report was issued at a press conference while the city was under heavy shelling. The report was presented for the first time in South Africa in a ceremony at Cape Town attended by Archbishop Desmond Tutu. The report was covered extensively by the major media in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, North America and the Middle East, where it was released with the participation of government officials, decision makers, representatives of donor countries, NGOs, members of the media and children.

/...

251. As part of follow-up to ICAAC and in line with the UNICEF commitment to strengthening its advocacy for Africa, the publication, Africa's Recovery in the 1990s, was launched in London in January, and a series of journalists' visits were organized to selected African countries, including one scheduled to coincide with the Tokyo International Conference on African Development held in early October. The media visits resulted in good coverage, especially in Europe and Japan. Media support was also provided for the Mexico Conference on the Mayors as Defenders of Children Initiative, the UNICEF-IPU workshop on safety nets held at Budapest and other meetings in Central and Eastern Europe. Exhibits and other special events were also publicized through press releases, media advisories and press conferences.

252. In South Asia, Women's Watch, a network of women journalists from that region and the Nordic countries was set up to encourage investigative reporting and monitoring of women's and children's issues in the region.

253. A round-table discussion on children in war and children as a zone of peace was held in London in mid-November to mark the publication of Between the Guns by the late Tarzie Vittachi.

254. Information on emergency operations received high priority in 1993, with the increased number and complexity of emergencies world-wide. Information officers took part in assessment missions and workshops and led field trips for journalists to countries in emergency situations. Emergency information notes, press releases and news features were issued regularly to keep National Committees, field offices and the media abreast of UNICEF activities. A database on emergency operations is being developed to augment the position of UNICEF as a key information source on emergencies. It will be updated regularly and will be shared with UNICEF partners.

255. With media attention focused on Somalia and the former Yugoslavia, frequent media briefings and speaking tours were organized to generate coverage. Visits by information staff to some of the countries in emergency situations improved communication with field personnel and provided first-hand reporting on relief activities. UNICEF participated in and promoted documentary video productions on Angola, Mozambique, Romania, the Sudan, southern Africa, Somalia and the former Yugoslavia through the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) World Service, Cable News Network (CNN), Reuters TV, the European Broadcasting Union and the United States Public Broadcasting System. A brochure entitled "Children Under Siege" was produced to highlight the needs of children in situations of conflict, particularly in Sarajevo, and the UNICEF response.

256. The ongoing communications revolution will lead to unprecedented demand for programmes at local, regional and global levels. UNICEF is positioning itself to strengthen and broaden its work with international satellite channels and major networks to provide programmes about and for children. Collaboration with such major satellite channels as Star TV, BBC World Service Television and CNN have increased. In Europe, special emphasis was placed on strengthening cooperation with television networks, and links with a number of major European networks, including EURONEWS, were developed and expanded. Links were strengthened with the European Broadcasting Union for satellite distribution of stories about major UNICEF-initiated media events. A study on broadcast

/...

networks in France was carried out to determine the possibility of placing programmes on children's issues. The UNICEF Geneva Office has begun an analysis of television in Central and Eastern Europe, focusing initially on Bulgaria, the Czech Republic and Poland.

257. The year 1993 saw the largest-ever participation in the International Children's Day of Broadcasting, with more than 700 television and radio stations and networks in more than 100 countries producing and airing programmes. The Day permits identification of broadcast "champions" - producers, reporters and executives who cover children's issues in their programming - and gives the broadcast industry a chance to show unified support for children. The Geneva Office helped to link the European National Committees and broadcasters on many levels.

258. The year also saw the launch of "Growing Up", an international co-production between Central Television, Television Trust for the Environment and UNICEF. "Growing Up" shows how differently life can turn out when people born with equal abilities are raised in an unequal world. The programme was aired first in the United Kingdom on World Environment Day and more than 90 television stations aired it on the International Children's Day of Broadcasting.

259. A co-production undertaken with TV Communication in Norway created two short stories for children especially for the International Children's Day of Broadcasting. Other co-productions included a profile of the Netherlands Committee for UNICEF with Super Channel; one done with the Jaycees on ORT and another in support of the Kiwanis efforts to fight IDD; language versions of "Environment for the People", a production of the Norwegian station NRK; and "The Other Side of Africa".

260. UNICEF produced "Raised Voices", a documentary about children taking part in decisions that affect their future, which was broadcast by more than 100 television stations. Other major productions included "Audrey Hepburn - in her own words" and "The Audrey Hepburn Memorial Tribute"; a video entitled, "Children First! Looking After Their Own Environment"; and a video on the Mayors as Defenders of Children Initiative.

261. Global communication support activities emphasized training and capacity-building in ongoing and new projects in developing countries. Two projects were extended (Plaza Sesamo and "Meena") and three new ones approved, for a total of 21 projects supported by the Global Communication Support Fund, which was established in 1991. Some of the projects supported by the Fund are described in paragraphs 262-265 below.

262. Ongoing projects include the development of the 130-programme Plaza Sesamo series in Spanish by Children's Television Workshop and Televisa in Mexico. The Netherlands Committee for UNICEF is the primary contributor to Plaza Sesamo, which is scheduled for broadcast in early 1994. The UNICEF office in Mexico has begun producing materials to support outreach programmes in conjunction with UNICEF offices in 18 Latin American countries. The series will entertain preschoolers and introduce them to math, language and health issues.

/...

263. The UNICEF office in Bangladesh has produced the second episode of the animated "Meena" series, which covers nutrition and gender discrimination. Episodes three through nine are in production. The first episode, on girls' rights to education, has been used extensively in Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan and India. New language versions, including one in Arabic, are being produced. The Government of Norway is the primary contributor to the "Meena" project.

264. The Local Perspectives in Development project, which supports efforts by prominent film-makers in developing countries to produce documentaries on development issues from a local perspective, got under way this year. Of the nine participating countries, six have already completed films with support from selected National Committees.

265. The Ecuador Animation for Development project, which received considerable assistance from the Walt Disney studios, has proved to be a successful training experience for local animators, as well as a popular forum for promoting health messages. The spot produced by a team in Quito will be available early in 1994 and further sequences are planned. Cooperation with Disney is continuing, and a series of health messages for the Andean region was also completed this year.

266. During 1993, efforts were made to consolidate UNICEF publications, focusing on key issues, and to increase outreach by distributing raw material for use by field offices and National Committees as well as for placement in the media. A new initiative was the UNICEF Features Service, which distributed 76 human interest stories submitted by 35 field offices in all six UNICEF regions. These articles depict development problems and solutions from the human perspective. They appear in National Committee publications and are transmitted by three news services, resulting in their use by newspapers in both industrialized and developing countries.

267. Commitments were secured from publishers world-wide to produce and distribute I Dream of Peace, an 80-page, full-colour book of drawings and writings by children of the former Yugoslavia. The book will be published commercially in nine languages in 16 countries, with a simultaneous international launch in spring 1994.

268. First Call for Children gave extensive coverage to challenges and successes surrounding the mid-decade and World Summit goals. This quarterly publication carried approximately 120 articles on such topics as national programmes of action in Latin America and Asia, salt iodization, polio eradication, ORT, water supply and sanitation and education. The publication is produced in English, French, Spanish and Arabic and has a circulation of 55,000.

269. Efforts to promote the image of UNICEF and strengthen advocacy for children's concerns included the revival of the publication, Facts and Figures, and the Annual Report. Other advocacy publications covered such subjects as AIDS, women in development and children in southern Sudan and in Romania. Information kits and brochures were produced to promote the mid-decade goals.

270. The UNICEF Electronic Information Network provided the full texts of almost all UNICEF public information publications in advance of hard-copy distribution so that field offices and National Committees could have a head start in

/...

translating and placing them. Initial efforts were made towards building a comprehensive, searchable public information database in anticipation of the installation of a local area network and the establishment of a UNICEF connection to the Internet.

271. Three communication training workshops, all of which received support from the Global Communication Support Fund, were tested in 1993. First, an audio-visual communications management training package developed in cooperation with two well-known broadcasters, the Radio Nederlands Training Centre and the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, was used in information workshops in Dhaka and Amman in November, with further workshops scheduled in Central America and South-East Asia in 1994. Second, the West African Rural Radio training workshop for francophone radio producers was tested successfully in Ouagadougou in November, and country-wide implementation of the project is being developed. Third, a three-week journalism training workshop developed with the Thomson Foundation in the United Kingdom was tested for South Asia with the help of the Nepal Press Institute in Kathmandu. The course combines hands-on skills training with orientation on women's and children's issues.

272. New projects include an animated film on AIDS for teenagers in the Caribbean and training for Mongolian radio producers to develop radio spots on social issues. Several other projects are being developed, especially in Africa.

273. Considerable interest was generated by the work initiated around the question of images of developing countries conveyed by both development agencies and the media, and the ethical implications of this debate for UNICEF communications work. Production was begun of training materials on images for UNICEF and National Committee staff and volunteers. Other research projects were undertaken to identify ways of improving the impact of the organization's advocacy and communication work on public opinion in industrialized countries. The analysis of public opinion on development issues and on the awareness and image of UNICEF in those countries continued as well. Research reports on Denmark, France, Greece, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom present data gathered by the European Community and supplemented by UNICEF research and analyse the advocacy and fund-raising environment in which UNICEF operates. An opinion poll commissioned by the United States Committee for UNICEF covered many of the same topics. A similar survey will be carried out in Japan in early 1994.

274. Special attention was given to supporting the information and education activities of National Committees in Central and Eastern Europe and a round table was organized in Geneva in February to review and plan their information strategies. Assistance was provided to produce national versions of UNICEF information materials, and a series of television spots was produced to highlight issues of major concern for children in these countries.

275. UNICEF was elected to chair the Joint United Nations Information Committee (JUNIC) for 1994-1995. JUNIC, which comprises around 20 United Nations organizations and specialized agencies, works to develop and promote information projects of common interest. A JUNIC development information workshop organized by UNICEF, UNDP and UNFPA was held in New York in September for information

/...

directors of bilateral and multilateral development agencies. Its main topic was how to get long-term and sustainable development back on the media agenda and reverse declining public support for development assistance at a time when resources are shrinking and the media is occupied with conflicts, natural disasters and humanitarian relief.

Fund-raising

276. Fund-raising efforts in 1993 took place in an atmosphere of increasing competition among established and new requirements for the limited funds available. Peace-keeping, Central and Eastern Europe and the CIS, refugee programmes and resettlement, the Middle East, South Africa and environmental issues are all in urgent need of international funding. These demands for additional assistance occur at a time when traditional donor Governments are making efforts to balance budgets, contain public spending and reduce taxes.

277. UNICEF fund-raising in 1993 focused on reaching the targets set in the medium-term plan for 1993-1996. Particular efforts were made to limit cut-backs by major donors and to encourage increased contributions from developed countries that are not making financial contributions to UNICEF commensurate with their financial capacity and payments to other United Nations bodies and from developing countries that have achieved substantial human, social and economic progress in recent years. UNICEF also continues to advocate a general increase in international resources for child-related programmes and, in particular, for national programmes of action. This effort has included the special encouragement of multilateral agencies, particularly the World Bank and other international financial institutions, the European Community and NGOs, to channel funds through UNICEF.

278. In 1993, contributions to UNICEF totalled \$866 million, with \$509 million provided for general resources, \$187 million for non-emergency supplementary-funded programmes and \$170 million for emergency supplementary-funded programmes. The overall level was some 7 per cent less than in 1992 and a decline as compared to the projections in the 1992-1995 medium-term plan. Most major donors were able to sustain, and in some cases even increase, their contributions in national currencies, but the lack of any major increases, combined with major devaluations of many currencies vis-à-vis the United States dollar, reduced the overall total. It is of some concern to UNICEF that contributions have not increased at the rate projected in the medium-term plan and the plan for 1994-1995 has had to be reduced accordingly.

279. In this period of donor austerity, well-planned and coordinated resource mobilization efforts are required to maximize programme delivery. Accordingly, in 1993, UNICEF developed regional fund-raising strategies in the Middle East and North Africa and the Americas and the Caribbean, as well as individual strategies in a number of countries in all regions. UNICEF continued to implement the various memorandums of understanding for programme delivery that have been signed with the World Bank, AfDB and IDB, all of which are rapidly increasing the share of social sector lending in their overall programmes. UNICEF undertook a major initiative to secure increased contributions from the European Community, particularly for the funding of emergency appeals but now broadened to include non-emergency, supplementary-funded programmes as well.

/...

280. The use of innovative fund-raising mechanisms is adding further to resource availability to achieve the goals for the 1990s, including the debt relief for children initiative (see para. 31 above). Additional local currency is being generated through contributions from the counterpart funds controlled jointly by bilateral donors and recipient Governments and from debt conversion transactions organized by bilateral donors. Also, UNICEF is continuing to stress local fund-raising from the private sector, individuals, corporations and institutions. Greeting Card and related Operations (GCO) has the mandate to carry out private-sector fund-raising and is now increasingly cooperating with the Programme Funding Office in the financing of supplementary-funded programmes.

281. In 1993, UNICEF addressed several issues critical to its fund-raising relationship with donors. Major improvements have been made to the monitoring of donor reports to ensure continued improvements in their quality and timeliness. Relationships with potential donors to emergency appeals have been strengthened and UNICEF has enhanced its capacity to respond quickly to donor requests for additional information and specific emergency programme proposals.

282. Recognizing that technical and definitional issues associated with ODA reporting make it difficult to obtain a complete assessment of the aid funds available for basic social services, UNICEF and UNDP have prepared a framework for the review of aid flows to human priorities. The conceptual and data issues involved were discussed in early 1993 at a meeting of interested parties, including WHO, SCN, the Advisory Committee for the Coordination of Information Systems, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development and the World Bank. The group agreed on compatible approaches for the review of aid flows to the social sectors.

283. UNICEF continues to encourage donor Governments and agencies to review their aid allocations in support of children, as called for in the Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children and in the Consensus of Dakar. As Africa remains the region of highest priority for UNICEF, special efforts are continuing to promote follow-up and implementation of the Consensus with the donor community.

Greeting Card and related Operations

284. As a result of sales of greeting cards and private-sector fund-raising activities by National Committees, UNICEF field offices and other partners, GCO contributed \$107.2 million to general resources during the fiscal year 1991-1992, an increase of \$24.9 million (30.4 per cent) over the previous year. GCO also contributed to the generation of \$23.1 million allocated to supplementary funds, for a total of \$130.3 million.

285. The consolidated net income of \$107.2 million for the 1991-1992 fiscal year included \$71.2 million in net operating income from greeting card and other product sales and \$41.4 million in net operating income from private sector fund-raising activities, less \$5.1 million for exchange rate fluctuations, the Central and Eastern European Committees Development Programme and prior years' adjustments.

/...

286. Pursuant to a request by the Executive Board, in fiscal year 1993/1994 GCO completed several studies with the aim of generating substantially more private sector income for UNICEF. These included a review of GCO-funded staff and operations in field offices better to target GCO human and financial resources, a review of GCO production facilities to determine their efficiency and cost-effectiveness, a review of the objective of a 50 per cent return on gross proceeds and its impact on sales volume, potential revenue and distribution channels, and a review of the Fund-raising Development Programme (FDP) to determine its investment benefits. Assuming the approval of the Executive Board in 1994, the recommendations emanating from these studies will be implemented in fiscal year 1994/1995. FDP was created to help National Committees and field offices boost their private sector fund-raising revenue and build donor constituencies. Since 1991, the programme has acquired 198,900 new donors, including 27,000 with monthly pledges. Ten National Committees and three UNICEF field offices have benefited to date. For a total investment of \$4.8 million since 1991, the programme has already generated direct returns of \$10.6 million.

287. Sales results in gross proceeds for card and other product sales continue to show encouraging growth despite an ongoing economic recession in most major markets. For the fiscal year 1991/1992, gross proceeds increased from \$133.3 million to \$151.0 million, an increase of \$17.7 million, or 13.3 per cent over the previous year. However, sales volume for the same period was 150 million cards, a decrease of 2 million compared to the previous year.

288. In an effort to meet the challenges of increased sales volume to keep pace with revenue growth, various strategies were implemented in 1993. These included increasing the type and number of distribution channels in major market countries; testing and developing product concepts required for specialized sales channels; and significantly expanding market research better to understand customers and their buying behaviours. GCO worked towards globalizing its business procedures, sales and product policies, product mix and promotional materials in an effort to communicate fully a consistent UNICEF corporate image globally.

289. The ongoing partnership with National Committees, whose elected representatives meet with GCO on a quarterly basis in a strategic marketing meeting, has been of great assistance to GCO. At this forum, marketing and product development strategies are formulated and implementation plans established.

290. The first global Greeting Card Workshop for National Committees, held in February 1993 at Geneva, represented the first step towards the establishment of a fully integrated UNICEF product collection. By bringing all major markets together to select a core or common collection of cards and non-card products, UNICEF can achieve economies of scale as well as increase its global brand recognition.

291. GCO continued to strengthen its support to the National Committees and to field offices in their efforts to raise funds from the private sector. This support included improved assistance in developing country-specific strategic plans for private sector fund-raising, technical assistance in the implementation of these plans and the provision of targeted fund-raising kits

/...

on, for example, children in war, children in the former Yugoslavia, immunization, Angola, Nepal, Peru and Viet Nam.

292. A major photographic exhibition, entitled "No War Anymore", about women and children caught in armed conflicts during the past 10 years, was displayed in the public lobby of the United Nations General Assembly Building during the Executive Board 1993 regular session. The exhibit, which highlighted the role of various United Nations organizations, was later incorporated into the joint agency exhibit at the World Conference on Human Rights at Vienna, and was shown at the Palais des Nations at Geneva. Two other thematic exhibitions shown at United Nations Headquarters were "Girls and girlhood: A perilous path" and "Youth and AIDS: Act Now!". Additional thematic displays were produced on "The Mid-Decade Goals", "The Urban Challenge" and "The Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative". Several of these exhibits were displayed at international conventions in Asia, Latin America and the United States.

III. OPERATIONS

A. Overview

293. With increasingly limited resources, operations divisions continued to search for new and better ways to perform their work in 1993. Each division prepared a work plan describing the specific measures it was taking to support the achievement of the mid-decade goals and the goals for the year 2000. Implementation of these measures began in 1993 and will continue throughout 1994. The challenge for UNICEF is to streamline and increase operational efficiency while continuing to ensure that the necessary infrastructure is in place to support fully programme implementation.

B. Income and expenditure

294. Total income was \$866 million in 1993. This was \$49 million less than the \$915 million total income estimated in the 1993 medium-term plan and \$72 million (8 per cent) less than total income in 1992. The reduction was due to the effect of the increase in value of the United States dollar combined with a more challenging fund-raising environment.

295. Table 8 below shows the breakdown of income by source. In 1993, income from Governments, intergovernmental organizations and the United Nations accounted for 68 per cent of total income, the balance being non-governmental income.

296. General resources income in 1993 was \$509 million, \$36 million less than the amount estimated in the 1993 medium-term plan. General resources income for 1993 was \$39 million (7 per cent) less than in 1992.

297. Although contributions to supplementary-funded emergency programmes exceeded the target level in the medium-term plan, regular supplementary funds contributions were less than in the plan. Total supplementary funds income was \$357 million in 1993. This was \$13 million less than the medium-term plan and

/...

\$33 million less than 1992. Supplementary funds contributions for emergencies in 1993 were \$170 million, including \$48 million for Iraq, \$25 million for the Sudan, \$22 million for Somalia, \$20 million for the former Yugoslavia, \$10 million for Kenya and \$6 million for Angola. Non-emergency supplementary funds income was \$187 million in 1993. This was \$1 million more than last year, but \$18 million less than the target amount in the medium-term plan.

Table 8. UNICEF income by source of funding

(Millions of United States dollars)

	1990	1991	1992	1993
General resources	531	506	548	509
Supplementary funds (non-emergency)	<u>223</u>	<u>165</u>	<u>186</u>	<u>187</u>
Subtotal	<u>764</u>	<u>671</u>	<u>734</u>	<u>696</u>
Emergency supplementary funds	<u>57</u>	<u>136</u>	<u>204</u>	<u>170</u>
Total	<u>821</u>	<u>807</u>	<u>938</u>	<u>866</u>

298. In 1993, total expenditures were \$997 million (see table 9 below). Programme expenditure for 1993 was \$804 million, which was \$19 million more than the 1993 medium-term plan amount. In 1993, supplies and equipment accounted for 45 per cent of total programme expenditure and cash assistance accounted for 55 per cent. Total programme expenditures for 1993 were \$60 million (8 per cent) greater than in 1992. Budget expenditures for programme support services and administrative services in 1993 amounted to \$180 million, which was \$15 million less than projected in the medium-term plan.

/...

Table 9. Expenditure by type of input
(Millions of United States dollars)

	1990	1991	1992	1993
<u>Programme expenditure</u>				
Supplies and equipment (including freight)	289	298	352	359
Cash assistance	<u>296</u>	<u>293</u>	<u>392</u>	<u>445</u>
Total, Programme expenditure	<u>585</u>	<u>591</u>	<u>744</u>	<u>804</u>
<u>Administrative expenditure</u>				
Programme support services	81	86	92	93
Administrative services	<u>68</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>87</u>
Total, Administrative expenditure	<u>149</u>	<u>161</u>	<u>178</u>	<u>180</u>
Write-offs and other charges	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>13</u>
Total, expenditure	<u>729</u>	<u>755</u>	<u>932</u>	<u>997</u>

299. The financial results for 1993 are detailed in the interim financial report (E/ICEF/1994/AB/L.7). The financial medium-term plan provides the financial projections for 1994-1997 (E/ICEF/1994/3).

/...

Figure I

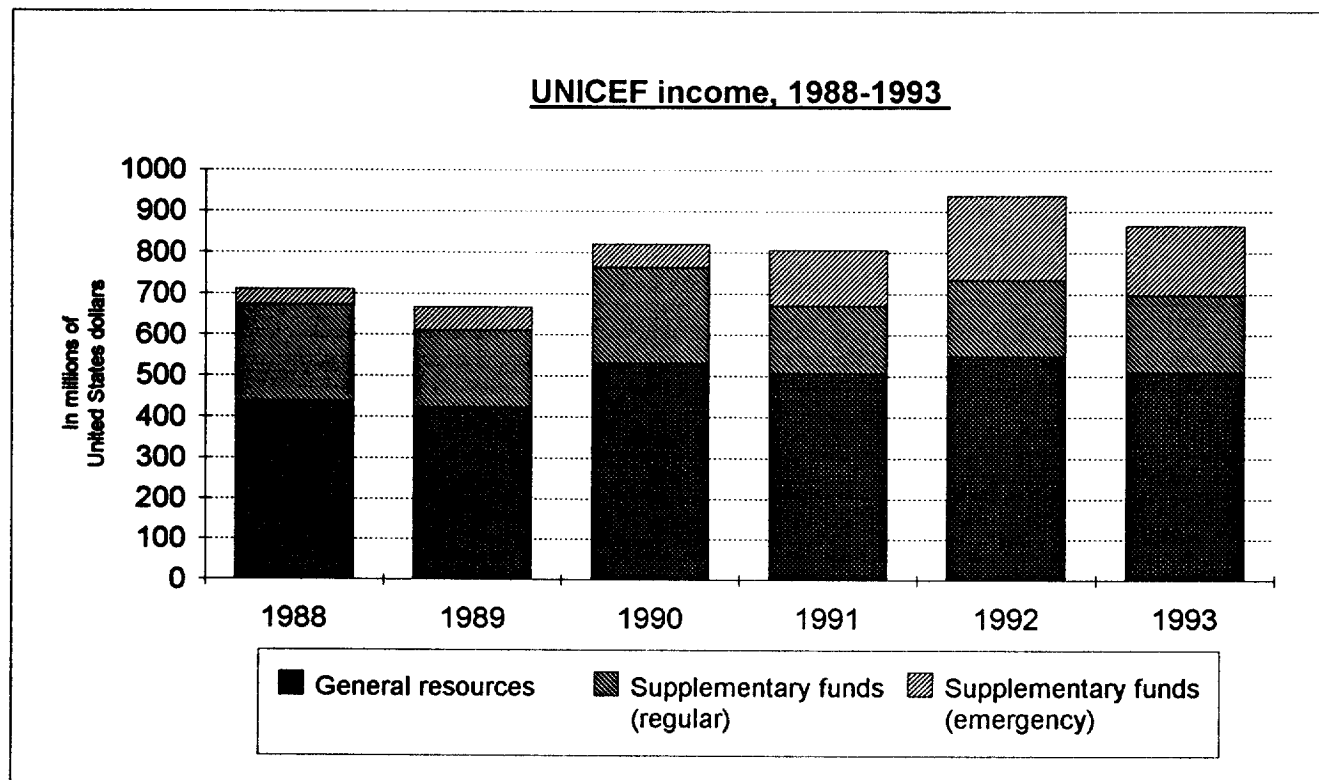


Figure II

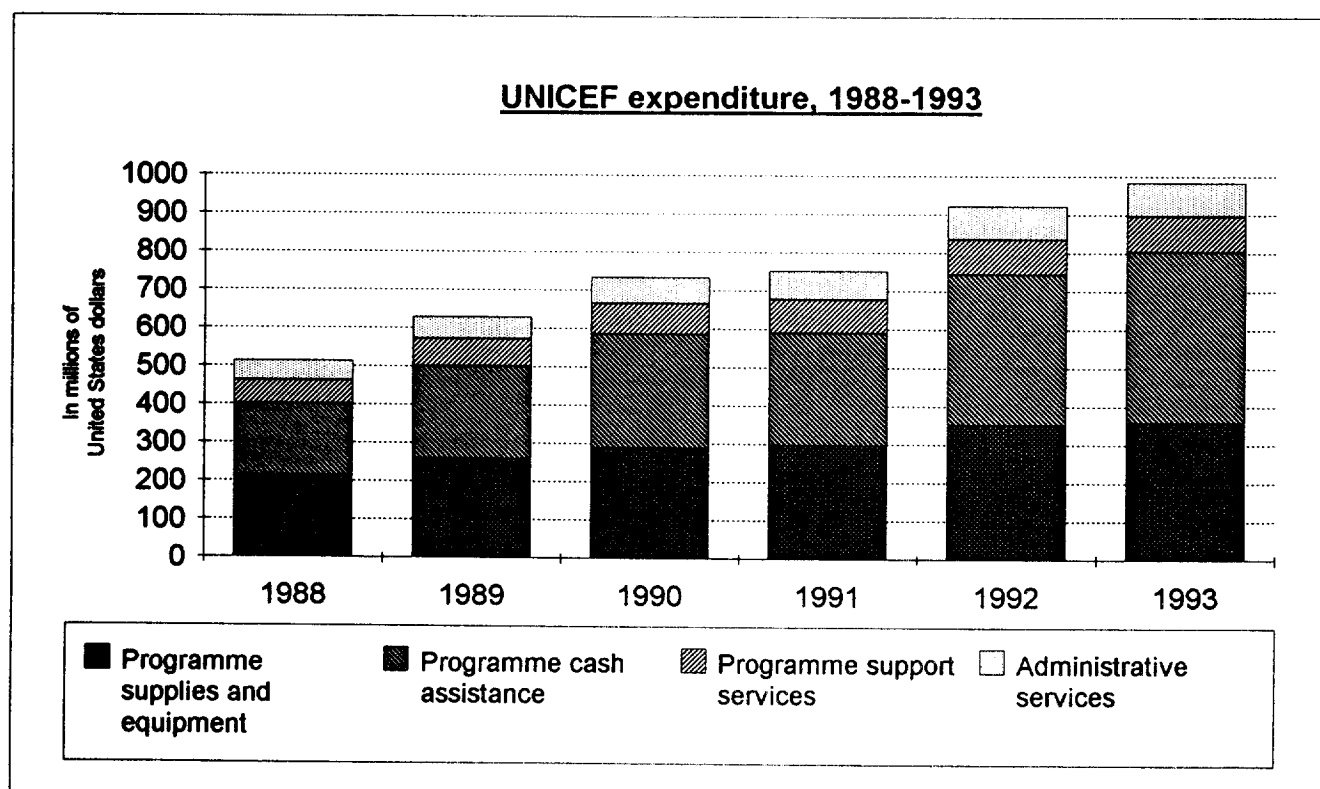


Figure III

UNICEF income by source, 1993

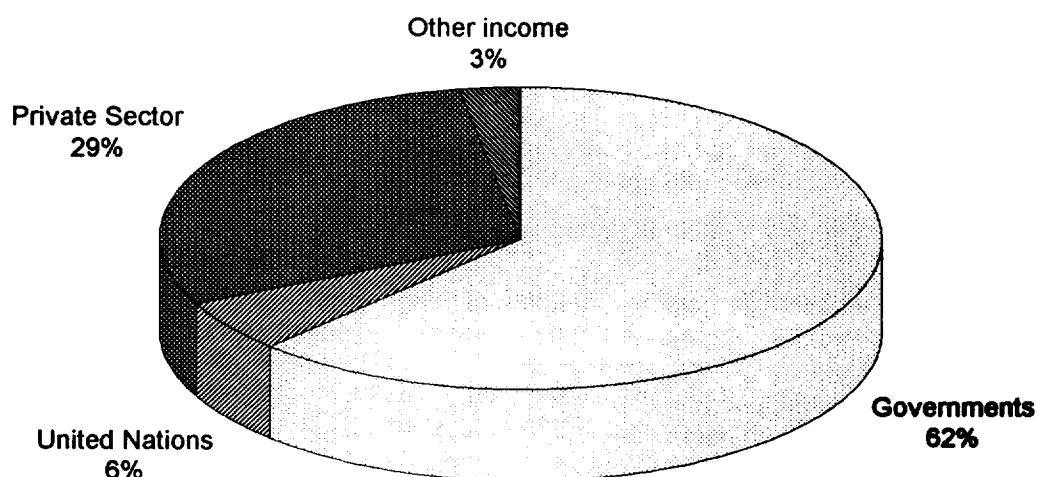
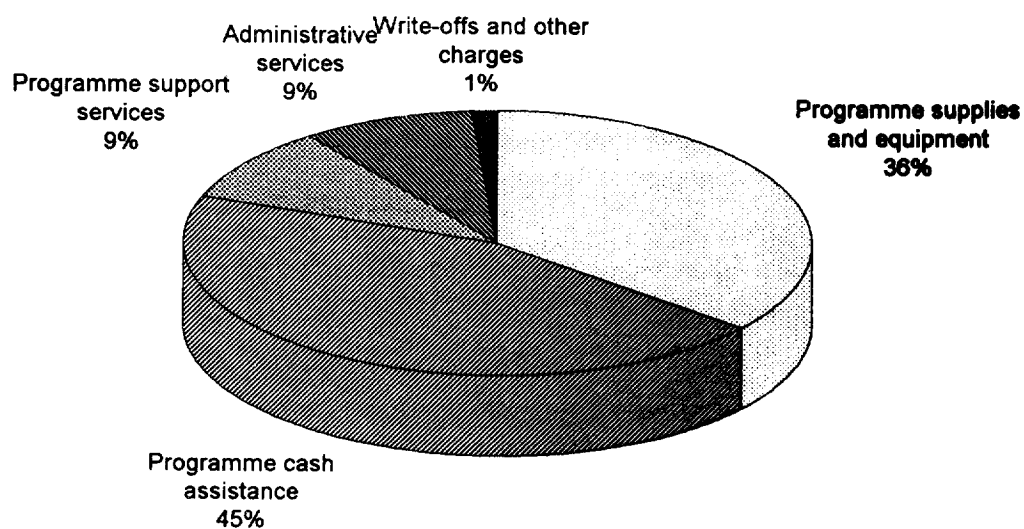


Figure IV

UNICEF expenditures by sector, 1993



C. Financial management

Follow-up to audit recommendations

300. UNICEF continues to place a high priority on implementing audit recommendations. In compliance with General Assembly resolution 47/211 of 23 December 1992, UNICEF reported to the Executive Board in 1993 on the steps it had taken based on the recommendations of the Board of Auditors (E/ICEF/1993/AB/L.3). UNICEF will report to the Executive Board at its second regular session of 1994 on further measures taken during 1993 to follow up the recommendations of the Board of Auditors (E/ICEF/1994/AB/L.3).

Review of financial accountability in UNICEF

301. In 1993, the working group on financial accountability made several recommendations to the Deputy Executive Director, Operations, on the issue of the delegation of financial authority. The working group recommended that decentralization of responsibilities to field offices continue. On internal accountability, the working group proposed a procedure for the formal delegation of financial authority and financial accountability from the executive level down to the working level. UNICEF began to translate the approved recommendations into the required regulations, rules, instructions and procedures. This work will continue in 1994.

D. Human resource management

Organization and priorities

302. During the latter part of 1993, the Division of Personnel (DOP) reviewed its internal priorities, processes and structures to ensure that the Division's contribution to the achievement of the overall UNICEF goals could be maximized. In addition to its commitment to support UNICEF programme goals, the Division also identified the need to provide additional support to two other priority areas: emergency operations; and strengthening the management of overall UNICEF operations.

303. A full review has begun of the work processes carried out in each of the two main areas of the activities of the Division, human resources administration and human resources planning and development, focusing on the need to streamline the work of the Division and optimize the efficiency and quality of its output. In 1993, there was further refinement of the computerized information systems of the Division, resulting in improvements in the quality and accessibility of data.

Job classification and compensation issues

304. Based on the positive experience gained during 1992, an additional series of generic job descriptions was issued during 1993, covering supply and emergency posts. A shortened version of the job description forms for emergency posts was also produced to assist rapid deployment of staff to those posts. Significant progress was made on the standardization of post titles to reduce

/...

the number from some 1,000 titles at present to about 300. A comprehensive salary survey for locally recruited staff in Ghana was carried out successfully to remunerate the staff according to the International Civil Service Commission salary survey guidelines.

Recruitment and placement

305. A total of 646 recruitment actions for long- and short-term appointments, including those of Junior Professional Officers (JPOs), were completed in 1993, including appointments for emergency situations. Continuing efforts were made to increase the representation of women in the organization, emphasizing the recruitment and retention of women candidates of the highest possible quality. Some 60 per cent of external recruitment actions (excluding for emergencies) resulted in the appointment of women, whose overall total representation is now 38.1 per cent (36.7 per cent among international Professionals and 44.1 per cent in the National Officer category).

306. As a result of budgetary decisions taken in 1992 and the reorganization of some divisions, some 75 Professional posts worldwide and 46 headquarters General Service posts were abolished during 1993. This created special problems for the system because of the need to place those staff members occupying abolished posts. By the end of the year, all but four of those staff members with permanent contracts had either already been placed successfully or were in the process of being redeployed. The demand for the deployment of well-qualified staff for service in complex emergencies, which increased substantially during the year, was met successfully through redeployment of internal staff members, the appointment of short-term staff and special contractual arrangements with other organizations.

307. Expediting the recruitment and placement process is a major priority for the Division. A review of the entire process is under way, with full participation from regional directors and representatives, members of the Appointment and Placement Committees and staff representatives.

Safety and staff security

308. The increasing involvement of UNICEF during 1993 in critical emergencies focused attention on the needs of staff serving in these situations. The appointment of a full-time Security Coordinator within DOP has improved the overall management of issues relating to staff serving in hazardous situations. Coordination with the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator and with other United Nations organizations involved in emergency operations has been expanded and strengthened, and a number of joint initiatives are under way, including development of training in post-traumatic and critical incident stress management. The conditions of service of staff in emergency situations are under continuous review, and a number of steps have already been taken to modify existing procedures in order to minimize the hardship experienced by staff.

Training and staff development

309. A fully participatory training planning system was put in place during 1993, allowing consultation with staff at all levels. Coordination of the

/...

identified training needs by the Training and Staff Development Section at headquarters helps to ensure that training activities throughout UNICEF are fully aligned with organizational priorities.

310. In addition to supporting a wide range of workshops and other training activities, the Section expanded its efforts in the training of trainers at regional and country levels with a view to creating permanent decentralized capacity for staff training.

311. Particular efforts were made in the area of staff training in cost analysis to enable staff to examine the financing implications of national programmes of action. In pursuit of the target set by the 1990 Executive Board, training in gender analysis had reached some 50 per cent of staff by the end of 1993. Other important initiatives during 1993 were the organization of two orientation sessions for recently appointed JPOs and the introduction of team training approaches for emergency preparedness. UNICEF continues to participate extensively in United Nations system-wide approaches to training and development, especially through the activities of the ILO International Training Centre at Turin, Italy.

Staff relations

312. The consultative process between DOP and staff representatives, whether from the global or New York staff associations, was further strengthened during the year. The staff associations participated in the revision of the Performance Appraisal System completed during 1993 and in the formulation of the organization's policy on sexual harassment. Staff representatives will also be involved in the development of training and orientation on issues related to women in the workplace, already identified as a priority.

313. In line with the increasing emphasis of UNICEF on participatory management, the Division conducted a series of divisional meetings with all its staff to identify problems relating to working conditions and relationships and to begin to find solutions to them. The Division also assisted other headquarters divisions in analysing the results of their own divisional meetings and produced a synthesis of the major concerns expressed by staff throughout headquarters. Similar exercises are being conducted at field level.

E. Supply operations

314. In 1993, supply operations accounted for around 45 per cent of the United States dollar value of programme assistance and about 6 per cent of administrative budget expenditure. Of the \$373 million spent by UNICEF on supply purchasing in 1993, the Supply Division purchased \$273 million through its Copenhagen and New York offices. Procurement and supply services to Governments, NGOs and other United Nations organizations accounted for 19 per cent (\$70 million) of the total Supply Division workload.

315. Shipments from the Copenhagen warehouse reached an unprecedented \$112 million, of which 10 per cent were for immediate response disaster relief and a further 16 per cent for complex emergencies.

/...

316. In support of the mid-decade goals, the Supply Division has been concentrating a number of activities in the areas of immunization, development of vitamin A sources, research on equipment for the iodization of salt, development of a new basic education kit to be stocked in the warehouse and development of test kits for salt iodinated with potassium iodate, which will also become a warehouse stock item.

317. To support the warehouse and procurement activity, the second phase of the warehouse computer system has been developed and implemented. Modules in this second phase include picking, packing, receiving, quality control and shipping reports. Further developments in the procurement systems have included a supplier selection system that incorporates bidding processes with a sophisticated database for recording a supplier profile, including performance on UNICEF orders and global UNICEF activity with each supplier. The Supply Division is also working closely with the Office of Information Resources Management to develop the supply module for the new field programme manager software.

318. Two product development projects were completed in 1993 with the first shipments of a timer for assisting in the detection of ARI and the auto-destruct, safe-injection syringe. These projects were completed in cooperation with USAID, the Programme of Appropriate Technologies in Health and WHO.

319. The Supply Division focused strongly in 1993 on expanding service to the field, including the introduction of "direct ordering", a mechanism through which a field office may place a purchase order directly with a company under a contract pre-negotiated by the Supply Division. This has the advantages of reducing administrative time, increasing the ability of UNICEF to obtain better prices and providing faster delivery to the field.

320. To achieve better administrative and cost control, the Division has been consolidated further through the redeployment of a number of posts from New York to Copenhagen. Vaccine and pharmaceutical production equipment, audio-visual items and certain health and nutrition items are now purchased from Copenhagen, where two new sections, Supply Field Services and an EPI purchasing group, have been created.

F. Administrative management services

321. The Office of Administrative Management provides functional guidance to UNICEF offices worldwide in support of administrative, travel and legal services. In 1993, a number of cost-effective and cost-savings initiatives were introduced by better utilization of human and financial resources.

322. The Office initiated the development of the new standard Basic Cooperation Agreement to be concluded with most Governments with which UNICEF cooperates, in order to have more equal and improved legal conditions in as many countries as possible. During 1993, the negotiation process gained substantial momentum.

/...

323. With regard to UNICEF New York headquarters office accommodation, the Executive Board, at a special session held on 6 and 7 October 1993, approved a recommendation by the Executive Director to accept the comprehensive joint offer from the United Nations Development Corporation (UNDC) on behalf of the City of New York (E/ICEF/1993/17, decision 1993/26). The agreement provides that UNICEF will negotiate a lease-purchase agreement and eventually own UNICEF House, its current headquarters located at 3 United Nations Plaza, under dramatically improved terms. UNICEF will also acquire a condominium interest in a nearby building to accommodate its long-term lease-purchase agreement providing for lease payments well below current market levels. Under the terms offered by the New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC)/UNDC, UNICEF will eventually own both properties unconditionally. Compared to the cost of UNICEF retaining all existing leases and renting new expansion space as needed, the savings offered by the current proposal amount to an estimated \$170 million over a 32-year period, resulting in an average of about \$5.3 million per year. In cooperation with the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, UNICEF is currently negotiating the finalization of the agreements covering UNICEF House and the expansion space with NYCEDC/UNDC, which are expected to be concluded in the near future.

324. The Office continues to explore and support the concept of sharing common premises with other United Nations organizations in line with the commitment made by the Executive Director and in administering the Capital Assets Fund. The Director of the Office participated in the JCGP subgroup on common premises and chaired various related inter-agency meetings. Technical, management and legal support was provided to UNICEF field offices involved in the construction of common premises, as well as in respect of relocation, purchase, sale and leasing of offices and staff housing.

325. Security needs in the field have increased dramatically in recent years, and this trend is expected to continue. The situation in many field offices continues to deteriorate, with hijacking of vehicles and looting of houses and property. The Office provided support and guidance to field offices in arranging for enhanced protective security measures and installation of security equipment, as well as ensuring that staff were compensated for loss of personal effects. The Office continues to liaise with the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator, the UNDP Field Security Section and the DOP Security Officer on improving security measures.

326. The Headquarters Services Section provides administrative and management services to New York headquarters in relation to office space planning and renovation, building maintenance operations, administration, procurement, maintenance and inventory control of headquarters equipment, supplies, mail and pouch, documents and reproduction services, reception and conferences and security management.

327. The Travel and Transportation Services Section coordinates, prepares and processes a wide variety of travel arrangements. In 1993, the unit processed over 6,000 travel authorizations and claims with a value of over \$10 million. More than 2,500 visa and United Nations laissez-passer requests were processed. Also in 1993, American Express Travel Related Services became the UNICEF travel contractor. It is the largest travel agency in the world and therefore is in a

/...

much stronger position to service UNICEF globally. The contract was negotiated in conjunction with the United Nations and UNDP.

G. Information resources management

328. Progress has been made in designing a new, "next generation" computer support system for field offices, and prototypes will be sent out to field offices for testing in 1994. A new standard computer database for support of monitoring programme goals is being developed for release to all offices in 1994.

329. Plans for the replacement of the central headquarters computers, and their applications, have progressed. The first conversion of applications has begun and orders for new computers will be placed early in 1994.

330. Global software licences were arranged for the most commonly used software packages, within the context of a new software management policy. Text-base projects have begun to put many standard UNICEF documents into electronic form for easier searching and reuse. UNICEF has established its own full service Internet facility and will shortly make public and other relevant information available on this ubiquitous world-wide electronic network.

331. Telecommunications carrier contracts at New York headquarters have been renegotiated and improved terms obtained. UNICEF is continuing to work with the United Nations and other organizations in planning a global United Nations telecommunications network.

H. Internal audit

332. The Office of Internal Audit reviews compliance with rules and regulations and the efficiency, economy and effectiveness of UNICEF operations. Each year on a selective basis, a cross-section of operational and programme activities in UNICEF offices is reviewed.

333. Although the focus of audit interventions continues to be in the field, internal auditors are increasingly interacting at various New York headquarters levels. The outcome of audit findings are reviewed on a selective basis by the Internal Audit Committee, whose function was redirected in 1991 to perform the role expected of such a committee. The Committee has decided to hold six meetings per year.

334. Since 1991, the auditors have successfully assumed a secondary advisory role so that their experience and knowledge are drawn upon more frequently in committees and task forces assigned to systems development and other management review tasks. The auditors have managed to make substantive contributions without compromising their independence.

335. The Office of Internal Audit and the Internal Audit Committee have taken a number of steps to ensure that auditees implement all audit recommendations promptly and fully. An executive directive was issued to this effect in 1991.

/...

Since 1991-1992, the Office of Internal Audit has developed a constructive partnership with some regional offices and participated in representatives' meetings.

336. Regular interaction between the auditors and New York headquarters divisions has also been established and has helped to clarify the role of internal audit to staff performing other functions and created awareness among the auditors about the expectations and concerns of the other groups. More focus on programme/thematic review and corporate priorities will be continued in 1994. A programme officer from New York headquarters has been appointed in the Office of Internal Audit to assist in this process.
