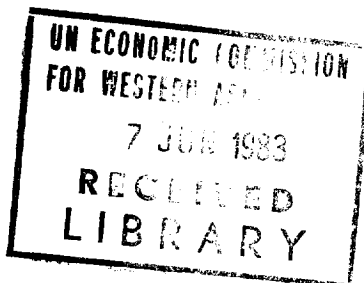




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FOLLOW-UP ACTION AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL ON UNITED NATIONS
WORLD CONFERENCES AND ECWA REGIONAL MEETINGS

Conference on International Migration in the Arab World

(Nicosia, 11-16 May 1981)

Note by the Executive Secretary

1. In accordance with the provisions of the Commission's work programme, the secretariat convened a Conference on International Migration in the Arab World, in Nicosia, Cyprus, from 11 through 16 May 1981. The Conference was attended by 26 country representatives from the ECWA region and about 50 experts representing various regional and international organizations as well as academic circles and specialists from several parts of the world.
2. Thirty-six papers were presented, including the secretariat's papers on : "The Socio-economic Characteristics of International Migrants in the Gulf Countries", "National Surveys of International Migration", and "The Use of Current Administration Statistics for Estimating International Migration Flows". All papers were presented in English and Arabic.
3. Discussions centered on the following subject areas related to international migration in the Arab world: International trends and issues; Arab migration trends and patterns; measurement of international migration; forced migration; socio-economic and demographic consequences of intraregional migration; the determinants of international migration; the Arab brain drain; international migration and demographic factors; legal aspects of international migration, remittances, compensation and regional solidarity; migration policies in the Arab world.
4. Important conclusions were reached during a round-table discussion in the final session of the Conference and relate to the actions required by the national governments of countries in the Region, regional and international organizations to overcome the various and increasing difficulties stemming from increased intra and interregional migrations for employment purposes. In its follow-up activities, the secretariat will take account of the various recommendations. In this connexion, for streamlining of its activities in this area and for co-ordination purposes, the secretariat participates in the United Nations interagency mechanisms in this field.
5. The documents and papers submitted to the Conference will be published in English and Arabic during the First quarter of 1982.