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INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
STRATEGY FOR THE FOURTH
UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT
DECADE

Preparation of a new international development strategy

Report of the Secretary-General

CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
I. INTRODUCTION	1 - 3	3
II. THE PURPOSE OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY	4 - 9	3
III. THE NEW WORLD ECONOMIC SITUATION	10 - 22	5
IV. COVERAGE AND DESIGN	23 - 29	7
V. TARGETS AND INDICATORS: THE NEED FOR FLEXIBILITY	30 - 36	9
VI. TIMETABLE	37 - 38	10
VII. CONCLUSIONS	39 - 42	10

* A/43/50.

CONTENTS (continued)

	<u>Page</u>
<u>Annexes</u>	
I. Units and agencies of the United Nations system that have responded to the inquiry about a new development strategy	11
II. Decision 1988/1. Preparation and elaboration of an international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade .	13
III. Adjustment: the 1990s as a transition period	15
IV. Some indicators of social development in the 1980s	17

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In the course of its forty-third session the General Assembly will consider whether the decade of the 1990s should be declared a fourth United Nations development decade and whether an international development strategy should be prepared for that decade. By resolution 42/193 of 11 December 1987, it requested information relevant to these matters, as well as to the assessment of the International Development Strategy for the decade of the 1980s.
2. The present report was prepared by the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs after consultations with senior officials of the United Nations system. The various units and agencies of the system were also asked for written observations on the subject. The documents received in response are too long and numerous to be appended in full, and it is impossible to reflect in a short report the rich variety of the observations contained therein. The present report seeks, however, to reflect the views expressed and cites the source when agencies are quoted verbatim. Annex I contains a list of the entities that responded in writing.
3. At the meeting of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC), held on 20 and 21 April 1988, heads and deputy heads of organs and organizations of the United Nations system discussed the subject of a new international development strategy. It was agreed that the conclusions emerging from that discussion - which suggest broad support for a new strategy - should be reflected in the present report, the text of the decision adopted by ACC is contained in annex II. Annexes III and IV contain some observations on developments in the 1980s and the prospects for the 1990s, to which reference is made in the text.

II. THE PURPOSE OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

4. The usefulness of a new international development strategy is generally seen to depend on whether an appropriate form, significantly different from the last one and meaningful in the context of the present situation in the world economy, can be found. The Strategy for the present decade was quickly outdated by the unanticipated worsening of the international economic situation, which made many of its targets irrelevant. It is also questionable whether its adoption by consensus expressed a meaningful and realistic commitment of Governments to pursue the stated objectives.

5. The current international climate is not very favourable to another negotiation of this kind: there is a sense of deep uncertainty about the future of the world economy and the limits to multilateral co-operation are seen as being narrow. Thus, the difficulty of the undertaking should not be minimized, and some agencies underline that the credibility of the United Nations system in the economic and social fields can be partially restored, or further impaired, by a third international development strategy exercise; it is a risky enterprise which demands the most serious attention.

6. On the other hand, it is generally recognized that there is a genuine need for a more long-term view in national and international undertakings. In the present troubled circumstances of the world economy, short-term adjustment problems overshadow longer-term perspectives, which are none the less essential. The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean offered the following comment:

"In spite of the doubts which may be entertained with regard to the scope and contents of a new strategy, a number of factors argue in its favour. First of all, the adoption of economic policies by a particular group of countries now has a greater impact than ever before. ... Secondly, the formulation of a new strategy could provide an excellent opportunity for rethinking the role which the multilateral system should play in the 1990s. Thirdly, preparing such a strategy would provide a good opportunity for restoring the long-term time horizon, which is an essential requirement for tackling the task of development."

7. Governments have to take long-term views. Their investments in infrastructure are not for tomorrow but for a generation, and they have to prepare for growing populations, new technologies, and new hazards to human survival. As the economies of the world are more interdependent than ever, Governments have good reason to take a joint look at the future. Economic slowdown has not prevented spectacular progress in telecommunications in the recent decade, and the progress of science and technology is as immutable as that of population. A common look at the implications of these and other trends is called for. And a strategy would also provide a common framework for international organizations and help to ensure that their activities are consistent and mutually supportive.

8. The preparation and negotiation of a strategy for the 1990s could thus be useful as an occasion for Governments to take stock of long-term prospects of vital importance, and to commit themselves to objectives and priorities in international economic co-operation. In the view of the United Nations Office at Vienna,

"The preparatory process ... should be used to strengthen, within a coherent multi-sectoral framework, the international consensus that has already emerged in various forums, whether sectoral, specialized, or concentrating on single issues."

9. A separate review and assessment of the International Development Strategy for the present decade is not considered necessary. Such an assessment should be subsumed under the discussions about a new one. A searching mid-term review, 1/ has already given full attention to the changes in the international environment which rendered the targets of the present Strategy irrelevant. The mid-term review also emphasized the extent to which the basic conceptions of international co-operation expressed in the Strategy remained valid. It is unlikely that a new assessment could add much to the conclusions of the mid-term review; it might be disruptive rather than constructive. On the other hand, it will be essential to assess the world economic and social situation in the late 1980s and the prevailing trends.

III. THE NEW WORLD ECONOMIC SITUATION

10. There are many reasons for the general agreement that a new strategy will have to be different from the earlier ones. The debt crisis and the reversal of resource flows to developing countries has created a situation in which adjustment is for many countries a more immediate preoccupation than development. The relative role of the State and the private sector is under reconsideration in many parts of the world, with significant consequences for the nature of international co-operation in economic and social affairs. The globalization of markets has weakened the grip of Governments on national economies. The relevance of quantitative targets is widely questioned as instability has become so pronounced in the world economy that no single scenario for the future is credible. The diversity of experience in the 1980s has made generalizations about developing or developed countries difficult to sustain. There is also a greater recognition of the limits to the understanding of how development is best pursued in individual countries.

11. The two previous Strategy documents essentially focused on measures of developed countries affecting international co-operation efforts to support the development process. It was taken for granted that economic growth in the rest of the world was a lesser problem, that growth in industrial economies would be rapid enough to sustain development in developing countries, and that their transformation of productive and financial structures would not be disruptive for other economies.

12. However, the slowdown in the world economy in the 1980s has shown that the imbalances among industrial market economies constitute a signal threat to developing countries. The debt crisis precipitated by the slowdown in world trade, large unanticipated increases in interest rates, the swing to a net negative transfer of resources, and the decline in imports from developing countries have served to underscore the fundamental interdependence in the world economy.

13. Another important issue with a claim to be considered in a world strategy is raised by the reorientation of international policies in the large centrally-planned economies and the call for a reconsideration of the concept of international economic security.

14. One conclusion to be drawn from this experience is that a strategy document to be negotiated in present circumstances should be of global scope and should deal with the concerns of both developed and developing countries, as already presaged in the Final Act of the seventh session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. ^{2/} None the less, co-operation for international development should remain a major focus.

15. Current trends suggest that the 1990s will be a period of transition in the sense that in the first half of the decade pressures for adjustments may continue to dominate in virtually all groups of countries (annex III contains a brief note on this issue). Such adjustments have far-reaching domestic implications but they also affect the international economic environment. It will be a major challenge

to ensure that these adjustment processes do not unduly impair social conditions and the growth of output.

16. Projections for the world economy beyond the adjustment problems and debt crises that presently hobble the world economy rest on weak foundations. The prospects for the 1990s depend on how and how quickly the debt overhang is reduced, and on the resumption of capital flows to developing countries. Scenarios based on different assumptions about these developments might provide a useful basis for international deliberations. According to the International Monetary Fund,

"It would be worthwhile to trace the consequences of various approaches, such as a further large recourse to the exchange rate mechanism or protectionism, recycling of balance-of-payments surpluses, etc., on national and international developments."

17. Even assuming that financial constraints will not be crippling, the prospects for growth in the world economy may be severely limited by continued slow growth in the developed market economies. Present expectations and projections indicate growth rates of 2.5 to 3 per cent of total output through the 1990s. Concern about these prospects is general. The World Bank notes that

"Current trends indicate that slower growth which has characterized the international economy during the 1980s will prevail well into the 1990s, aggravating the already serious adjustment problems of highly indebted countries and hampering restoration of their growth momentum. The strategy should propose specific policy actions aimed at reversing this trend."

18. In the view of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE),

"the developed market economies in Western Europe seem to have become accustomed to a relatively low and in the long run unsustainable pace of economic growth. In the Economic Survey of Europe in 1987-1988 this was qualified as the low growth trap. Given the size and level of development of these countries, this tended to pull down the pace of economic growth not only in the ECE region but also in the world economy as a whole."

19. A rate of growth of the order projected at present might allow for the structural transformation and satisfactory improvement of standards of living in countries where the population has ceased to grow rapidly or even tends to decline, but it would not seem sufficient to reduce the high rates of unemployment in Western Europe. Nor would it drive world trade enough to stimulate adequate growth in developing countries relying on outside demand from the developed market economies. These prospects are examined in the report of the Secretary-General to the Economic and Social Council and to the General Assembly on the Overall socio-economic perspectives of the world economy to the year 2000.

20. In developing countries, populations will continue to grow at rates which, although they are for the most part declining, will remain between 2 and 3 per cent. The total output of these countries will have to grow substantially

faster than that in order for them to raise standards of living for their populations.

21. The stark challenge to international development efforts will thus be to find ways of promoting development in the face of slow growth in that part of the world economy which in the past was the engine of growth.

22. There are opportunities for improving social conditions under economic austerity (see annex IV for a brief note on the subject). But there are also limits to such efforts. As the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) remarked in its observations on the possible nature of a new development strategy, the prospects for slow growth or stagnation in developing countries

"present a major challenge to the world community as it prepares for the 1990s. This is especially so if our objective for the year 2000 is to overcome the worst aspects of mass poverty: widespread malnutrition, hunger, ignorance and the deaths of nearly 40,000 small children daily. ... If these trends continue, per capita income levels in the least developed countries in the year 2000 will still be well below that of 1980 and, for many African countries, even below that of 1970, 30 years earlier."

IV. COVERAGE AND DESIGN

23. The consultations within the United Nations system have revealed wide agreement that a new document should focus on a few selected themes of genuinely strategic importance. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific points out that the experience with the strategy for the present decade "demonstrates the limitations inherent in adopting too comprehensive a strategy, i.e. one that attempts to cover all major aspects of international economic and development policy". In the view of the United Nations Office at Vienna, "the strategy exercise should try to prepare the way for further convergence of views on major issues of common or wide concern to the international community. This implies selectivity and focus." In its response, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization commented that

"The next strategy should be less rhetorical and more practical; more modest in objectives and more ambitious in action:

- instead of covering all, it should focus on a limited number of important problems and priority objectives;

- it should be more realistic and take account of the new circumstances of the international system;

- flexible mechanisms should be provided for different forums for discussion and for negotiation; the private sector, notably transnationals, should participate."

24. However, international co-operation covers a broad range of activities, all of which are recognized as essential by Governments. Strong claims are advanced on strong grounds for the inclusion and endorsement of sectoral concerns, and the balance between selectivity and comprehensiveness is not easily found.

25. A common suggestion, however, is that one of the themes on which there should be special focus should be poverty and human resources development. ILO shares that view:

"The absence of a leading or unifying theme in the last development strategy resulted in a lack of focus ... [A]n increased emphasis should be placed on human resources development, as a way to contain and repel poverty."

26. In the words of the International Fund for Agricultural Development "it would be appropriate for a global attack on poverty to become the major theme of the strategy". Similarly, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) observes that "the fighting of poverty is perhaps the most challenging task for a co-operative international effort in the years ahead". Such an enterprise comprises essential economic elements.

27. In line with such views, one might consider a main part of the document focusing on key social and economic objectives and policies relevant to international co-operation and development policy. Subsequent sections might cover specific sectoral issues.

28. The emphasis in the first part of the strategy would fall on development objectives such as alleviation of poverty, health, employment, food security, the advancement of women, population policy, and environmentally sustainable development. In these areas, consensus on a wide range of issues has been reached in the 1980s. The preparation of a new strategy would offer an opportunity to build on and to strengthen the consensus on social concerns and objectives that has emerged in many agencies of the United Nations system and in important regional agreements, such as the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development adopted by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in its resolution 274 (XLIV) in April 1988 or the Khartoum Declaration adopted by the International Conference on the Human Dimension of African Economic Recovery in resolution ECA 631 (XXIII). Environmental concerns are widely expressed, and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia emphasizes in particular, the emergence of the issue of water, not only as a critical supply problem but also as a source of conflict.

29. The subsequent parts of the strategy could review domestic and international policies in a wide variety of areas, identifying issues and striving for the widest possible measure of agreement but refraining from the pursuit of negotiated targets and solutions where such commitments would not be considered helpful. Those parts should cover the areas of money, finance, and trade; ways and means of overcoming the international debt crisis and of reversing the transfer of resources from developing countries; and the strengthening of the international trading system. In addition, a range of sectoral concerns should be recalled, with special emphasis on the development of international communications and infrastructure facilities.

V. TARGETS AND INDICATORS: THE NEED FOR FLEXIBILITY

30. Targets can be useful instruments of international economic co-operation, but they must be related to the powers that Governments have. The targets for growth in the Strategy for the Second Decade became a needless bone of contention: all Governments wanted growth but encountered overwhelming constraints in pursuing it.

31. On the other hand, the target for official development assistance (ODA) accepted by most Member States, although in no way binding, has played an important role in the political process of many countries.

32. Specific targets have also been found useful in sectoral action programmes that have been agreed in specialized agencies. The setting of standards by ILO is an old form of target-setting, and the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and other agencies have found target-setting to be an effective approach to the spurring of international and domestic efforts towards well-defined goals, such as reducing infant and maternal mortality. It is suggested by WHO that the objective of the next development decade "should be a measurable improvement in the quality of life of all peoples in terms of specific criteria, among which health status, measured by specific indicators, would be one".

33. In view of the great uncertainty surrounding the overall prospects for the 1990s, attempts to identify rigid targets of growth or growth-related aspects of development are widely seen as futile. One agency, GATT, insists that one should "Avoid targeting/planning: no quantitative targets, for example in the areas of economic growth and trade. No complex system of ambitious qualitative targets."

34. A strategy for the 1990s, it is agreed, must be flexible. Besides targets, where these are found appropriate, there might be a new emphasis on agreed indicators to keep track of overall progress, and a monitoring mechanism to draw attention to disturbing developments. Agencies in the United Nations system already produce a vast variety of indicators and early warning signals that could be used for this purpose, and some kind of monitoring is already part of their mandates.

35. Indicators relevant in this context might be of different kinds, as follows:

(a) Of social and economic progress - per capita income, health, nutrition, employment, population;

(b) Of impending problems, such as mounting economic imbalances and environmental degradation;

(c) Of policy performance - ODA targets, government spending on various sectoral objectives.

36. Indicators should refer to relevant aggregates of countries and be limited in number. Since such indicators are agreed in advance, they should facilitate the identification of areas calling for joint consideration.

VI. TIMETABLE

37. If a new strategy document is to be adopted towards the end of 1990, an extensive process of preparations will have to be undertaken, starting as soon as possible. It should include consultations with Governments and planners, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector.

38. A great number of studies would be called for as background to the discussions about a new strategy, but if the objective of a concise and selective document is to be met, the temptation to be all-inclusive must be firmly resisted.

VII. CONCLUSIONS

39. In spite of some hesitation, a new international development strategy is seen as an opportunity to study jointly the prospects ahead and their implications, to strengthen commitments for international economic co-operation in general and international development in particular, and to examine major issues in the international economic system.

40. The experience of the last Strategy should be considered in the search for an approach that would be appropriate in the new setting of the world economy.

41. In order to be meaningful and capable of rallying international support, a new strategy would have to focus on a limited set of essential and realistic objectives and the policies called for to meet them. It should build on sectoral targets and plans already agreed on rather than reopen such issues.

42. Indicators of strategic developments in the world economy should be monitored to trigger attention and action when there are significant deviations from the predicted track.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fortieth Session, Supplement No. 48 (A/40/48), annex.

2/ TD/350 and Corr.1.

ANNEX I

Units and agencies of the United Nations system that have responded to the inquiry about a new development strategy

A. United Nations

Department of Technical Co-operation for Development
United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations
Centre for Science and Technology for Development
United Nations Office at Vienna
United Nations Children's Fund
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
United Nations Environment Programme
United Nations Population Fund
Economic Commission for Africa
Economic Commission for Europe
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
United Nations Centre for Human Settlements
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
World Food Council
World Food Programme

B. Specialized agencies and related organizations

International Labour Organisation

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

World Health Organization

World Bank

International Monetary Fund

World Meteorological Organization

International Maritime Organization

International Fund for Agricultural Development

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

International Atomic Energy Agency

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

ANNEX II

Decision 1988/1: Preparation and elaboration of an international development strategy for the fourth United Nations Development Decade

The Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, having considered the steps to be taken in implementation of General Assembly resolution 42/193 concerning the preparation and elaboration of the new international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade,

- (a) Agreed that:
 - (i) The adoption of a new international development strategy is desirable in view of increasing interdependence and the need to take into account the changing circumstances and priorities in the 1990s;
 - (ii) The new strategy should deal with development problems in an integrated manner and not exclusively in economic terms. The emphasis should be on human development and the well-being of people, with economic objectives viewed as a means for achieving the human goals. The process of preparing a new strategy offers an opportunity to build on and to strengthen the social concerns and objectives that have emerged in the various organizations of the United Nations system;
 - (iii) A new strategy should be global in scope and approach and deal with the concerns and problems of both developing and developed countries. The development of developing countries would remain the major focus;
 - (iv) Such a strategy should be formulated in a flexible manner, in order to allow for adjustments in the light of changing conditions. In this context, the organizations of the United Nations system should give greater attention to the development of indicators, particularly in the social and environmental fields, which would be of great benefit in preparing and monitoring the strategy;
 - (v) A new strategy should give due attention to the development of infrastructure, particularly transport and communications;
 - (vi) The preparation of a strategy would call for a number of studies on future prospects. In this connection, the ACC Task Force on Long-term Development Objectives should be requested to review the ongoing work in the various parts of the system on trends and problems relating to the 1990s, to identify any additional studies that are needed, and to suggest ways in which those studies could be prepared through co-operative efforts;

(b) Noted that the above-mentioned points, as well as the issues raised during its discussion, constituted a useful basis for further work and would be taken into account in the preparation of the report to be submitted in response to Assembly resolution 42/193;

(c) Noted the intention of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation to convene a meeting of senior officials to carry out further work in the preparation and elaboration of an international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade, and on some other related issues that would be discussed at its second regular session of 1988.

ANNEX III

Adjustment: the 1990s as a transition period

Since current disequilibria will not be substantially reduced before 1990, the first half of the next decade will, in all probability, continue to be characterized by major adjustments in a large number of developing and industrial countries. The reasons for the required adjustments are not the same everywhere. In many developing countries - particularly in Africa and Latin America - the objective will continue to be to restore economic growth, achieve a lasting improvement in their balance-of-payments position, and to widen the scope for manoeuvre on the domestic front. In major industrial countries, the reduction of trade surpluses and deficits to sustainable levels will remain an important aim. In several centrally-planned economies, the adoption of new economic mechanisms and their implementation will bring substantial adjustments at the domestic level as well as in their trade patterns.

In the case of heavily indebted developing countries, recent studies on future debt profiles indicate that even by 1990 debt-servicing ratios will remain uncomfortably high. There is also a growing recognition that the debt problem is not a matter of short-term liquidity needs, the required adjustments will need a considerable time span and spill over into the first half of the 1990s.

A major aim of the adjustment process is to unwind the debt overhang and to restore the external payments position, but since the international environment has been changing rapidly, it is difficult to know to what environment a country should adjust to, notably with regard to major exchange rates, world interest rates, energy prices, and access to markets.

Medium-term scenarios indicate that in the early 1990s, the current account deficit of the United States of America will still be sizeable. It is desirable that the narrowing of the deficit take place through increased exports rather than a cut in imports. At present, the United States absorbs one sixth of world imports, and more than one third of manufactured exports from developing countries. But as imports exceed exports by about two thirds, exports will have to grow at least 70 per cent faster than imports for the trade deficit to fall. This will require major adjustments in the direction of trade, and a readiness of United States trade partners to accommodate large increases of United States exports.

The large current account deficit of the United States is due not only to the trade deficit, but also to the deficit in the services account arising from interest payments. The dynamics of debt accumulation and persistently large current account deficits can lead to a vicious circle as exemplified by some of the indebted developing countries. Projections of the United States current account deficit indicate that it is unlikely to fall below \$100 billion before 1990. Debt would then still accumulate at a considerable pace. This suggests that the longer it is postponed, the greater the adjustment effort is likely to be. Correspondingly, it will also require deeper adjustment in other countries.

Adjustment efforts in the centrally-planned economies are different in character. In most countries, particularly the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, institutional changes are essential to the restructuring. The emphasis is on the reform of economic structures to accelerate the process of modernization. A common element in these reforms is the emphasis on the foreign sector.

ANNEX IV

Some indicators of social development in the 1980s

Despite the slowdown in the growth of output in the majority of developing countries, critical social indicators such as life expectancy and school and university enrolment for men and women continued to improve in the first half of the 1980s (see tables 1 and 2). These indicators are no perfect measures of social progress, but they encompass a broad measure of change in living conditions.

In the 1970s, institutional changes, new policies and growing per capita incomes improved social conditions in most developing countries. The effect of those changes has been felt also in the 1980s. As tables 1 and 2 show, even in countries or regions in which output has slowed down considerably or stagnated - e.g., in Africa and Latin America (see table 3) - life expectancy continued to rise and the education of both females and males progressed. However, in a prolonged period of economic stagnation and falling per capita incomes, such improvements cannot continue. Already, scattered evidence shows that such social indicators as malnutrition of children have worsened in many countries in the 1980s.

Lower per capita incomes gradually affect the ability of Governments to provide health, education and other services. Policies introduced in the past may continue to have a favourable impact for some time. But even if a Government attaches high priority to maintaining social expenditure levels - which will not necessarily be the case if, e.g., the security situation is very strained - there are limits to the capacity to do so when budgetary resources decline. Financial hardship may provide the impulse for reforms and cost-effective improvements in education and health services that would not otherwise have been undertaken. There is a great potential for such enhancement of public services, and it is essential that it be sought in countries suddenly impoverished by events beyond their control. But there are also limits to what such policies can achieve, and sooner or later, declining per capita income is bound to affect living conditions and social development adversely.

Table 1. Life expectancy in developing countries

Countries a/	Population in 1985 (in millions)	Life expectancy (Number of years)	
		1976-1980	1981-1985
Africa			
Algeria	21.7	56.0	60.0
Angola	8.8	40.0	42.0
Benin	4.0	42.0	44.0
Botswana	1.1	53.5	56.0
Burkina Faso	7.9	43.2	45.2
Burundi	4.7	45.0	46.5
Cameroon	9.9	47.0	49.0
Central African Republic	2.6	42.0	43.0
Chad	5.0	41.0	43.0
Congo	1.9	48.6	50.6
Côte d'Ivoire	10.3	48.0	50.5
Egypt	47.6	55.6	58.1
Ethiopia	42.3	42.0	40.0
Gabon	1.0	47.0	49.0
Ghana	12.8	51.0	52.0
Guinea	6.1	38.2	40.2
Kenya	20.4	53.4	56.0
Lesotho	1.5	50.9	53.4
Liberia	2.2	50.0	52.5
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	3.8	55.8	58.3
Madagascar	10.2	49.5	51.5
Malawi	7.1	43.0	45.0
Mali	8.1	40.0	42.0
Mauritania	1.8	42.0	44.0
Mauritius	1.0	64.9	66.7
Morocco	22.1	55.8	58.3
Mozambique	13.7	43.5	44.5
Namibia	1.6	51.2	53.7
Niger	6.1	40.5	42.5
Nigeria	95.2	46.5	48.5
Rwanda	6.1	45.0	46.5
Senegal	6.4	41.3	43.3
Sierra Leone	3.7	37.0	39.0
Somalia	6.4	42.0	43.0
Sudan	21.8	45.1	47.8
Togo	3.0	48.0	50.5
Tunisia	7.3	60.1	63.1
Uganda	15.5	48.0	49.0
United Republic of Tanzania	22.8	49.0	51.0
Zaire	30.7	48.0	50.0
Zambia	7.0	49.3	51.4
Zimbabwe	8.3	53.8	55.8

Table 1 (continued)

Countries <u>a/</u>	Population	Life expectancy	
	in 1985 (in millions)	(Number of years) 1976-1980	1981-1985

<u>South and East Asia</u>			
Afghanistan	14.5	40.0	40.5
Bangladesh	101.1	46.6	48.6
Bhutan	1.4	43.9	45.9
Burma	37.5	55.0	57.5
Democratic Kampuchea	7.3	31.2	43.4
Hong Kong	5.3	73.6	75.4
India	769.2	52.9	55.4
Indonesia	166.5	50.0	53.5
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	20.4	65.5	67.7
Republic of Korea	40.1	65.5	67.7
Lao People's Democratic Republic	3.6	43.5	46.0
Malaysia	15.6	65.3	68.0
Mongolia	1.9	61.0	62.0
Nepal	16.9	45.8	48.3
Pakistan	103.2	51.5	54.0
Philippines	55.1	59.8	61.9
Singapore	2.6	70.8	71.8
Sri Lanka	16.1	66.8	68.9
Thailand	51.6	61.2	62.7
Viet Nam	60.1	55.8	58.8
China	1 059.5	65.8	67.8

<u>West Asia</u>			
Democratic Yemen	2.1	45.9	48.4
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	47.6	58.6	60.6
Iraq	15.9	61.4	62.4
Israel	4.2	73.1	74.4
Jordan	3.5	61.2	63.7
Kuwait	1.7	69.6	71.6
Lebanon	2.7	65.0	65.0
Oman	1.2	49.4	52.3
Saudi Arabia	11.6	57.9	60.9
Syrian Arab Republic	10.5	60.1	62.6
United Arab Emirates	1.4	66.8	69.2
Yemen	6.9	45.9	48.4

Table 1 (continued)

Countries <u>a/</u>	Population	Life expectancy	
	in 1985 (in millions)	(Number of years) 1976-1980	1981-1985
<u>Mediterranean</u>			
Turkey	50.3	60.3	61.6
Yugoslavia	23.1	70.2	70.8
<u>Latin America and the Caribbean</u>			
Argentina	30.3	68.7	69.7
Bolivia	6.4	48.6	50.7
Brazil	135.6	61.8	63.4
Chile	12.1	67.2	71.0
Colombia	28.7	62.2	63.6
Costa Rica	2.6	70.8	73.5
Cuba	9.9	72.8	73.4
Dominican Republic	6.4	62.1	64.1
Ecuador	9.4	61.4	64.3
El Salvador	4.8	57.4	57.2
Guatemala	8.0	56.4	59.0
Guyana	1.0	66.5	68.2
Haiti	5.9	50.7	52.7
Honduras	4.4	57.7	61.9
Jamaica	2.3	69.9	73.0
Mexico	79.4	65.4	67.4
Nicaragua	3.3	56.3	59.8
Panama	2.2	69.2	71.0
Paraguay	3.7	66.0	66.4
Peru	19.7	56.9	58.6
Puerto Rico	3.5	73.5	74.0
Trinidad and Tobago	1.2	67.5	68.7
Uruguay	3.0	69.6	70.3
Venezuela	17.3	67.7	69.0
TOTAL (DEVELOPING COUNTRIES)	3 679.5 <u>b/</u> (3 654.8) <u>c/</u>	55.8 <u>b/</u> -	57.6 <u>b/</u> -

Source: Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat.

a/ Countries with populations of 1 million or above.

b/ All countries in the developing regions.

c/ Total number of countries with populations of 1 million or above.

Table 2. Enrolment ratios by age-group and sex
(Percentage)

	1975		1980		1985	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
Developing countries	32.7	45.4	37.1	49.1	41.1	52.4
6-11 years	54.4	70.9	60.8	76.3	65.7	79.4
12-17 years	28.2	41.4	33.8	46.6	39.6	52.1
18-23 years	6.4	12.8	8.5	14.6	10.3	17.0
Africa	26.2	38.4	34.1	47.4	40.1	52.7
6-11 years	42.1	55.9	53.2	68.0	60.2	71.6
12-17 years	25.0	40.2	34.1	50.9	41.8	59.6
18-23 years	3.5	9.0	5.3	12.0	7.5	15.5
Asia (excluding China)	32.2	46.8	35.2	48.8	38.6	51.3
6-11 years	55.5	75.4	60.5	78.5	65.1	81.6
12-17 years	26.7	40.6	30.8	44.1	35.6	48.2
18-23 years	5.4	13.2	6.7	14.0	8.5	16.4
Latin America and the Caribbean	52.9	55.7	57.7	59.7	60.6	62.4
6-11 years	76.4	76.9	81.6	82.5	82.8	84.2
12-17 years	55.8	59.9	62.1	64.3	69.6	71.2
18-23 years	16.6	20.8	21.8	24.8	23.4	25.8

Source: 1987 UNESCO Statistical Yearbook.

Table 3. Annual rate of increase in gross domestic product and per capita incomes in developing countries in 1981-1987

(Percentage)

	Gross domestic product	Per capita gross domestic product	Per capita income <u>a/</u>
Developing countries <u>b/</u>	1.7	-0.6	-1.1
Africa	-0.6	-3.5	-4.7
Latin America and the Caribbean	1.2	-1.1	-1.6
Mediterranean	3.0	1.4	1.3
South and East Asia <u>b/</u>	5.0	2.9	2.5
West Asia	-0.9	-4.1	-6.6
Memo item:			
China (net material product)	9.3	8.1	..

Source: Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat.

a/ Per capita gross domestic product adjusted by changes in terms of trade and net factor payments.

b/ China not included.
