



General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

UN LIBRARY

A/38/460
14 October 1983

OCT 17 1983

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

DPS/CA COLLECTION

Thirty-eighth session
Agenda item 84

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR: PARTICIPATION, DEVELOPMENT, PEACE

Report of the Secretary-General

CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
I. INTRODUCTION	1 - 2	3
II. ACTION TAKEN BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS THIRTY-SEVENTH SESSION	3 - 8	3
III. MAJOR TRENDS AND ACTIVITIES OF MEMBER STATES WITH REGARD TO PREPARATIONS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR	9 - 23	4
IV. MAJOR TRENDS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM WITH REGARD TO PREPARATIONS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR	24 - 62	6
A. United Nations	25 - 52	6
B. Specialized agencies	53 - 62	12
V. MAJOR TRENDS AND ACTIVITIES OF NON-UNITED NATIONS INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN PREPARATION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR	63 - 69	14
VI. MAJOR TRENDS AND ACTIVITIES OF RESEARCH CENTRES, ASSOCIATIONS AND INSTITUTES IN THE PREPARATION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR	70 - 73	15

CONTENTS (continued)

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
VII. MAJOR TRENDS AND ACTIVITIES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE PREPARATION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR	74 - 79	16
VIII. REGIONAL MEETINGS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR	80 - 83	17
IX. SUGGESTED ACTIONS	84 - 93	18

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its thirty-seventh session, the General Assembly, in resolution 37/48 of 3 December 1982, inter alia, endorsed the recommendations made by the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year for the further implementation of the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities to be undertaken prior to and during the Year, and requested the Secretary-General to transmit these recommendations, among others, to the specialized agencies, with a view to their early implementation, and to continue to take the necessary measures to ensure the proper co-ordination of the implementation of and follow-up to the Specific Programme, including the provision of information, and to report to its thirty-eighth session on the implementation of the resolution.
2. The present progress report is submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 37/48. It is based on data available and information received from Member States, specialized agencies and international non-governmental organizations and research institutes.

II. ACTION TAKEN BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS THIRTY-SEVENTH SESSION

3. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 36/28 of 13 November 1981, the Secretary-General submitted his report (A/37/237) to the Assembly at its thirty-seventh session. In its resolution 37/48, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to convene the third session of the Advisory Committee during the first half of 1984, to provide it with all necessary assistance and to submit to it a progress report on the implementation of the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities and of the recommendations made by the Advisory Committee at its second session.
4. In compliance with paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 37/48, the Secretary-General transmitted in his report the recommendations of the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year on its second session (A/37/348 and Add.1 and 2) to all Member States, United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and regional commissions, as well as to concerned international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations with a view to their early implementation.
5. In the same resolution, the General Assembly invited all States that had not already done so to establish national co-ordinating committees or other forms of co-ordination for the International Youth Year and requested the Secretary-General to take all necessary organizational measures to ensure the success of the regional meetings devoted to the Year. The Assembly also appealed to all States, to intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and to the public to make voluntary contributions to supplement funds provided under the regular budget of the United Nations for the costs of the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities.
6. At its thirty-seventh session, the General Assembly adopted other resolutions of relevance to the preparations for the International Youth Year. In its

resolution 37/50 of 3 December 1982 entitled "Channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations", the Assembly requested the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year to continue to promote, during the preparation for and observance of the Year, the implementation of the guidelines for improving channels of communication as adopted in Assembly resolution 32/135 of 16 December 1977, and the additional guidelines adopted in resolution 36/17 of 9 November 1981. The Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to give full co-operation and support to inter-agency co-operation and co-ordination in promotional and information activities within the context of the Year.

7. Another resolution adopted by the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session was resolution 37/49 entitled "Efforts and measures for securing the implementation and the enjoyment by youth of human rights, particularly the right to education and to work", in which the Assembly, expressing its serious interest in the success of the International Youth Year, called upon all States, all governmental and non-governmental organizations and the interested bodies of the United Nations and specialized agencies to pay continuous attention to the implementation of Assembly resolution 36/29 of 13 November 1981 relating to efforts and measures for securing the implementation and the enjoyment by youth of human rights, particularly the right to education and to work, and of all relevant international human rights instruments. The Assembly also requested the Advisory Committee to give full attention to resolution 36/29 and to all relevant international human rights instruments during the preparation for and observance of the International Youth Year, in particular in elaborating its recommendations concerning the Year.

8. A third resolution adopted in the General Assembly during its thirty-seventh session which has implications for the International Youth Year, was resolution A/37/16 of 16 November 1982, in which 1986 was unanimously designated to be the "International Year of Peace". As peace is a theme intrinsic to the observance of the International Youth Year and a condition which is basic to the interests of young people, efforts made in this direction during the preparations of the Year will make a substantial input to the International Year of Peace. Thus, within the framework of the International Youth Year, it is essential to recognize that peace and the interests of youth are indivisible; that youth has the capacity to promote peace, both individually and in groups and that young people have an active role to play in the promotion of peace.

III. MAJOR TRENDS AND ACTIVITIES OF MEMBER STATES WITH REGARD TO PREPARATIONS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR

9. Below is a summary of current trends and activities in the implementation of the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities by Member States, based on replies received to the report of the Secretary-General (see para. 4), statements made by representatives of Governments during discussions and at meetings, and correspondence with national committees.

10. There is an increasing awareness that youth policies and strategies should be aimed at the full and active participation of youth in the development process.

/...

Many Governments 1/ have begun the implementation of the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities for the International Youth Year at the national and local levels.

11. Several Member States 2/ have taken concrete steps to assess and evaluate the situation, needs and aspirations of youth in their countries with a view to developing and strengthening policies and programmes on youth within the context of overall development planning.

12. Many Governments 3/ are reviewing existing services to young people and attempting to formulate comprehensive national youth policies. Furthermore, several Governments 4/ have begun preparing agendas for national action for the International Youth Year, with a view to formulating action programmes for implementation during the Year.

13. Attention is currently being paid by most Governments 5/ to specific problems concerning young people such as unemployment, education and training, health, housing and environment, peace, leisure activities, etc. In this connection, particular attention is given to improving learning opportunities and the availability of gainful employment for young people through reinforcement of resources with effective managerial skills and training programmes.

14. A major development is the awareness by several Governments that youth should be seen as a category encompassing different age classifications with different needs and requirements. Consequently, a number of Governments 6/ are giving special attention to the specific needs of various sectors and groups such as young women, rural and urban youth and disadvantaged youth.

15. Several Governments 7/ have stressed the protection and promotion of the human rights of youth and have enacted legislation to ensure such rights.

16. Many Member States 8/ have organized national youth meetings to focus on the implementation of the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities for the International Youth Year.

17. With a view to encouraging the role of young people in national development, some Governments 9/ have proclaimed special events as awareness-raising measures, such as a "Youth Day" and a "Youth Week".

18. Several Governments 10/ have launched a national award scheme for young people, with a view to increasing opportunities for further study or other personal development available to them.

19. Numerous Governments have established, or are in the process of establishing, national co-ordinating committees or related mechanisms. The purpose of each committee is to assess the situation of youth within each individual country, to develop a national plan of action for youth in that country and to act as liaison between the United Nations system and youth and youth organizations in that country. The national co-ordinating committees are especially important because of the vital role they play in encouraging the International Youth Year at the

national level. As at 1 July 1983, the following countries have established, or are in the process of establishing, national co-ordinating committees for the Year: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Botswana, China, Cyprus, Ecuador, France, Gambia, Indonesia, Kenya, Kuwait, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

20. Recognizing the importance of the media as a channel of communication with youth, many Governments 11/ have initiated an extensive mass media campaign through radio and television, the press, youth festivals, exhibitions, photo contests, postage stamps and poster competitions to publicize the objectives and strategy of the International Youth Year.

21. Some Governments 12/ have formed special funds to strengthen policy-making and planning capacity in the field of youth.

22. Several Governments 13/ have emphasized the theme of peace as part of their contribution to the International Youth Year activities, through seminars and conferences, mass media, the observance of special occasions, etc.

23. Furthermore, contributions to the International Youth Year Trust Fund have been received from the Governments of the Philippines, Liberia and the Dominican Republic.

IV. MAJOR TRENDS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM WITH REGARD TO PREPARATIONS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR

24. In accordance with their overwhelming support for the objectives, strategy and principles of the International Youth Year, the concerned agencies and bodies of the United Nations system have: (a) closely co-operated with the United Nations Secretariat in expanding information and promotional activities for the Year; (b) established new programmes for the Year and strengthened regular programme activities in the field of youth; (c) strengthened networks to the regional and national levels; and (d) identified focal points for the Year, with a view to strengthening inter-agency co-ordination and co-operation for the International Youth Year.

A. United Nations

25. In accordance with a recommendation of the second session of the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year and endorsed by the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session, a secretariat for the Year has been established within the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs to undertake specific tasks indicated in the Programme of Measures and Activities. 14/ Intergovernmental bodies and Member

States of the United Nations have been provided with information on policy measures and strategies for bringing young people into the mainstream of development. The secretariat for the Year has participated actively in numerous youth meetings within and outside the United Nations system with a view to disseminating information on the strategy, objectives and guidelines of the Year and to promoting interest in and support for the activities of the Year and the implementation of the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities. In addition, technical support to national and international youth organizations has been provided to help them convene meetings on youth. Advisory services to Member States, upon their request, have been provided through an interregional adviser on youth, and specific measures have been taken to strengthen relationships with the regional commissions through an exchange of information and field missions. Moreover, specific measures have been taken, in close co-operation with United Nations agencies and regional commissions, to encourage Governments to establish national co-ordinating committees, and guidelines have been provided on the establishment of such mechanisms. Advisory services continue to be provided by the United Nations, upon request by Member States, for assistance in developing and implementing national youth policies in some countries. 15/

26. A report 16/ entitled "Situation of youth in the 1980s", on the world social situation of youth, was submitted both to the twenty-eighth session of the Commission of Social Development and the first regular session of the Economic and Social Council, providing an overview of problems and trends on youth in the 1980s.

27. The secretariat for the Year, in response to a decision by the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year, prepares every six months an updated list of international and regional meetings dealing with youth, for circulation to Member States and interested United Nations bodies and non-governmental organizations.

28. The Youth Information Bulletin, a United Nations quarterly publication produced in English, French and Spanish, continues to serve as a major channel of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations. A global directory of youth organizations and an annotated list of national and international research and information centres engaged in the field of youth are now being updated. A directory of national co-ordinating committees for the International Youth Year is also under way.

29. The secretariat for the Year continues to co-operate with the Geneva Informal Meeting (GIM) of international non-governmental youth organizations in the preparations for the Year and to provide GIM with technical support.

30. In a further effort to strengthen channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations within the context of the International Youth Year a three-phase project has been initiated: a study on measures to strengthen the channels of communication, an expert group meeting to elaborate further on the measures proposed by the study, and a final technical publication based on the study and expert meeting due for completion in 1983.

31. In the preparations for the Seventh Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, to be held in 1985, the issue of juvenile delinquency has been identified as a major topic for discussion. Five regional preparatory meetings for this Congress are planned for 1983.
32. The second session of the Informal Interagency Working Group at the Technical Level was held at Vienna on 18 and 19 January 1983. Discussions centred, inter alia, on the formulation of guidelines for inter-agency co-operation to be distributed system-wide so that organizations could indicate areas for their participation. Further elaboration of an inter-agency strategy was founded on: (a) the need to encompass activities at the national, regional and international levels; (b) the need to focus on national level action with a view to providing assistance to the national co-ordinating committees for the International Youth Year; (c) inter-agency collaboration with regional commissions, particularly in the preparations of the five regional meetings scheduled for 1983; and (d) joint inter-agency efforts at the international level in the areas of promotion and information, research and studies, technical co-operation and meetings.
33. With regard to the International Youth Year, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) conducted a Technical Group Meeting of Youth Experts on the International Youth Year at Chiangmai, Thailand, from 29 November to 5 December 1982. The Technical Group Meeting produced two documents, one of which is on the draft regional plan of action to implement the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities at the regional level. The second document is on the situation of youth in Asia. These documents served as working documents for the Regional Meeting for the International Youth Year held at Bangkok from 26 to 30 July 1983.
34. At present, through regional advisory services, ESCAP is briefing Governments on the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities. The Youth Development Newsletter has also been instrumental in disseminating information on the Year-related activities of Governments and non-governmental organizations in the region. Moreover, the second ad hoc meeting of agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with youth in the region, held at Bangkok on 23 to 26 November 1982, discussed, inter alia, youth mobilization activities in the ESCAP region.
35. At its ninth session, the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) adopted resolution 112/9 entitled "Regional activities for the International Youth Year", inviting members of ECWA to implement the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities for the Year, urging the Executive Secretary to assist members in preparing and observing the Year, and requesting him, in co-operation with the secretariat of the Year to convene in 1983 a regional meeting on the International Youth Year and to formulate a regional plan of action for youth. In this connection, invitations for the regional meeting held at Baghdad from 9 to 13 October 1983, were sent to ECWA members and to regional and international organizations concerned. Contacts are being made with the League of Arab States and the Arab Council of Ministers for Youth and Sports to undertake activities and programmes to stimulate active youth involvement and participation in development. ECWA assists its Member States in the initiation of activities which will help

policy makers and planners in the region to identify policies and programmes that could be formulated and implemented. It will also continue its efforts to promote public awareness of the objectives of the Year and render advisory services to Member States, upon request. In this connection, a meeting of Arab Ministers concerned with youth and social development was convened in Somalia in January 1983.

36. The activities of the International Youth Year of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) are comprised of studies, surveys, meetings, seminars, workshops and of providing advisory services, on request, to member States and youth organizations. The Commission's regular youth programme has been oriented towards the objectives of the Year. Within this programme, particular attention is being given to programmes for disadvantaged youth.

37. A study on the situation of African youth in the 1980s has been carried out and has also served as the main working document for the Regional Meeting on the International Youth Year, held at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 20 to 24 June 1983.

38. The Economic Commission for Africa has an ongoing programme for out-of-school girls, which consists of action-oriented research and surveys on the situation of such girls. The programme also comprises training courses, workshops and study tours for trainers and programme managers. Advisory services are also rendered on request. Internship and fellowship programmes for young men and young women are being carried out.

39. The Commission is assisting in, and promoting the establishment of, national co-ordinating committees for the International Youth Year. The Commission is also promoting co-ordination of all regional activities relating to the integration and participation of youth in development within the region. It is also participating in the informal inter-agency working group on the Year for inter-agency co-operation and co-ordination of efforts for the Year's activities in the region. The Commission maintains a close working relationship with many non-governmental youth organizations in the region and maintains close co-operation with youth organizations within and outside the region. Furthermore, promotional activities are under way to draw public attention to the aims and objectives of the Year. An issue of Rural Progress, the Commission's quarterly bulletin, will be devoted to issues relating to youth and development.

40. The Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) is completing a study entitled "Youth as a social movement in Latin America". A series of national case studies on the social conditions of youth in the region are also under way. Preliminary studies for Panama and the English-speaking Caribbean have been completed, as well as a document entitled "Profile of the situation of young women in Colombia". An overall review on the situation and perspectives of youth in Latin America has been prepared and a series of seminars will also be organized to discuss the results of these studies. In November 1982 an expert group meeting on the role of youth and changes in the social structure was held. In November 1983, ECLA will host a regional seminar on action-oriented research projects on women and families where the situation of young women will be highlighted. The Latin American Regional Meeting for the International Youth Year will be held in San José, Costa Rica, from 3 to 7 October 1983.

41. Youth-related activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) include substantive support of the planning, design, construction and management of urban and rural settlements covering physical, social, economic and environmental aspects. Moreover, 1987 has been designated by the General Assembly as the "International Year of Shelter for the Homeless" in its resolution 36/71 of 4 December 1981, for which Habitat will highlight the needs, requirements and participation of youth in this regard.

42. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has accorded priority to creation of environmental awareness among youth directed towards preservation and improvement of the environment for the benefit of present and future generations. UNEP, in co-operation with other United Nations bodies and agencies, non-governmental organizations and Member States, has undertaken programmes in environmental education and training and information for youth, both in and out of school systems, at the formal and non-formal levels. A strategy for promoting youth programmes in environmental management is currently under review in UNEP.

43. In the preparation for the International Youth Year, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has sent out broad guidelines to UNICEF's field staff to: (a) involve youth and youth leaders in programmes of social change; (b) enlist co-operation of youth organizations and youth leaders for UNICEF-supported programmes; (c) ensure that existing programmes for girls and young women are complementary and supportive of activities for the Year; and (d) ensure active association of UNICEF representatives in the national co-ordinating committees for the Year. The concept of "Youth in service to children" developed by UNICEF will be actively promoted and expanded in the field of child health and nutrition, school and literacy activities, non-formal education, child-to-child programmes, etc. In addition, UNICEF, among other activities, will be devoting special attention to certain vital areas for promoting youth programmes such as training of youth volunteers, orientation and training of UNICEF staff, development of pilot projects and providing incentives to youth volunteers.

44. The United Nations Volunteers Programme (UNDP/UNV) has been participating in preparations for the International Youth Year. Directives have been issued to United Nations volunteers to provide assistance to local and national Year-related programmes and projects. Provisions are being made to provide technical assistance to the national co-ordinating committees for the Year. In addition, UNV has actively participated in various Year-related meetings at all levels. UNV is also assisting the secretariat in the dissemination of information relating to the Year focused at the national level. In addition, in conformity with UNV's mandate in the field of Domestic Development Service (DDS), UNV has conducted meetings on youth volunteer service, organized courses on youth leadership training and developed a pilot project concerning youth and domestic development services in Africa. A mission took place in April/May 1983 to several African countries, regarding mutual technical assistance among African DDS programmes. A workplan for the pilot project will be developed by September 1983. Moreover, UNV has developed a global project in support of increased youth participation in development activities and linked it to the activities for the Year.

45. In response to a request of the Interagency Working Group at the Technical Level for the International Youth Year, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) sent a letter to all UNDP resident co-ordinators/representatives requesting their assistance in preparing the Year at the national level.
46. The United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) is taking necessary measures to ensure that, within the context of its mandate and in accordance with the principles of the International Youth Year, sufficient support is provided to programme activities aimed at improving the situation of youth, as well as enabling them to participate actively in population-related programmes. UNFPA provides support to family life and population education for youth in and out of school, as well as provision of family planning services for those requiring such assistance. This assistance has been channelled either directly through the national organizations concerned, or through various United Nations agencies.
47. The Division of Narcotic Drugs is placing greater emphasis on the issue of youth and drugs within the context of the International Youth Year. Two special issues of the Narcotics Bulletin are envisaged during 1985, in collaboration with concerned United Nations agencies and bodies. The objective of activities centred on youth and drugs is to reduce problems related to non-medical use of drugs and the negative results of such on public health.
48. Within the relief programme for Palestine refugees of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), youth activities centres have been set up in almost every camp. Ongoing youth activities will be further developed in the context of the International Youth Year. UNRWA is hoping to collaborate with the World Health Organization to develop certain youth programmes. A cultural youth festival is planned for the 10 refugee camps in Jordan in 1985.
49. The United Nations University (UNU) is focusing attention on the International Youth Year through a two-phase project designated to provide a "youth perspective" which would become an integral part of the University's approach. The first phase will be a global study of different socio-cultural and economic conditions to provide the basis for a projection of the problems and potentials of youth and their societies over the next two decades. The second phase - based on wider consultations with youth and youth organizations, and other appropriate institutions and organizations dealing with youth - will culminate in a report to serve as the contribution of UNU to the Year.
50. The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) emphasizes the direct participation of young people in industrialization through its small, rural industries programme in areas where youth unemployment is a primary concern to Governments. UNIDO has three major youth-oriented programmes such as: (a) the internship programme for college students; (b) the internship for junior professionals; and (c) the junior consultancy programmes. The internship for college students, in co-operation with the Institute of European Studies, Vienna, requires interns to complete a term project related to UNIDO activities under the supervision of a UNIDO staff member. The internship programme for junior professionals requires advanced degree candidates to carry out independent research

on a selected topic related to the problems of industrial development of developing countries. The junior consultancy programme is designed mainly to provide research assistance to in-house research activities being carried out by various UNIDO staff members.

51. The United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control (UNFDAC) is funding a number of projects in the drug abuse field that directly benefit youth who are drug addicts or at risk of becoming addicts. Some of these projects can be identified as specifically targeted at youth who are the main abusers of drugs. Others are designed to combat drug abuse throughout the population. UNFDAC activities specifically related to youth are in the area of preventive education. These are: (a) drug education training courses, (b) development of preventive education materials, (c) reproduction of an African film on drug problems, (d) fellowships and (e) study tours to facilitate exchange of information: UNFDAC, in co-operation with the World Health Organization is planning a European regional workshop for prevention and treatment of drug dependence in 1983.

52. The World Food Programme (WFP) has developed several projects which have a major youth component, such as: (a) food assistance and programmes for youth in secondary schools (Burundi, Upper Volta, Yemen Arab Republic), in secondary technical and training schools (Egypt, Liberia); for children and youth in secondary schools and for vulnerable groups (Democratic Yemen, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon); (b) multipurpose and vocational training (Malawi, Turkey, Uganda); and (c) assistance to youth training centres (Sudan).

B. Specialized agencies

53. The sixty-eighth session of the International Labour Conference of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), which took place in June 1982, provided further guidelines for the preparations for International Youth Year during its plenary session on the theme "What jobs for youth?". At its sixty-ninth session (June 1983), the International Labour Conference reviewed employment policies in favour of youth in order to adopt an international instrument in 1984. It is expected that the new instrument will recommend specific measures in favour of young workers. The ILO has also initiated research and surveys on employment trends as they affect youth, and on specific causes and dimensions of youth unemployment. Advisory services and training programmes directed at disadvantaged groups of youth are being provided. Moreover, ILO is expanding its promotional and information activities, particularly with regard to non-traditional forms of employment and of labour-intensive programmes catering to youth.

54. The Universal Postal Union (UPU) has agreed to issue special postage stamps to commemorate the International Youth Year. In addition, postal administrations have been invited to make provision for the special postage stamps in their 1985 programmes.

55. Rural areas and the International Youth Year themes: "Participation and Development" continue to be the focus of activities for the Year planned by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The third theme for

the Year: "Peace" is being targetted through activities leading to a betterment of the condition of young people in rural areas, thereby promoting peace through national independence and socio-economic progress.

56. In addition, FAO has begun planning a systems approach to the problem of building a three-level structure, national, regional and global, which will permit rural youth to participate in development. A special officer has been recruited at FAO to deal solely with youth-related activities.

57. Among the youth-related projects being planned by FAO are: a study on the socio-economic impact of transferred and new technologies on youth; a study on new forms of youth employment; rural youth programmes within national agricultural extension services; youth programmes within FAO small farmers development programmes; curricula for rural forestry schools; youth programmes on fisheries; and youth credit and youth marketing schemes. During the period 1984-1985, FAO plans to hold an expert consultation on the role of youth in rural-agricultural development and to initiate youth programmes as a part of its women's programmes in development.

58. Within the framework of its Medium-Term Plan for 1984-1989, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) plans a World Congress on Youth in 1985 to review the situation and role of youth in contemporary society. UNESCO continues to assist member States in implementing schemes for youth participation in development projects with particular emphasis on youth-designing projects on literacy work, rural development, cultural development, housing, etc. UNESCO also plans to undertake research on the exclusion and marginalization mechanisms affecting specific groups as a result of certain development processes, in co-operation with non-governmental organizations. This would involve research on the nature, causes and consequences of unemployment among young people in various regions and different socio-cultural contexts in order to identify medium-term and long-term strategies for youth. UNESCO is also promoting consultation and co-ordination with youth organizations with a view to strengthening the contribution of youth to the development of physical and sporting activities and the preservation of the cultural heritage, in particular traditional dances and games, in the framework of the preparation and observation of the Year.

59. In promoting activities for the International Youth Year, the World Health Organization (WHO) has identified, inter alia, the following priorities: (a) the promotion of and further support to the programmes focusing on the needs of young people; and (b) the promotion of and encouragement to countries to initiate projects geared to involving young people in primary health care. The main thrust of action for the Year will be through collaboration with and stimulation of non-governmental organizations at all levels to initiate activities for and with young people in the field of health. In this connection, an information kit will be produced in 1984 which will include data on youth and health.

60. Activities for the International Youth Year planned by WHO include such areas as population, family planning and health and family-life education, within the context of the World Health Organization Global Strategy of Health for All by the Year 2000. WHO is also conducting country studies on the participation of youth in

primary health care and action related to health problems of youth. In addition, a workshop on research needs in mental health programmes for the adolescent will be held in 1984.

61. The World Health Organization's information and promotional activities for the Year include: (a) production by young people of low-cost teaching or learning health materials for use by their peers; (b) information dissemination in the World Health and other WHO publications on the theme of youth; and (c) distribution of educational packages on drug, tobacco and alcohol abuse. For 1983, WHO has indicated its preoccupation with high risk problems related to adolescent reproductive health, youth involvement in primary health care and changing risk-taking behaviour. A Study Group on Health for All by the Year 2000 and Young People is planned for June 1984. The report of the Study Group, which will review youth health and health-related needs and problems, will be discussed at both the WHO Executive Board and the thirty-eighth World Health Assembly in 1985.

62. The World Health Organization plans to designate youth as its theme for World Health Day in 1985. The April 1985 issue of World Health will be devoted to young people.

V. MAJOR TRENDS AND ACTIVITIES OF NON-UNITED NATIONS INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN PREPARATION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR

63. The Arab Gulf Co-operation Council based in Bahrain has been actively involved in preparations for the International Youth Year and a special committee has been formed to co-ordinate work among member countries.

64. The Commonwealth Youth Programme (CYP) has had active interest and involvement in the planning and implementation of the Year. In 1982, the regional centres in Guyana, India and Zambia held meetings which concentrated on the planning and co-ordination of the agreed programme of activities for the Year. In addition, a Caribbean International Youth Year Co-ordinating Committee in Dominica and a meeting of African Youth Representatives on the Year were held in May 1983. Two meetings for directors of youth and directors of non-governmental organizations will be held in Bangladesh and Vanuatu, respectively, in June and July 1983.

65. The headquarters of CYP in London maintains a documentation centre on youth, and information gathered through the CYP network is disseminated through its quarterly news bulletin CYP Youth News Service. CYP also provides study fellowship awards. In addition, CYP publishes a series of technical papers on policy development, youth participation, youth employment, etc.

66. The Commonwealth Youth Programme has established an International Youth Year Advisory Board which has requested the regional offices to include in their work programmes Year-related activities. In addition, CYP has issued a general circular to all member Governments requesting active participation in the preparations for the Year.

67. The Council of Europe, through its European Youth Centre, promotes youth co-operation through exchange of information on issues concerning youth. It provides training of youth leaders and youth workers. It also organizes seminars and courses on issues pertinent to youth policies, plans and programmes. The Centre provides assistance to European international non-governmental youth organizations in the form of study sessions, colloquies, and the provision of social and cultural activities. A 1982 issue of the European Youth Centre's Information Bulletin was devoted to the International Youth Year. The European Youth Foundation, established by the Council of Europe in 1973, supports multilateral youth co-operation in Western Europe and has funded many youth projects. It plans to produce in 1983 two publications on international youth work as part of the preparations for the Year.

68. The League of Arab States, inter alia, promotes and supports co-operation in such matters as family and child welfare. Through its Organization of Youth Welfare Committee, the League undertakes studies on the situation of Arab youth and conducts seminars on matters relating to youth. The League has stated its support for the objectives and strategy of the International Youth Year and is undertaking an extensive promotional and information campaign in this regard.

69. The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has carried out studies on youth attitudes to education and work to be published under the title: Education and Work: the Views of the Young. Also, OECD is undertaking an analysis of the social and employment problems faced by young people, which has resulted in a general report entitled New Policy Approaches in Favour of Youth, to be published shortly. In addition, the organization of national seminars on problems related to the transition to adulthood are being planned.

VI. MAJOR TRENDS AND ACTIVITIES OF RESEARCH CENTRES, ASSOCIATIONS AND INSTITUTES IN THE PREPARATION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR

70. Concerned research centres, associations and institutes, because they may explore the situation and conditions of young people as they exist today, because they may develop strategies and plans in the interest of young people and because they may project the future situation of young people, have taken on new and significant importance since the advent of the International Youth Year. Youth research centres, associations and institutes can and should contribute greatly to a better understanding of young people, and may generate valuable information and suggestions for the improvement of the lives of youth in the 1980s. In this regard, Member States, agencies and bodies of the United Nations system, and international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are encouraged to give greater emphasis at all levels to the works and projects of such youth research centres.

71. Several research centres and institutes, 17/ have prepared special projects or reports devoted to the International Youth Year, or have planned specific activities around the three themes of the Year: Participation, Development, Peace. At the same time, other centres 18/ have undertaken research regarding

specific youth-related issues such as youth leisure, unemployment and youth, youth education and training, as contributions to a better understanding of the situation of youth, in light of the planning for the Year.

72. Some research centres 19/ have adopted a more wide-ranging approach to the situation of youth, concentrating on such issues as the aspirations or perceptions of young people.

73. In an attempt to enhance and develop the discussion of the situation of youth, some research centres 20/ have organized workshops, seminars and conferences on youth and Year-related topics.

VII. MAJOR TRENDS AND ACTIVITIES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE PREPARATION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR

74. Many non-governmental organizations at the international, regional and national levels have given overwhelming support to the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities. The non-governmental organizations provide a framework for motivating and stimulating many young people and, therefore, lead to improved dialogue of young people with Governments, regional bodies and the United Nations system.

75. Numerous non-governmental organizations, 21/ in their endeavours to promote the activities of the International Youth Year, have used their vast information systems, their network of regional and national affiliates, and their other established channels of communication with youth to encourage the objectives and strategies of the Year and to keep their members abreast of the progress of the planning for the Year.

76. Several non-governmental organizations 22/ have established task forces or working groups on the Year to draw up programmes for youth involvement in development activities within the context of the Year.

77. Numerous non-governmental organizations 23/ have prepared research studies on the themes of the International Youth Year as a basis for future programming for the Year. In addition, many non-governmental organizations have undertaken research, data collection and analysis of various issues and problems of interest to youth, such as unemployment, international exchange projects and programmes, the social situation of students, peace, handicapped youth, aspirations of youth and education and counselling.

78. A number of non-governmental and student youth organizations 24/ continue to organize different regional meetings, seminars and conferences highlighting objectives, strategies and programmes of the Year, and some also have initiated and undertaken Year-related programmes which include workshops, training programmes and projects on such specific topics as population, education, youth exchange, employment, etc.

79. On questions relating to peace, international and regional youth and student organisations have organized a series of meetings, seminars and workshops with a view to creating an environment of concern and to provide, to the extent possible, information about peace. In such events, young people expressed their growing concern for the threat of nuclear war and the accelerating arms race and emphasized the need for concrete measures to be taken in the promotion of economic progress, social justice and reduction of the arms race, thus enhancing the chances of peace, prosperity and security of all nations. The need for dissemination of information on the armaments race and disarmament was also emphasized. Young people are encouraged to develop for themselves the skills, resourcefulness, experience and confidence to participate meaningfully and substantially in the preservation of world peace and promotion of international co-operation and understanding, on the one hand, and in the struggle for self-determination, national independence of sovereignty and non-interference in national affairs, on the other.

VIII. REGIONAL MEETINGS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR

80. The Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year, at its second session, recommended that regional meetings should be held with a view to sharing experiences and stimulating youth activities in development. At its thirty-seventh session, the General Assembly, in its resolution 37:48, endorsed the recommendations of the Advisory Committee and requested the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to ensure the success of the regional meetings. At the time of preparing this report, three regional meetings have taken place (in the African, Asian and Pacific, and European regions). The regional meeting for Latin America is scheduled from 3 to 7 October 1983, at San José, Costa Rica, and the one for Western Asia, from 9 to 13 October 1983, at Baghdad, Iraq.

81. The Regional Meeting on International Youth Year for Africa took place at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 20 to 24 June 1983. The situation of African youth in the 1980s was discussed and national statements were made on existing policies and programmes concerning youth. In addition to making a number of recommendations concerning youth related activities, the Regional Meeting adopted a Regional Plan of Action on Youth for the International Youth Year.

82. The Regional Meeting on International Youth Year for Asia and the Pacific was held at Bangkok, Thailand, from 26 to 30 July. The meeting considered the social, cultural and economic problems confronting youth and discussed the formulation of programmes on youth. The Regional Meeting made a number of recommendations concerning youth activities and adopted a Regional Plan of Action for International Youth Year and Beyond.

83. The European Regional Meeting on International Youth Year was held at Costinesti, Romania, from 5 to 9 September 1983, to review and assess the situation of European youth and to evaluate current policies and programmes for youth and youth development. The European Regional Meeting adopted a Regional Programme of Measures and Activities for International Youth Year.

IX. SUGGESTED ACTIONS

84. As the above overview has indicated, at this midpoint in preparations for the International Youth Year, there is growing evidence of progress achieved at all levels. However, considerable efforts are still needed to ensure successful preparations for the Year, particularly at the national level.

85. Until recently, there seemed to be a prevalent belief that 1985 was far away and that preparations of the Year could commence later. This belief was a serious obstacle which would have hampered the successful implementation of the goals and objectives of the International Youth Year. The endorsed strategy of the Year would have little meaning if actions at all levels were postponed until a later phase. The success of the Year depended on recognition of the fact that 1985 was the pivot of a long-term strategy, to be implemented in various stages. 1983 and 1984 must witness effective world-wide publicity for the Year, as well as the implementation of the Programme of Measures and Activities. The fact that over 60 national co-ordinating committees have been established indicates the growing interest of the Governments in the preparation for the Year.

86. Since the development of co-ordinating mechanisms at the national level can translate the interest for the Year into concrete activities for the benefit of youth, it is essential that Member States create such structures as soon as possible in order to: (a) assess and evaluate the situation of youth at the national level and (b) prepare a national agenda for action identifying the needs of, and programme on, youth within the context of the Year.

87. In addition, concrete measures are needed to be taken to enhance the capacity and capability of such national co-ordinating mechanisms through careful consideration of their composition and their location within the governmental structure. Moreover, while maximum use of existing resources could result from the co-ordinated actions of all the concerned ministries and departments as well as non-governmental organizations, special resources: technical, administrative and financial, are needed to be provided in order to enable them to function effectively and efficiently.

88. Regional commissions could play a leading role in achieving close co-ordination between regional and national organizations, promoting exchanges of views and experiences between countries and ensuring that national and regional youth organizations would be closely involved in the preparations for the Year. In this connection, specific measures are needed to improve the channels of communication with the national co-ordinating committees. For this purpose, priority attention needs to be given by the regional commissions to this activity. Unless such priority attention is given, the regional plans of action formulated at the regional meetings devoted to the International Youth Year are likely to remain a desired goal rather than a reality.

89. The United Nations system in its endeavours to supplement national and regional actions for the Year, should take further steps to ensure a more effective joint planning at the field level in this regard, particularly as concerns technical co-operation activities in the field of youth, as well as promotional and

information activities. At its first regular session of 1983, the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1983/26, noted that the inter-agency consultations have proved to be a useful tool in planning, initiating, promoting and implementing activities in the field of youth in the context of the implementation of the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities.

90. Since a proper functioning of channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations forms a basic prerequisite for the successful preparation, observance and follow-up of the Year, concrete measures to improve relationships with all concerned organizations have been taken. Nevertheless, there is still a need for further improvements in those areas. While non-governmental organizations have given broad support to the objectives of the year, there is a growing need for them to formulate specific individual programmes and plans in close co-operation with their various national and local affiliates.

91. Increased efforts in the area of public information should be made at all levels to generate widespread awareness of the objectives of the Year. A large percentage of young people, particularly rural youth and unorganized youth, are not yet aware of the Year. Public information should constitute a major facet of the activities prior to and during the Year.

92. For example, efforts to provide young people with information on various United Nations resolutions and declarations relevant to youth, particularly the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order would aid in educating youth for peace and promoting their participation in development within the context of the Year.

93. In view of the urgent need for assistance in the field of youth, in general, and in the implementation of the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities, in particular, the General Assembly in 1981 decided to establish the Trust Fund for the International Youth Year. The Trust Fund will be used to meet rapidly increasing needs in the field of youth and to assist Member States, at their request, in formulating and implementing policies and programmes relating to youth. In this endeavour, priority consideration needs to be given to the least developed countries. However, voluntary contributions have not been adequate. Lack of funds can only be detrimental to the implementation of the programme of the Year. A positive response from Member States and concerned organizations in this regard is urgently required.

Notes

1/ Bulgaria, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Ethiopia, Finland, India, Jamaica, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Netherlands, Pakistan, Romania and Saudi Arabia.

2/ Australia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Botswana, Bulgaria, Colombia, Gabon, Germany, Federal Republic of, India, Iraq, Ireland, Jordan, Kuwait, Mexico, Mongolia, Sweden and Venezuela.

Notes (continued)

3/ Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Botswana, China, Colombia, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Egypt, Germany, Federal Republic of, Fiji, France, Gabon, Ghana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

4/ China, Costa Rica, Fiji, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ireland, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America and Zambia.

5/ Denmark, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Papua New Guinea, Madagascar, Norway, Rwanda, Seychelles and Zambia.

6/ Bahrain, Bangladesh, Denmark, Fiji, India, Kenya, Rwanda and Sweden.

7/ Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic Yemen, German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Yugoslavia.

8/ Australia, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Fiji, India, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Philippines, Romania, Sweden, Thailand, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America and Yugoslavia.

9/ Bahamas, China, Gabon, Kenya, Kiribati, Malawi, Malaysia and Senegal.

10/ Ireland, Kuwait, Qatar and Saudi Arabia.

11/ Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, China, Ethiopia, Gabon, Greece, India, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liberia, Malawi, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Norway, Philippines, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sweden, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

12/ Cyprus, Kuwait, Malaysia, Nepal, Qatar and Saudi Arabia.

13/ China, Cuba, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Japan, Romania, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Yugoslavia.

14/ A/36/215, p. 25, annex.

15/ Botswana, Colombia, Lesotho, Nepal, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Venezuela.

16/ E/1983/3.

Notes (continued)

17/ Institute Henry Dunant, the European Centre for Social Welfare, Training and Research.

18/ The Inter-American Research Center on Youth, the TATA Institute of Social Science, the Pan-African Institute for Development.

19/ The European Co-ordination Centre for Research and Documentation, the Center for Youth Development and Research of the University of Minnesota.

20/ The Inter-University European Institute; the European Centre for Social Welfare, Training and Research; the International Sociological Association; the Inter-American Research Center on Youth; the Centre for Economic and Social Studies of the Third World; the Center for Youth Integration (Mexico); the Bulgarian Institute of Youth Studies.

21/ AFS International/Intercultural Programmes (AFS); International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF); Organization for Industrial, Spiritual and Cultural Advancement International (OISCA); World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS); the International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations (ISMUN); International Co-operative Alliance (ICA); International Union of Young Christian Workers (IUYCW); World Organization of Young Esperantists (TEJO); International Union of Students (IUS); World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY); Asian Youth Council (AYC); the Co-ordinating Committee for International Volunteer Service (CCIVS); Geneva Informal Meeting (GIM); the non-governmental organizations committees on youth in New York and Vienna.

22/ Youth for Christ International (YCI); the Asian Youth Council (AYC); League of Red Cross Societies (LRCS); the World Assembly of Youth (WAY); the International Movement of Catholic Students (IMCS).

23/ International Young Christian Workers (IYCW); AFS International/Intercultural Programmes (AFS); International Union of Students (IUS); Asian Students Association (ASA); International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations (ISMUN); World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY); International Movement of Catholic Students (IMCS); International Christian Youth Exchange Federation (ICYEF); Mobility International (MI); Council of World Organizations Interested in the Handicapped (CWOIH); World Union of Catholic Women's Organization (WUCWO); International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF).

24/ International Union of Young Christian Democrats (IUYCD); Co-ordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS); International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF); Organization for Industrial, Spiritual and Cultural Advancement International (OISCA); Zonta International; World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS); AFS International/Intercultural Programmes (AFS); Jaycees International.