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UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN: EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. In resolution 38/106 of 16 December 1983, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue to report annually on the management of the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women (VFDW) and on the progress of its activities. It also requested that the Secretary-General's reports reflect the result of the forward-looking assessment of the activities assisted by the Fund and the measures taken by him in response to its urging that he give priority to solving the question of senior women's programme officer posts at the regional commissions. The present report thus contains a review of the progress made during the period October 1983 to September 1984 in the management of the Fund and on the two special issues identified by the General Assembly. Two additional reports of the Secretary-General on the Fund provide information complementary to this one. They are "Views of Member States on continuation of the activities of the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women" (A/39/146) and "Possible future options for continuation of the activities of the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women" (A/39/571).

II. FORWARD-LOOKING ASSESSMENT

A. Background

2. The Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women has provided financial and technical assistance to promote economic growth, productive employment and social equity through stimulating the full participation of women who have too often been considered as marginal to the essential processes of development. In accordance with the Fund's mandate, in allocating its resources, priority has been given to the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, and special consideration to rural and poor urban women. Because of its broad and highly flexible criteria and guidelines, the Fund has supported both practical development activities which have women as their primary target group, and inputs to create or strengthen women's participation in large-scale projects financed by major funding organizations.

3. Of the 378 projects which constituted the total portfolio of the Fund, 258, or 68 per cent, were ongoing as of December 1983. The distribution pattern of projects by category over the period 1982-1983 is shown in table 1 below.

Table 1

Distribution of projects by category of support, 1982-1983

<u>Category</u>	<u>Percentages of total projects</u>
Employment	42
Human development	30
Planning	17
Energy	7
Information	4

4. Table 1 shows that employment has been the primary area of requests for financing. This category increased from 31 per cent to 42 per cent during the period 1978-1983. It embraces, for the most part, income-raising group activities including clothing factories, animal husbandry, fish smoking and marketing, crafts production and other small scale industrial activities. Human development activities, the second major category, includes training of rural trainers and pilot projects to stimulate self-reliance among communities in rural areas and urban slums. The third category, planning, includes both training of development planners - men and women - and training and consultancies for identification, formulation, execution and evaluation of programmes and projects. Energy-related activities include reafforestation, dissemination of fuel-saving cooking-stoves and forest industries.

5. Against the background of the total portfolio of the Fund described above, the framework for analysis for the forward-looking assessment was agreed upon by the Fund's Consultative Committee at its fourteenth session in 1984. The framework had as its basis the purpose of the Fund and the timing of its initiation. The Fund was created in 1976 by General Assembly resolution 31/133 of 16 December 1976 as the Decade for Women was commencing and the Second Development Decade (resolution 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970) was at its mid-point. This placed it at the interface of those two important United Nations issues: development and women. The Fund's creation recognized that immediate and specialized efforts had to be made to demonstrate how support of women could help accelerate the development process. In this regard the issue of development and that of special attention to women within development processes were seen to have common goals: to create conditions that would improve the quality of life for all. They also have a common direction - equity - involving efforts to ensure, at the minimum level, human survival, and, at the most complex level, a fair distribution of the world's resources. The Fund was seen as the only United Nations development co-operation mechanism whose frame of reference lay specifically and boldly at the interface of development and women. In its project-support operations it should, therefore, have had as its primary concern development as the overall goal and women as an integral part of it, and taken into account both women's situation and the development situation in any given country.

6. Within this framework for analysis, the specific objectives of the forward-looking assessment were to assess the extent to which the Fund has carried out its mandate; to show the development impact of assistance to women; to document the contribution of the Fund to the achievement of the goals of the Decades for Women and for Development; and to identify, based upon its experiences, orientations and priorities for future directions of the Fund's activities. The assessment used a variety of approaches, taking stock of the Fund's supported activities at the global, regional and national levels through evaluation of projects in the field and desk reviews from project documents (highlights of which are presented herein), regional commissions' appraisals, surveys, questionnaires and consultancies on specialized issues. A total of 34 per cent of the Fund's portfolio was thus reviewed. Thirty-five evaluators - nearly all of them nationals of the countries concerned and all residents in the regions concerned, assessed a total of 42 projects, accounting for \$4.6 million or 21 per cent of the value

(\$21.75 million) of the Fund's support at December 1983. These projects included approximately 63,000 beneficiaries of the Fund's assistance. Their distribution by category is shown in table 2.

Table 2

Distribution by category of projects desk and field evaluated

<u>Category</u>	<u>Percentages of total projects</u>
Employment	47
Human development	41
Development planning	9
Energy	3

7. In reviewing the assessment, it should be recalled that the Fund became operational only in 1978, and began financing country-level projects - the major component of the assessment - as late as 1980. The context of project implementation, then, was the environment of the global economic crisis, which had weakened the economies of most, if not all, developing countries. In practical terms this meant, at times, cut-backs in staff of Government ministries that were executing projects and the inability of Governments to meet their commitments to co-financing. These impacts have affected Fund projects no less than those of other agencies. In fact, Fund projects may have been more deeply affected, given the frequent perception of women's activities as peripheral to, rather than essential components of the development process. Thus, the environment for the initial activities of the Fund has been largely one of economic instability, and added to that are the widely recognized complexities of involving the rural and urban poor in the development process and the limitations on the absorptive capacities of low-income communities and countries. Both of the latter factors are of particular relevance to the Fund from the perspective of its special mandate to reach out to the poorest women and to the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries.

B. Regional analysis

1. General introduction

8. The analysis of projects included in the desk review and field evaluation components of the forward-looking assessment, highlights from which are presented below, was intended to examine the projects as they related to regional and national development plans and strategies as explicitly adopted by Member States; to describe those characteristics of the projects which contributed to their impact; to uncover the strengths and innovative nature of the projects and their value in interfacing women and development; to evidence the constraints and

limitations within which projects were implemented; and finally, to provide a profile of project participants that would indicate their socio-economic status and the impact the projects have had on their lives and on their communities.

2. Africa

9. The greatest number of least developed countries as identified by the General Assembly are in Africa, which also has the greatest number of projects financed by the Fund (36.5 per cent). Twenty-one of these projects were covered by the forward-looking assessment. Of these, 18 were country-level projects representing nine different countries, four of which were least developed countries, two land-locked and one an island. The remaining three projects were regional, carried out by the African Training and Research Centre for Women (ATRCW) of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). Classification of projects within the desk and field evaluations is as follows: employment: 12; human development: 1; employment/human development: 5; energy: 3, making a total of 21 projects.

10. The strategy for the economic development of Africa outlined in the Lagos Plan of Action 1/ accorded to the food and agriculture sector the topmost priority in development planning. The Lagos Plan, inter alia, also emphasized the importance of giving special attention to women, but made clear that such efforts should not be marginal or separate from the question of overall development. Projects of the Fund were in consonance with the Lagos Plan, and responded also to specific elements of the relevant national development plans.

11. Of special interest in the field of employment was the Regional Task Force Project initiated and executed by the ATRCW and assisted by the Fund from 1978 to 1980. The Task Force was developed to accelerate self-reliance at the country and women's levels by the transfer of technical skills, while at the same time promoting technical co-operation between countries of the region. In the initial project assisted by the Fund, self-employed African women who were skilled in cloth printing, food processing and catering volunteered to design and implement training programmes that would prepare trainers of other women who were or aspired to be small business entrepreneurs. Seven countries participated: Botswana, Ivory Coast, Lesotho, Senegal, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia.

12. The Menagesha project in Ethiopia represented an innovative attempt to transform women potters into producers of construction materials such as bricks and tiles. Women who were already potters and young women were trained in the production of new items and the use of new technology (firing kilns, hand-making bricks and tile moulds). Women in a similar project in the Ivory Coast were fabricating their own fuel-saving stoves, thus cutting wood consumption by one third or more.

13. In Benin, a fish-smoking project was complementary to a large-scale traditional project for the promotion of fisheries in the country. Women of the fisher community who are responsible for the cleaning and processing of the fish were provided with cleaning facilities and improved wood-smoking ovens, to increase their production while at the same time improving its quality and preventing or

minimizing food losses. These women, who never before were recognized and dealt with as a productive population group, are now involved in a major national development project. A spin-off activity was the women's establishment of a shop, where the fishermen could purchase basic necessities.

14. The impact of the Fund's assistance in Africa is illustrated by the following:

(a) The graduates of the Handicraft Training Centre in Somalia and the women artisans of the Mauritius Silk-screening and Pottery Projects are now earning more than the average Somalian schoolteacher or textile worker in Mauritius, respectively. Perhaps more important, however, is the building of strong institutions that multiply the number of new units that create import-substitution goods;

(b) Assistance to rural women in Benin took the form of a revolving loan fund. Credit for improving food production, small animal husbandry and food processing was made available to more than one thousand women through their co-operative groups. The project, whose members and leaders are illiterate, had a strong institutional base created through the previous retraining of extension workers in the country. It has had a major impact on policy, with the Minister of Rural Development having requested the Fund to assist the design of a country-wide strategy for supporting food cycle activities. This multiplier effect provides a reply to the frequently heard criticisms of the value of relatively small-scale projects involving women;

(c) A third, striking example of multiplier effect is provided by the Omayland Project in Zimbabwe. There, many children were kept out of school because they did not possess the proper attire - a school uniform. Coupled with a nutrition project assisted by Save the Children, the Fund's support of women's (mother's) manufacturing of school uniforms effected a five-fold increase in school attendance, from 500 to 2,430 children.

15. The participants of the Africa projects surveyed were predominantly female. Almost two thirds of them were young adults, in the age bracket of 15 to 29 years. The overwhelming majority, 96 per cent, were married. Of those projects reviewed by field evaluations, 99 per cent of the participants never attended school, 0.6 per cent had some primary school education and 0.2 per cent had completed secondary school.

16. Foremost among the various impacts of the Africa projects was their influence on the economic status of the women and their families. "Before the project" writes one evaluator, "most of the women barely had any source of income of their own to assist with family needs. Consequently they neither had savings, nor did they have access to credit". Another finding was that women's contributions to family incomes gave them confidence to continue, "... not only because they have earned some money already, but also because now they have skills".

17. The projects also had impacts on the participants' communities. Some projects had side-effects, such as organization of literacy classes, health and nutrition services, that served the entire community. In some cases, a well was dug, in others, community or co-operative shops were established. In one country, family-planning services were added to the maternal and child health services.

In the one project with a primary "human development" component changes in diet and health habits were reported, while changes in food-consumption patterns were mentioned in some of the production-oriented projects. The confidence gained by the women as a result of their access to income, skills and resources in general resulted in new relationships with their families and in particular a sense of respect and worth from their communities.

3. Asia and the Pacific

18. In Asia and the Pacific out of the 99 VFDW-assisted projects conducted in almost all of the 35 countries of the region, 20 were selected for the forward-looking assessment. Of these, 15 were country-specific, 4 were subregional and 1 was regional. The majority were in or involved island countries and least developed countries.

19. The Fund activities were in line with the regional development strategy for the Asian/Pacific region as outlined by the ad hoc Intergovernmental Meeting on Regional Development Strategies for the 1980s, whose major goals were high growth, fuller employment, distributive equity, fuller people's, women's and youth participation in development and self-reliance. 2/ The strategy also called special attention to the unique problems of island developing countries. In this regard the VFDW-funded projects in the South Pacific islands were consonant with the stress on training local personnel in project management and organizational skills. Evaluation of the series of Pacific island activities indicated that increasing women's competence was an important component in achieving the overall goal of strengthening technical skills in programme/project design and in the systematic establishment of national machineries in the islands. At least 82 women were trained in development strategies, identification of locally available human and material resources, and management techniques.

20. Other illustrations of innovative initiatives were observed in the Philippine projects for livestock development and brick production and the two Thailand agro-industry and forest industry projects. The livestock production project was for backyard hog fattening and swine breeding. After a short period of training in pig raising, each participant received a piglet, the cost of which was either deducted from the sale proceeds of the fattened pig or paid for at the outset. This policy of payment for the piglet, as well as for feed, was to promote the development of self-reliance. Although the participants were officially listed as women, some husbands played major roles and children helped, thus proving this activity to be a good strategy for involving the whole family. The project was approaching commercial viability in 1983. In the final phase, swine production will be a component of an integrated farming system. A credit co-operative is to be organized.

21. The immediate objectives of the agro-forestry project in Thailand were to establish pilot projects within the agro-forestry system to carry out research on fruit trees, and a pilot small-scale forest-based industry from wood waste and bamboo involving women from five forest villages. A unique feature was that of building permanency in resettlement by introducing fruit trees to intercrop with forest trees; orchard growing had not been tried before by shifting cultivators. The project is expected to be productive for 20 to 30 years. The other wood lots

project, also innovative and replicative, was the addition of a women's component to a large-scale forestry project, as a model for other World Bank/FAO/Government initiatives. Two teams of women from the forest village families received training in methods of conserving and augmenting forest resources. Loans or payments in cash or kind were given to the women to grow wood lots. Project components included the design and distribution of improved traditional stoves, which have been widely accepted; charcoal has become more popular than fuel wood.

22. Apart from supporting national Government and non-governmental organization projects, VFDW also funded a project for refugee women, implemented by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. The self-help scheme and training of refugee women in food preparation and related services was initiated in a first asylum refugee camp in the Philippines to provide women with opportunities to acquire knowledge and employable skills to enable them to seek employment in their country of resettlement. The two components of the project were the coffee shop and food service training. The former, serving as a training venue, achieved a self-supporting basis and was staffed by those who had completed training.

23. An example of a satisfactory increase in participants' income was the average annual income of \$293 earned by the Thai handicraft participants. This was higher than the average per capita income of the population in the particular region of the country. Another example was the income earned from the hog-fattening phase of the Philippine pig-raising project, the net profit from the sale of the piglet after five months ranging from \$24 to \$87, or approximately 20 to 25 per cent above costs. In addition, the local women's chapter received over \$4 per piglet and a profit of 30 piglets in the breeding phase. The Philippine brick industry is also expected to become a self-supporting, viable small industry with the brick workers earning a salary of \$60 a month.

24. A profile of the Asia/Pacific beneficiaries and their socio-economic status is as follows: approximately 99 per cent of the participants were women; the majority of women participants were married and in the 20-29 and 30-39 age groups; the proportion of divorcees and widowed was relatively small in the majority of projects though that of female-headed households was very high among refugees (47 per cent) and destitute women (42 per cent); educational levels ranged from a majority of completely illiterate destitute women, through a smaller percentage with primary education and school drop-outs. A select minority of junior high, high school and university graduates were among those selected for training as trainers among the refugees.

25. Interviews with the participants, spouses and children revealed that due to their new economic contributions to their families, women's positions in the family and community were improved. They were now involved in local self-help meetings and activities, and were making family decisions jointly with their spouses. Having achieved initial skills, the women were able to identify further technical needs for training in management, improvement of supervision and assistance in marketing products.

26. By early 1984 several positive economic consequences of the Fund's assistance in the Asia/Pacific region had become evident: alternate credit from national banks and village savings associations had been established at the village level; pricing and credit monopolies by local middle men had been broken and women's

bargaining power strengthened; a real start was made in establishing a new inter-village system of purchasing, distribution and marketing; a coffee shop and community shops were opened where none existed before; participants' incomes had increased, and small-scale industries had been created.

4. Latin America and the Caribbean

27. For Latin America and the Caribbean 21 projects were selected for desk review or field evaluation. Twenty of these were country-specific and one was regional, executed by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). The 20 country-specific projects were carried out in 10 different countries, one of which was a least developed country, two land-locked countries and two islands. Of these projects, 16 (80 per cent) were aimed to generate income and/or employment while in four (20 per cent) the main objective was to promote conscious and direct participation by women in the mainstream of local and national life.

28. The objectives of all the projects in the region were well within national development objectives and plans, and also in line with the Regional Programme of Action for Latin America and the Caribbean 3/ and the Strategy for the Caribbean Countries during the Third Development Decade. Almost two thirds of the employment-related projects were designed and implemented by Government agencies or with the close co-operation of those agencies. The remaining projects were carried out by non-governmental or international organizations or both together.

29. The assessment revealed that the achievement of national development goals and the roles of women in that process had been made more evident by the support of the Fund to projects of an innovative nature or having innovative features. For example, the two projects evaluated in the Dominican Republic were both concerned with increasing employment opportunities and incomes, although each project took a different structural approach. The project carried out by the Women Applied to Industry, Inc. (MAI) encouraged individual entrepreneurship by urban and rural poor women using medium technologies. Twenty-two small business units were formed once the centralized training process was completed. The project attracted more than \$1 million in follow-up financing. In the Integral Development of Rural Women project, by contrast, PROFAMILIA experimented with integrated rural development programmes, thus breaking the traditional single-focus programme pattern usually offered women's groups by Governments and international agencies.

30. In Jamaica, the Fund's support took the form of a grant to assist the Women's Bureau carry out its five-year plan, focused on young women between the ages of 14 and 24 who make up the largest group of females heading urban households. With the Fund's support, the Bureau launched an innovative project combining two major groups of Jamaica's under- and unemployed - namely the elderly 10 per cent of the population, and youth, whose unemployment rate is considered desperate even for persons with technical training.

31. Revolving loan funds as credit mechanisms have made it possible for implementing agencies and participants - individually or as groups - to take responsibility for their own financial management, and to attract other sources of support. An example is of the project in Costa Rica (Programme Assistance to the Federation of Voluntary Agencies) to which the VFDW provided \$67,761 for provision

of technical assistance and training to 14 co-operatives, and which in turn facilitated the attraction of an additional \$70,000, among many other resources such as land, materials and equipment for building workshops and shops. The Federation of Voluntary Agencies also established crèches and facilities for common meals. Another example is in Colombia, where the Fund provided a revolving loan fund as a component directed to involve women in a training programme for informal sector employment. Approximately 50 per cent of the Fund's grant was deposited in a Government bank that advanced \$17 for every two programme-supplied dollars. Of the businesses which received revolving credit, 15 had average sales increases of 46 per cent and had created 29 new work places by 1983. Three additional banks later agreed to participate in opening up credit lines.

32. The development strengths of the Human Development projects in Bolivia ("Warmi Wawanthin") and in Nicaragua (Women's Education Campaign) lay in the first instance in the fact that each dealt with an important basic ingredient of development preparedness. In Bolivia it was health, the essential basis of increased productive capacity, and in Nicaragua it was education, the critical capacity for active and conscious participation in community and national development processes. In Bolivia, the participatory method employed reinforced pre-existing Bolivian highland cultural values that favour community work, decision and action. The project stimulated the formation of formal community groups, which later became part of the Mothers' Clubs organization of 20,000 women who were provided technical assistance by the Fund so that they might become food producers rather than recipients of welfare food. The latter activity, carried out in co-operation with the World Food Programme, has been adopted by the United Nations Development Programme. In the Nicaraguan project, citizenship training workshops with large numbers of women had the immediate result of proposing a new family law for the nation.

33. Of the 20 country-specific projects evaluated, in 12 the participants were mostly rural women and in 3 women from both the rural and poor urban areas. Roughly 80 per cent of all participants were situated in the most deprived and marginal sectors of their societies. The proportion of participants who had never attended school ranged from 7 per cent in one project to 60 per cent in another. As regards housing conditions, only 15 per cent of all participants had some "modern" material in their dwellings; the majority lived in very small houses (between 1 and 2 rooms) built of wood, mud and other traditional materials. Participants (97 per cent) were women ranging in ages from 25 to 60 years with the majority in the age group 20 to 30. Although incomplete, the profile provided by the forward-looking assessment described the population served by the Fund's projects as women situated in the below-to-average lowest income strata of their societies; having no literacy numeracy skills; burdened with daily labour within the household and tasks outside to raise family incomes; living in cramped dwellings and lacking the minimal services necessary for basic human survival: water, energy, health and transportation facilities.

34. Generally, the women stated that they participated in the projects because they were afforded opportunities of fellowship with other women, learned new skills, acquired different abilities (such as leadership, budgeting) and got away from tiresome household tasks. Working as groups, they obtained benefits for themselves and their families such as land in the Mother's Club projects in Bolivia and improved family nutrition in the bee-keeping project in Honduras. Most

participants considered the projects useful for sharing information on dealing with or breaking away from absolute poverty and sense of powerlessness, and for access to technical, financial and personal resources from local, national or international institutions.

5. Western Asia

35. Eight projects in Western Asia were selected for the forward-looking assessment reviews. Of these, six were country-specific and two regional, the latter executed by the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA). Projects identified for the assessment were for the most part in countries at middle-income level, excepting two, which were oil-producing ones (projects in the least developed countries of the region had not reached sufficient levels of maturity to be evaluated).

36. The development strategy for the region in the Third United Nations Development Decade, 4/ in focusing on the totality of the populations of countries, identified priorities in a number of fields, namely food production, expansion of infrastructure, manpower development through education and training, and industrialization. All but one of the projects included in the Fund's assessment were within the category of human development (education and training).

37. While consonant with regional priorities, the objectives of the projects reviewed in the Fund's assessment were also in line with the national priorities of the individual countries concerned. Oman, for example, in its second five-year development plan, 1981-1985, identified community development activities - the emphasis of the Fund's technical co-operation projects - as of high priority. The five-year development plan for Jordan, 1981-85, showed that the demand for skilled labour in the period of the plan would exceed the supply by some 44,000 workers, and the supply of unskilled labour by 20,000. The rate of male migration to neighbouring countries remained high. For these reasons the training of women was viewed by Government as imperative. Other Fund-assisted projects in the region followed similar patterns, being either directly tied to specific priorities of development plans, or seeking experimental alternative measures to accomplish development objectives by expanding available national resources to reach more people, especially women among the rural and urban poor.

38. All of the projects assessed in Western Asia were targeted to have either a direct or an indirect impact on rural populations and on the urban poor. Half of them were planned as participatory in terms of major and/or discrete segments of these populations. Those directed to increased well-being in rural areas impacted on both women and men, while those in cities augmented the supply of skilled human resources through opening training opportunities to women. The four projects with direct beneficiaries involved 20,400 women. Projects in the rural areas typically involved women who were all or mostly illiterate, while those in urban centres included some 14 per cent illiterates. The rural women were married while the target groups of the urban projects were young single women: 70 per cent of the rural and 84 per cent of the city women sampled were under age 30.

39. Among the most catalytic projects of the region in its potential influence on development concepts affecting the urban poor was the four-country project on community self-help activities, carried out by ECWA. Through case studies, alternative models of service delivery based on the natural, mutual, inexpensive and accessible self-help networks of disadvantaged women in poor urban communities were introduced to the formal thinking of governmental institutions. This project, focused on the rapid urbanization taking place in the region and the limited capacities of Governments to grapple with the effects of the rural exodus, was complementary to the ECWA package of projects on development planning.

40. In Oman, where the community development projects had been ongoing for more than four years, the rise in family income due to the women's learning income-raising skills has been estimated at 15 per cent, with some incomes at 1,700 rials Oman (US \$4,900) from about one year's work and others at 60 rials Oman (US \$174) per month. The marked achievements of the programmes included accomplishments in literacy, education, health and home economics.

41. Of special importance regarding the training of 30 women in maintenance skills for electrical appliances in Jordan was the community's acceptance of this thoroughly innovative activity for women. The project was fully participatory, with the trainees involved regularly in decision-making. Community acceptance was so strong that the Government replicated the project for 30 more women in other areas of the country, and initiated a programme for training 15 women as plumbers. As explained by the evaluator, the project "relocated women in a traditional society from a hesitant situation in dealing with improved technology to a self-confident one through mastery of the technology".

42. In summary, all but one of the Western Asia projects evaluated increased the supply of skilled workers for the region, and trained women in fields that represented a significant breakthrough in the region. As noted repeatedly by ECWA, however, the projects simultaneously addressed and suffered from a major constraint of the countries of the region - the short supply of skilled human resources. Taking cultural values into account as well, the projects pointed up the urgent need for training women as trainers in fields such as mass media, community development and traditional industries.

C. Conclusions

43. The forward-looking assessment, extracts from which were presented above, provided valuable lessons for women and development, for technical co-operation and for future directions for the work of the Fund. The objectives of the projects were consonant with regional and national strategies for the promotion of development in the developing world in that they dealt with poverty, illiteracy, unemployment, self-reliance, health and nutrition; they promoted employment/self-sufficiency and created import-substitution products; they included agricultural production, human-resource development through education and training, and institution-building. Some projects played the role of stemming rural to urban migration and others prepared women to be active participants in their countries' policy making. In consonance with the analytic framework, development was the overall goal of the Fund's investment, and women were integral to it.

1. Women and development

44. The assessment affirmed once again the evidence gathered, mostly during the Decade for Women, that women do participate in the development process, but that they participate under unequal conditions. Data from project participants' profiles showed that women are the poorest of the poor, for example, that they have lower levels of education and training than do men within the same socio-economic group. Women are additionally burdened by activities for the reproduction and maintenance of human capital that are neither remunerated nor, most often, even recognized as economic activities. In most countries, women are also responsible - although seldom recognized as such - for food production, processing and distribution and for providing the family with fuel and water, among other inputs to daily survival. The possibilities for change of this pattern were evidenced in countries with strong policies directing the rewards of development to whole populations. Where these policies were institutionally implemented, an effective support system was provided for Fund-financed activities. In some projects where spouses become involved, in particular projects for food and small enterprise development, the men became keenly aware of the economic value of women's work.

45. The findings of the assessment were also in agreement with the contention of the General Assembly that changes in the family division of labour are needed in order to secure the participation of women on more equitable terms. The social, cultural and economic complexities of this issue were evidenced by the fact that no project had an apparent impact of magnitude on the distribution of household tasks. The need was thus reinforced to take these issues explicitly into account in project design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The Fund's activities in the fields of energy conservation - afforestation, fuel-saving stoves, and food-cycle technologies - were illustrative of the possibilities for decreasing women's workloads, while simultaneously transforming traditional tasks into small industrial - and thus remunerative - ones. As well, these tasks then become visibly developmental. The potentially adverse effects on development, due to the confinement of half of the populations to the non-productive sphere or to unremunerated and consequently invisible work can be decreased when projects recognize the division of family labour.

46. Through its support of small-scale projects and its co-financing and technical inputs to large-scale ones, the Fund has challenged the perceived dichotomy between "micro" and "macro" approaches. Women are often the most effective entry points, i.e. initiators of, for example, rural community development, or import-substitution industries. When carefully selected and precisely designed, technical co-operation activities that interface women and development can have potent multiplier effects. A number of projects also effectively addressed another perceived dichotomy, that between "integrated" projects and those whose primary target group is women. The choice of the one or the other approach was related to several considerations, among them culture and the level of training and experience of the target group - for example as members of co-operatives. In some integrated projects, care had to be taken that it was the women, rather than the assets of the Fund, that were integrated. There was no necessary trade-off between scale or type of project and effectiveness. On the contrary, a variety of approaches to projects was shown as desirable.

47. Another lesson drawn from the projects that provides guidance for future activities is that projects should preferably be multi-faceted, encompassing human development needs such as participatory training and nutrition education as well as technical ones such as credit and marketing. In a number of instances the women and their communities created their own support systems. Among the poorest communities, such actions were less possible, and needed inclusion in project design if participants were to become more self-reliant, integrated productive partners in their societies.
48. The cultural and political environments in which projects were implemented and traditions of societies proved to be factors which, when properly taken into account, contributed to the positive impact of projects. However, external factors such as fluctuating rates of exchange and of interest, which were outside the control of either the Fund or the recipient country, also had powerful effects on projects. It will be recalled, in this regard, that the forward-looking assessment was undertaken at a time when the world economic crisis was exacerbating situations of inequality and poverty levels in developing countries. In times of such crisis, it is the "social sector" - the one in which poor women and their families are still usually placed - and the ministries of social welfare where women are usually dealt with that are the most negatively affected by the lowering of levels of investment and by the effects of inflation.
49. Institutions were critical elements of project viability. The existence of local and national women's organizations and agencies proved to be a necessary condition to project effectiveness. The time it took for the formation of, for example, formal or informal co-operative groups extended the life of projects by perhaps two years, but was simultaneously an investment in effectiveness. The majority of Fund projects were based upon networks or federations of women groups, which represented the participants and gave their activities greater visibility. In several, however, patient institution-building at local level was called for. This process was facilitated by the existence of the national machineries for women and development (women's bureaux or ministries) at the highest governmental levels. Such national machineries were often newly established, and thus their interrelationships with the women's organizations were mutually reinforcing. The Fund's investment gave a number of the national machineries new capacities for research, for project management, and for monitoring the flow of national resources to women.
50. An obstacle faced in project implementation in several countries was the outdated and thus inadequate preparation of extension workers to cope with the multi-faceted work of women. These workers lacked the skills necessary to identify and mobilize technical resources in communities. By contrast, where in-service training had emphasized, for example, resources for water technologies, credit systems, marketing advice and participatory training, project execution was facilitated.
51. The Fund reached policy levels from several directions. One of these was by demonstrating through specific projects the centrality of women's contributions to their countries' development. Another was by assisting the strengthening of national institutions such as women's bureaux and ministries. A third approach was by engagement at the policy and planning level itself through national development planners. While the effectiveness of these approaches varies by country and by

region as well, an interim judgement is that effective field projects, i.e. those that increase food supply or tackle other national priority areas, may be the best approach to gaining recognition by policy makers of that half of the countries' human resources who have, in large part, been overlooked as agents of development.

2. Technical co-operation

52. The Voluntary Fund has invested in technical co-operation activities in keeping with its mandate. Economic needs have predominated among requests for support, in particular, from the poorest communities that the Fund is directed to serve and for whom the cash economy is a formidable adversary. The nature of requests notwithstanding, projects with combined objectives and processes showed a deeper and more penetrating ripple effect on the entire community than did projects that were concerned solely with improvement of the incomes of the participants. Crucial components of those projects were the chain of support services and mechanisms (i.e. credit, training, community-based child-care and transportation) created to ensure the participants a less arduous transition from subsistence activities and family tasks to more sophisticated activities. The prospects for achieving immediate cash income for women increased their self-reliance and self-confidence and also created chances for them to fully participate in the mainstream economy. None the less, the importance of personal, non-monetary rewards could not be overlooked, since very often and for people - especially women - living under the worst possible conditions, personal gains are often the first step in their involvement in development activities.

53. Another lesson learned for technical co-operation was that the achievement of project objectives was enhanced and impact facilitated by linking technical co-operation efforts with mainstream development resources. For example, projects involving technologies for health training or fish smoking can be effectively technically supported by national technology institutes and universities as well as ministries of health and agriculture. They can be integral to major technical co-operation projects assisted by the United Nations system. Besides the catalytic effect of attracting resources other than the Fund's, the linkages served the useful purpose of providing visibility to women and impacting on traditional perceptions and beliefs about women's functions in their societies.

54. Chances for the long-term maintenance of projects were increased when national or local agencies took the major responsibility for project execution. Two factors deserve future consideration regarding implementation of projects by national voluntary organizations. Firstly, consideration should be given to institution-building aspects during project design. These include training components for management and financial administration, and realistic assessment of the potential rate of growth of the organization. Secondly, the overhead costs to an international organization in dealing with a multiplicity of small-scale organizations can be great, in respect of the stages in the project cycle. As regards the latter, national intermediary institutions ought to be identified and strengthened, to serve as distributors of international resources. The Fund is seeking such intermediaries through its contacts with national councils of women's organizations and local non-profit agencies able to deliver financial and technical resources to field level.

55. The demands imposed by the meeting and interconnections of women and development on the technical co-operation community require concerted efforts at the local/national levels for careful monitoring of projects to be alert to the different growth patterns, to provide technical and other inputs on a timely basis, and to strengthen or create a climate for surfacing local expertise. Pre-project feasibility studies and socio-economic surveys are essential, both to provide a realistic baseline and to allow effective monitoring. These do not, however, replace the equally critical readiness to re-orient projects at regular intervals, if the fullest advantage is to be taken of technical co-operation support. Income and employment generating projects, including their revolving loan fund components, exemplified again that the recognized priority of achieving self-reliant development cannot succeed without balanced strategies that are both sound from the technical point of view and recognize that the ultimate goal and the final measure of efficiency is the increased well-being of people and societies.

56. While international expertise is desirable and necessary for certain countries in certain locally scarce specializations, projects have greater likelihood to move towards their goals, and to be durable when local expertise and leadership are fully involved. Of note in this regard is that women entrepreneurs' potential for creating additional work places was, in one country, proven to be greater than that of men. This finding deserves further study.

3. The Voluntary Fund

57. The forward-looking assessment demonstrated that the Fund has seriously undertaken the task of being flexible and experimental. Through the projects it supports, the Fund has sought ways to bridge the gap between communities and nations, between literate and illiterate, and between person and society. It has tested methods, designs and strategies.

58. The three major lessons from the assessment (although not the only ones), for the Voluntary Fund are: (a) the Fund has to grow; (b) it must accelerate its specialized professional attention to the project cycle; and (c) it has to keep up with and contribute to the resolution of the developmental issues and processes involved in the provision of technical co-operation.

59. In view of women's invisibility for many major developmental programmes, the experimental and innovative nature of the projects the Fund has supported within its policy guidelines responded to the need to provide women with "bridges" from their subsistence/reproductive activities to a more conscious and controlled participation in the mainstream of their societies. In this sense the main contribution of the Fund to the development process lies in its capacity to help the developing countries to develop half of their human resource potential and consequently to improve the efficiency of the use of other technical, material and financial resources. This is in accordance with the Fund's catalytic role.

60. To further its role as a technical co-operation mechanism for women and development, two major implications emerge from the assessment for the future activities of the Fund. On the one hand it needs to concentrate on those activities and projects whose potential ripple and multiplier effects are greatest, and that may thus have the greatest impact on national development. The Fund must

strengthen its capacity to develop integral approaches to the provision of technical co-operation for women and development through more sophisticated although not necessarily more costly or grandiose delivery systems. The interfacing role of the Fund puts it in an excellent position to promote co-ordinated inputs, especially to those large scale, mainstream projects that usually have a "pure" or high emphasis on general developmental goals but only include women marginally or not at all.

61. On the other hand, the forward-looking assessment reinforces the desirability of much closer contacts and co-operation between the Fund and the organizations of the United Nations system and other bilateral and multilateral organizations of the development community in order to mobilize far more resources to further in some cases and sustain in others, the women and development efforts of the developing countries. The mobilization of resources also implies for the Fund a higher level of visibility among the donor communities and consequently it requires adequate provisions for staffing appropriate to operational demands, including the Fund's public relations activities (both personal contact and information materials), as well as the attention demanded from the activities in terms of the identification, appraisal, implementation, monitoring and evaluation phases. In addition, this process will help to promote the application of lessons learned throughout the United Nations development co-operation system, in countries and by the international funding community.

62. The case for women and development, or for providing support to the "poorest of the poor" has not come to rest. The forward-looking assessment, in uncovering strengths and innovations, confirms the legitimacy of the existence of the Voluntary Fund and the validity of the principles implied in its mandate: the development process will be meaningless without the full and conscious participation of half of the population. The evaluation also made clear that the Fund, because of its interfacing role between women and development, is, in this sense, a guardian as well as a vehicle of the potential explosion of human talent that women portend. At the same time, this role, a most difficult one, has also the potential to be enhanced by the operationalization of the lessons provided by the forward-looking assessment as well as by the lessons taught by the global preparations by countries themselves and innumerable organizations for the end of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace - one of which is this evaluative exercise.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

A. Forward-looking assessment

63. Based on the findings of the forward-looking assessment and with special attention to the Fund's interfacing role between women and the larger development effort, the Consultative Committee at its sixteenth session identified two priority areas of action for the future. The first involved the Fund's catalytic role and was in a sense a corrective function. Through its special expertise the Fund could increase its role of making available technical assistance to Governments, multilateral and bilateral agencies, with the goal to ensure the appropriate involvement of women in mainstream development activities - as often as possible at the pre-investment stages. Secondly, the Fund should give priority to working with

women's groups at local and national levels, with special emphasis on non-governmental organizations but including national machineries on women and development and planning bodies.

64. In determining these priorities, the Committee recognized that requests for funding far exceeded available resources. Increased resources - both human and financial - were vital to the Fund's capacities to make use of the body of knowledge that it had accumulated. The Fund's Knowledge Bank could be complemented and expanded by gathering materials available in universities and other national and regional institutions, which in turn could be made available to a variety of organizations dealing with development. The collective experience of the Fund could thus have a greater influence on development policies and practices.

65. The Committee's view was that, to augment the effectiveness of the Fund's future work, its policy should flow from interaction with a wide variety of organizations, in accordance with the mandates of those organizations. Among these were the development co-operation ones, and those which were focused on the situation of women. The former included United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Fund for Population Activities, the specialized agencies, and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC), while the latter included the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the United Nations Institute for Training and Research on Women (INSTRAW) and the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs. The Committee requested the Secretariat to prepare information, pursuant to the General Assembly's decision on the future of the Fund, for consideration at its next session, on the functional relationship of each of these bodies to the Fund as well as on the future role of the Consultative Committee.

66. Members of the Committee stressed the importance of preserving the Fund's unique identity, adding that it needed flexibility in order to retain its capacity to innovate. They referred to the type of specialized expertise available in the unit, which guaranteed that a good professional job was being done. They also observed that donors were increasingly attentive to the efficiency and effectiveness of units such as the Fund, in order to avoid unnecessary expense. At a time when resources were dwindling, the Fund needed increased support, including more inputs of skilled persons and the possibility of engaging in long-term efforts. Strengthening the self-reliance activities of the poorest women demanded the highest levels of expertise; it was more complex and costly than assisting those better off. Thus, the Fund needed to make greater use of the existing development assistance agencies. It also had an urgent need for more human and financial resources of its own.

67. Some members of the Committee stated that, among the options for the Fund's future location, autonomous association with UNDP was the best one. UNDP had already proven itself an appropriate partner for the Fund; it had offered a great deal of expertise and an experienced delivery system. In selecting this option, the members stressed once more the importance of the Fund's unique identity and capacity for innovation being preserved and strengthened. In addition, effective relationships with the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, as well as other relevant organizations and bodies, should be ensured.

B. Senior women's programme officer posts at the regional commissions

68. In requesting the report of the Secretary-General on the Voluntary Fund for consideration at its thirty-ninth session, the General Assembly also requested in paragraph 15 (a) of resolution 38/106 that information be provided on the implementation of measures taken in response to paragraph 3 of the same resolution. In paragraph 3, the General Assembly urged the Secretary-General "in consultation with the executive secretaries of the regional commissions, to give priority to solving the question of senior women's programme officer posts and to take urgently appropriate measures to ensure that all temporary and permanent senior women's programme officer posts at the regional commissions should be continued within regular budget resources available to them". Full details on the senior women's programme officer posts will be submitted in an addendum to this report.

C. Knowledge Bank

69. The Knowledge Bank project of the Fund is concerned with the creation of a measurable information and analytical base from which the most up-to-date state-of-the-art in technical co-operation concerning women and development is readily available to the Fund for the women and groups it reaches and to other international agencies, Governments and voluntary organizations. The continuing work on the design of the Fund's Knowledge Bank was made possible through the generosity of the Government of Norway.

IV. PROJECT CYCLE ACTIVITIES

A. Projects approved in 1984

70. During the period under review 160 requests for support were received. Of these requests, 96 were approved following the recommendations of the Consultative Committee on the Fund for financing or for preparatory stages. Thirty-one requests were valued at more than \$20,000 and the remainder consisted of small-scale projects and programming missions. The recommendations of the Consultative Committee at its fifteenth and sixteenth sessions were for commitments of \$2.5 million of the total of 414 projects supported from the Fund's resources to date approximately 120 are now completed.

B. Pre-investment and evaluation missions

71. To ensure the technical viability of projects, their consonance with national planning priorities, and their interrelationships with ongoing or planned national development activities, 18 pre-investment, programming and evaluation missions were organized during the period under review, in consultation with a number of bodies of the United Nations system, in particular UNDP and the regional commissions, but including United Nations Children's Fund, International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO).

72. For the first time, the Fund participated in the preparations of the donor round tables organized by Governments with the assistance of UNDP. The round tables were considered key mechanisms to ensure appropriate allocations of the ever-diminishing resources to women, and the Fund, through its field consultants, was now able to participate from the initial stages of preparation of their documentation. Fund involvement was at two levels: ensuring consideration of women in major proposals, and preparing proposals addressed specifically to the situation and needs of women.

C. Special activities

73. Analysis of the types of experience acquired by the Fund, against the background of the priorities identified by countries and regions, has led the unit to identify certain activities that were of universal interest and could be "packaged" for other countries and regions. These initiatives included a credit window, and a women and food-cycle technologies specialization. An additional emphasis that is in process of development is management training. Each package includes elements of training, technical co-operation between developing countries, loan funds and management training, as appropriate.

V. FINANCIAL SITUATION AND MOBILIZATION OF RESOURCES

A. Financial situation

74. Pledges to the Fund for 1984 stood at \$2.7 million as at August 1984, in comparison to an average \$2.4 million annually during the four preceding years. Interest income, however, augmented the Fund's resources sufficiently to enable commitments to average \$3.5 million in 1981 and 1982. In 1983, approvals of new projects and additions to existing projects amounted to a total of \$4.9 million. However, in 1984 new commitments were reduced to \$3.8 million.

75. Contributions from non-governmental organizations and public donations also constituted a valuable source of income for the Fund. Cumulative income from this source totalled \$814,388 at the end of August 1984. For 1983, non-governmental organizations as a group were the seventh largest contributor to the Fund. Another source of income was from interest on unspent balances that totalled approximately \$8 million since the inception of the Voluntary Fund. As expenditures increase, leaving lower balances available for investments, however, income from this source has declined dramatically.

76. A comparison of expenditures and pledges between the first two bienniums and the biennium 1982/1983 is shown in table 3 below.

77. Annex I to the present report contains the statement of income and expenditure for the biennium 1982-1983 and the statement of assets and liabilities as of 31 December 1983.

Table 3
Expenditure and pledges

	Total expenditure (Millions of dollars)	Total pledges (Millions of dollars)
1978/1979	2.2	6.9
1980/1981	5.3	4.5
1982/1983	<u>6.8 a/</u>	<u>5.3 b/</u>
Total	<u>14.3</u>	<u>16.7</u>

a/ The sum of expenditure reported in annex I totalling about \$6 million and an adjustment recorded in 1984 for 1983 expenditure of about \$800,000.

b/ Includes earmarked contribution to UNDP in support of VFDW projects.

B. Mobilization of resources

78. Annexes II and III to the present report contain the list of contributions and pledges of Governments, individuals and organizations to the Fund, the combined status of pledges unpaid and the non-governmental organizations contributions. Countries contributing to the Fund now total 88. The Committee proposed that the Fund's campaign in 1985 be targeted to Governments' announcement of pledges at the Nairobi 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women.

C. National committees on the Fund and other non-governmental organizations

79. The United States Committee on the Fund held its inaugural session during the period under review, joining Belgium, Denmark, Finland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in this movement. The oldest national committee, that of Finland, together with the United Nations Association there, have contributed a total of \$118,445 to the Fund to date. The Fund's non-governmental organization advisory committee, constituted of international non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, held its first two organizational sessions in 1984. The committee will provide information to its member organizations on use and mobilization of resources for the Fund.

VI. CO-ORDINATION

80. Together with other United Nations development co-operation organizations, the Fund has participated in the Interorganization Evaluation Study of Women in Development, co-ordinated by UNDP. The latter proposed that the results of its evaluation study, the Fund's forward-looking assessment and evaluations from the entire United Nations system be widely discussed, with a view to enhancing the capability of the Fund and the rest of the system to serve the women in developing countries in the most efficient, effective and beneficial ways.

Notes

1/ The Lagos Plan of Action was adopted by the African Heads of State in 1980 as the strategy for the socio-economic development of Africa. See Organization of African Unity, Lagos Plan of Action for the Economic Development of Africa, 1980-2000.

2/ Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 1979, Part Two, Regional Development Strategy for the 1980s, ST/ESCAP/124, p. 96.

3/ Regional Programme of Action for Latin America in the 1980s, Resolution 422 (XIX) adopted by ECLA at its nineteenth session, Montevideo, Uruguay, 1981 (E/CEPAL/G.189, October 1981), para. 25.

4/ See "Development strategy for the region of the Economic Commission for Western Asia in the third United Nations Development Decade", E/ECWA/DPD/Rev.1 and E/ECWA/DPD/WG.14/3/Add.2, 6 September 1979; and "Regional Programme for the Arab States", DP/RAB/1, 21 April 1983.

ANNEX I

Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women

I. Statement of income and expenditure for the
biennium 1982-1983 ended 31 December 1983

(United States dollars)

<u>Income</u>	
Pledged contributions	4 317 385
Public donations	145 490
Interest income	2 431 336
Miscellaneous income	274 694
Total income	7 168 905
<u>Expenditure</u>	
Staff and other personnel costs	3 048 796
Travel	289 549
Contractual services	177 395
Operating expenses	526 733
Acquisitions	655 757
Fellowships, grants, other	795 874
Subtotal	5 494 104
Programme support costs	522 039
Total expenditure	6 016 143
Excess of income over expenditure	1 152 762

II. Statement of assets and liabilities as of 31 December 1983

(United States dollars)

Assets

Cash	5 181 745
Pledged contributions unpaid	2 253 107
Accounts receivable	101 559
Operating funds provided to executing agencies	7 604 009
Deferred charges and other assets	7 563
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Total assets	15 147 983
	<hr/> <hr/>

Liabilities

Accounts payable	2 144
Unliquidated obligations	664 664
Reserve for allocations	6 708 713
Due to United Nations General Fund	83 980
Deferred income	1 888 232
	<hr/>
Total liabilities	9 347 733
	<hr/>

Fund balance

Balance available 1 January 1982	7 254 053
<u>Add:</u> Excess of income over expenditure	1 152 762
	<hr/>
Subtotal	8 406 815
<u>Less:</u> Transfers to reserves	(2 606 565)
	<hr/>
Balance available 31 December 1983	5 800 250
	<hr/>
Total liabilities and Fund balance	15 147 983
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ANNEX II

Contributions and pledges to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations
Decade for Women as of 20 August 1984

Country	Total	1974-1981	1982	1983	1984
Africa					
Algeria	15 000	5 000	-	-	10 000
Benin	4 000	4 000	-	-	-
Botswana	9 174	-	-	4 587	4 587
Cameroon	12 081	7 071	2 209	2 801	-
Congo	11 339	1 000	-	2 801	7 538
Egypt	1 000	1 000	-	-	-
Ethiopia	3 466	3 466	-	-	-
Gabon	4 900	4 900	-	-	-
Ghana	2 500	2 500	-	-	-
Guinea	1 000	-	-	-	1 000
Guinea-Bissau	450	450	-	-	-
Lesotho	3 000	500	500	1 000	1 000
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	50 000	50 000	-	-	-
Madagascar	1 883	1 000	883	-	-
Mauritius	500	-	-	500	-
Morocco	25 000	25 000	-	-	-
Nigeria	33 161	25 946	7 215	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	500	500	-	-	-
Senegal	11 500	8 000	1 000	1 000	1 500
Togo	3 096	1 928	-	-	1 168
Tunisia	7 350	7 350	-	-	-
United Republic of Tanzania	4 884	2 442	2 442	-	-
Zaire	500	-	-	-	500
Zambia	3 731	-	-	-	3 731
Zimbabwe	16 015	-	5 000	6 510	4 505
	226 030	152 053	19 249	19 199	35 529
Asia					
Afghanistan	500	-	-	-	500
Bangladesh	3 000	1 000	-	2 000	-
Brunei Darussalam	5 000	-	-	5 000	-
China	146 478	106 478	-	20 000	20 000
India	125 000	65 000	20 000	20 000	20 000
Indonesia	14 000	9 000	2 000	-	3 000
Iran	30 000	30 000	-	-	-
Japan	1 618 460	1 030 000	292 340 a/	296 120	-
Malaysia	3 000	3 000	-	-	-
Maldives	2 200	-	1 000	1 200	-
Nepal	1 000	1 000	-	-	-
Pakistan	45 703	20 100	10 101	8 000	7 502
Papua New Guinea	1 550	1 550	-	-	-
Philippines	40 800	25 500	6 000	6 000	3 300
Republic of Korea	6 000	-	2 000	2 000	2 000

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Country	Total	1974-1981	1982	1983	1984
Samoa	300	300	-	-	-
Sri Lanka	2 000	-	-	-	2 000
Thailand	6 000	3 000	-	-	3 000
	2 050 991	1 295 928	333 441	360 320	61 302
<u>Eastern Europe</u>					
German Democratic Republic	1 198	1 198	-	-	-
Yugoslavia	10 500	2 500	4 000	4 000	-
	11 698	3 698	4 000	4 000	-
<u>Latin America and the Caribbean</u>					
Barbados	2 500	1 000	-	-	1 500
Brazil	27 000	27 000	-	-	-
Chile	25 000	15 000	5 000	5 000	-
Colombia	2 000	-	-	-	2 000
Dominican Republic	4 000	4 000	-	-	-
Ecuador	2 000	-	-	2 000	-
Guyana	2 000	1 000	1 000	-	-
Honduras	5 000	2 000	1 000	1 000	1 000
Jamaica	8 204	5 613	-	2 247	344
Mexico	22 275	9 801	5 195	5 195	2 084
Panama	1 500	1 500	-	-	-
Trinidad and Tobago	6 016	3 008	1 000	1 008	1 000
Venezuela	3 000	3 000	-	-	-
	110 495	72 922	13 195	16 450	7 928
<u>Western Asia</u>					
Democratic Yemen	8 024	3 646	1 323	1 455	1 600
Iraq	3 000	3 000	-	-	-
Jordan	6 000	6 000	-	-	-
Kuwait	23 500	23 500	-	-	-
Oman	20 000	20 000	-	-	-
Qatar	15 000	5 000	5 000	5 000	-
Syrian Arab Republic	1 000	1 000	-	-	-
United Arab Emirates	30 000	30 000	-	-	-
	106 524	92 146	6 323	6 455	1 600
<u>Western Europe and others</u>					
Australia	431 156	120 315	112 610	95 744	102 487
Austria	147 309	85 200	21 000	21 000	20 109
Belgium	962 320	704 684	105 596	76 923	75 117
Canada	52 128	19 608	-	16 260	16 260 b/
Cyprus	900	600	300	-	-
Denmark	682 701	436 040	37 241	109 420	100 000
Finland	475 204	183 439	112 360	90 909	88 496
France	150 299	48 256	35 398	38 972	27 673

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Country	Total	1974-1981	1982	1983	1984
Germany, Federal Republic of	60 935	19 965	21 739	-	19 231
Greece	20 500	10 000	3 500	3 500	3 500
Iceland	25 200	7 200	6 000	6 000	6 000
Italy	876 393	194 418	254 237	207 612	220 126
Luxembourg	7 485	7 485	-	-	-
Netherlands	1 282 944	789 818	175 781	157 895	159 450
New Zealand	43 077	27 264	-	7 843	7 970
Norway	3 276 378	950 074	672 269	837 708	816 327
Portugal	7 000	-	-	3 500	3 500
Spain	120 000	60 000	60 000	-	-
Sweden	1 206 570	895 903	100 000	108 103	102 564
Switzerland	90 000	90 000	-	-	-
Turkey	9 875	9 875	-	-	-
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1 187 711	1 187 711	-	-	-
United States of America	7 200 000	6 700 000	- c/	- c/	500 000
	18 316 085	12 547 855	1 718 031	1 781 389	2 268 810
Grand total	<u>20 821 823</u>	<u>14 164 602</u>	<u>2 094 239</u>	<u>2 187 813</u>	<u>2 375 169</u>

a/ \$200,000 earmarked for staffing assistance to the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs.

b/ Canada also pledged \$16,260 for 1985.

c/ The United States of America earmarked the amounts of \$500,000 for 1982 and 1983 for specific projects of VPDW, financed through the UNDP.

ANNEX III

Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women:
combined status of pledges unpaid as of 20 August 1984

Country	1983 and earlier	1984	Total
Afghanistan	-	500	500
Austria	-	20 109	20 109
Belgium	-	75 117	75 117
Botswana	-	4 587	4 587
Cameroon	3 280	-	3 280
Canada	-	16 260	16 260
Colombia	-	2 000	2 000
Congo	3 801	7 538	11 339
Cyprus	600	-	600
Democratic Yemen	2 778	1 600	4 378
Denmark	-	100 000	100 000
Dominican Republic	5 000	-	5 000
Ecuador	2 000	-	2 000
Guinea	-	1 000	1 000
Guinea-Bissau	388	-	388
Honduras	-	1 000	1 000
Iceland	6 000	-	6 000
Indonesia	-	3 000	3 000
Iraq	3 000	-	3 000
Italy	227 612	220 126	447 738
Jamaica	2 247	344	2 591
Lesotho	-	1 000	1 000
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	50 000	-	50 000
Malaysia	2 000	-	2 000
Morocco	25 000	-	25 000
Pakistan	-	5 625	5 625
Panama	500	-	500
Philippines	10 739	3 300	14 039
Portugal	-	3 500	3 500
Republic of Korea	-	2 000	2 000
Senegal	10 000	1 500	11 500
Spain	120 000	-	120 000
Sweden	-	102 564	102 564
Syrian Arab Republic	500	-	500
Togo	583	1 168	1 751
Trinidad and Tobago	-	1 000	1 000
Turkey	306	-	306

Country	1983 and earlier	1984	Total
United Republic of Tanzania	2 442	-	2 442
Yugoslavia	5 500	-	5 500
Zaire	-	500	500
Zambia	-	3 731	3 731
Zimbabwe	-	4 505	4 505
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Grand total	484 276	583 574	1 067 850
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