

REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION, 1984

Mexico City, 6 - 14 August 1984



UNITED NATIONS

Department of Technical Co-operation for Development

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Chapter 1

RECOMMENDATIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE

1. At its 12th plenary meeting, on 14 August 1984, the Conference adopted the Declaration and the recommendations the text of which is set out below. At its 10th and 12 plenary meetings, on 13 and 14 August 1984, respectively, it adopted resolutions I and II the text of which is reproduced at the end of this chapter.

A. MEXICO CITY DECLARATION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

1. The International Conference on Population met in Mexico City from 6 to 14 August 1984, to appraise the implementation of the World Population Plan of Action, adopted by consensus at Bucharest, 10 years ago. The Conference reaffirmed the full validity of the principles and objectives of the World Population Plan of Action and adopted a set of recommendations for the further implementation of the Plan in the years ahead.

2. The world has undergone far-reaching changes in the past decade. Significant progress in many fields important for human welfare has been made through national and international efforts. However, for a large number of countries it has been a period of instability, increased unemployment, mounting external indebtedness, stagnation and even decline in economic growth. The number of people living in absolute poverty has increased.

3. Economic difficulties and problems of resource mobilization have been particularly serious in the developing countries. Growing international disparities have further exacerbated already serious problems in social and economic terms. Firm and widespread hope was expressed that increasing international co-operation will lead to a growth in welfare and wealth, their just and equitable distribution and minimal waste in use of resources, thereby promoting development and peace for the benefit of the world's population.

4. Population growth, high mortality and morbidity, and migration problems continue to be causes of great concern requiring immediate action.

5. The Conference confirms that the principal aim of social, economic and human development, of which population goals and policies are integral parts, is to improve the standards of living and quality of life of the people. This Declaration constitutes a solemn undertaking by the nations and international organizations gathered in Mexico City to respect national sovereignty, to combat all forms of racial discrimination, including apartheid, and to promote social and economic development, human rights and individual freedom.

* * *

6. Since Bucharest the global population growth rate has declined from 2.03 to 1.67 per cent per year. In the next decade the growth rate will decline more slowly. Moreover, the annual increase in numbers is expected to continue and may reach 90 million by the year 2000. Ninety per cent of that increase will occur in developing countries and at that time 6.1 billion people are expected to inhabit the Earth.

7. Demographic differences between developed and developing countries remain striking. The average life expectancy at birth, which has increased almost everywhere, is 73 years in developed countries, while in developing countries it is only 57 years and families in developing countries tend to be much larger than elsewhere. This gives cause for concern since social and population pressures may contribute to the continuation of the wide disparity in welfare and the quality of life between developing and developed countries.

8. In the past decade, population issues have been increasingly recognized as a fundamental element in development planning. To be realistic, development policies, plans and programmes must reflect the inextricable links between population, resources, environment and development. Priority should be given to action programmes integrating all essential population and development factors, taking fully into account the need for rational utilization of natural resources and protection of the physical environment and preventing its further deterioration.

9. The experience with population policies in recent years is encouraging. Mortality and morbidity rates have been lowered, although not to the desired extent. Family planning programmes have been successful in reducing fertility at relatively low cost. Countries which consider that their population growth rate hinders their national development plans should adopt appropriate population policies and programmes. Timely action could avoid the accentuation of problems such as overpopulation, unemployment, food shortages, and environmental degradation.

10. Population and development policies reinforce each other when they are responsive to individual, family and community needs. Experience from the past decade demonstrates the necessity of the full participation by the entire community and grass-roots organizations in the design and implementation of policies and programmes. This will ensure that programmes are relevant to local needs and in keeping with personal and social values. It will also promote social awareness of demographic problems.

11. Improving the status of women and enhancing their role is an important goal in itself and will also influence family life and size in a positive way. Community support is essential to bring about the full integration and participation of women into all phases and functions of the development process. Institutional, economic and cultural barriers must be removed and broad and swift action taken to assist women in attaining full equality with men in the social, political and economic life of their communities. To achieve this goal, it is necessary for men and women to share jointly responsibilities in areas such as family life, child-caring and family planning. Governments should formulate and implement concrete policies which would enhance the status and role of women.

12. Unwanted high fertility adversely affects the health and welfare of individuals and families, especially among the poor, and seriously impedes social and economic progress in many countries. Women and children are the main victims of unregulated fertility. Too many, too close, too early and too late pregnancies are a major cause of maternal, infant and childhood mortality and morbidity.

13. Although considerable progress has been made since Bucharest, millions of people still lack access to safe and effective family planning methods. By the year 2000 some 1.6 billion women will be of childbearing age, 1.3 billion of them in developing countries. Major efforts must be made now to ensure that all couples and individuals can exercise their basic human right to decide freely, responsibly and without coercion, the number and spacing of their children and to have the information, education and means to do so. In exercising this right, the best interests of their living and future children as well as the responsibility towards the community should be taken into account.

14. Although modern contraceptive technology has brought considerable progress into family planning programmes, increased funding is required in order to develop new methods and to improve the safety, efficacy and acceptability of

existing methods. Expanded research should also be undertaken in human reproduction to solve problems of infertility and subfecundity.

15. As part of the overall goal to improve the health standards for all people, special attention should be given to maternal and child health services within a primary health care system. Through breast-feeding, adequate nutrition, clean water, immunization programmes, oral rehydration therapy and birth spacing, a virtual revolution in child survival could be achieved. The impact would be dramatic in humanitarian and fertility terms.

16. The coming decades will see rapid changes in population structures with marked regional variations. The absolute numbers of children and youth in developing countries will continue to rise so rapidly that special programmes will be necessary to respond to their needs and aspirations, including productive employment. Aging of populations is a phenomenon which many countries will experience. This issue requires attention particularly in developed countries in view of its social implications and the active contribution the aged can make to the social, cultural and economic life in their countries.

17. Rapid urbanization will continue to be a salient feature. By the end of the century, 3 billion people, 48 per cent of the world's population, might live in cities, frequently very large cities. Integrated urban and rural development strategies should therefore be an essential part of population policies. They should be based on a full evaluation of the costs and benefits to individuals, groups and regions involved, should respect basic human rights and use incentives rather than restrictive measures.

18. The volume and nature of international migratory movements continue to undergo rapid changes. Illegal or undocumented migration and refugee movements have gained particular importance; labour migration of considerable magnitude occurs in all regions. The outflow of skills remains a serious human resource problem in many developing countries. It is indispensable to safeguard the individual and social rights of the persons involved and to protect them from exploitation and treatment not in conformity with basic human rights; it is also necessary to guide these different migration streams. To achieve this, the co-operation of countries of origin and destination and the assistance of international organizations are required.

19. As the years since 1974 have shown, the political commitment of Heads of State and other leaders and the willingness of Governments to take the lead in formulating population programmes and allocating the necessary resources are crucial for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action. Governments should attach high priority to the attainment of self-reliance in the management of such programmes, strengthen their administrative and managerial capabilities, and ensure co-ordination of international assistance at the national level.

20. The years since Bucharest have also shown that international co-operation in the field of population is essential for the implementation of recommendations agreed upon by the international community and can be notably successful. The need for increased resources for population activities is emphasized. Adequate and substantial international support and assistance will greatly facilitate the efforts of Governments. It should be provided wholeheartedly and in a spirit of universal solidarity and enlightened self-interest. The United Nations family should continue to perform its vital responsibilities.

21. Non-governmental organizations have a continuing important role in the implementation of the World Population Plan of Action and deserve encouragement and support from Governments and international organizations. Members of Parliament, community leaders, scientists, the media and others in influential positions are called upon to assist in all aspects of population and development work.

* * *

22. At Bucharest, the world was made aware of the gravity and magnitude of the population problems and their close interrelationship with economic and social development. The message of Mexico City is to forge ahead with effective implementation of the World Population Plan of Action aimed at improving standards of living and quality of life for all peoples of this planet in promotion of their common destiny in peace and security.

23. IN ISSUING THIS DECLARATION, ALL PARTICIPANTS AT THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION REITERATE THEIR COMMITMENT AND REDEDICATE THEMSELVES TO THE FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN.

B. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE WORLD POPULATION PLAN OF ACTION

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I. PREAMBLE

1. During the years since the United Nations World Population Conference in 1974, the World Conference Plan of Action a/ has served as a guide to action in the field of population for Governments, for international organizations and for non-governmental organizations. The consensus of Bucharest has facilitated international co-operation and helped to bring population issues to the forefront. The principles and objectives of the Plan have shown themselves to remain valid and are reaffirmed.

2. However, the demographic, social, economic and political conditions of the world have changed considerably. In many developing countries the demographic situation has improved since 1974; fertility has declined, morbidity has diminished, infant mortality has declined and life expectancy has increased. There have also been improvements in the social sphere. In many developing countries school enrolment and literacy rates have increased, and access to health services has improved. For the developing countries as a whole, there has been an increase in per capita calorie supply, though in some regions, such as Africa, per capita calorie supply has not improved. Economic trends have, however, been less encouraging. Although per capita income did not grow as rapidly since 1974 as in the previous 10 years, it is none the less true that per capita income did grow moderately in a number of developing countries during that period. During the latter part of the decade, however, many developing countries experienced little or no growth in per capita income, and many experienced actual declines in per capita income, with the result that the gap between the per capita incomes of many developed and most developing countries widened during the period. Moreover, while progress has been made in achieving some goals of the World Population Plan of Action, other goals have not been met. Some important gaps in knowledge have been filled and new issues have emerged to challenge the international community. Therefore, as foreseen at Bucharest, some of the goals and recommendations of the Plan now call for complementing and further refinement. Though the community of nations has made considerable progress in the pursuit of the goals of the World Population Plan of Action, there is still a great need for continuation and acceleration in these efforts to realize those goals, as they have been refined at Mexico City in August 1984.

3. With respect to some major issues raised in the Plan, the following facts and trends deserve special mention:

(a) Though the global rate of population growth has declined slightly since 1974, the world population has increased by 770 million during the decade, and 90 per cent of that increase has occurred in the developing countries. Furthermore, the annual additions to the world's population are increasing in size. Moreover, in many countries of Africa, Latin America and Asia growth rates have increased owing to mortality declines not accompanied by equivalent declines in fertility;

(b) At the global level, and in virtually all countries, the level of mortality has fallen. However, the targets set by the World Population Plan of Action have not been met. At the same time, new approaches in the form of primary health care have been widely adopted;

(c) At the global level, fertility declined substantially but, as with population growth, the changes in some regions were far greater than in others.

For national and sub-national groups in populations and sub-populations representing about one fourth of the world's population, no decline of fertility was observed. The fertility changes were associated with progress in socio-economic development, with continued changes in the status of women, with changes in family structure in some regions, and with the increased availability of family planning services;

(d) Improvements in the status of women have been promoted by the World Population Plan of Action and the plans and programmes generated under the aegis of the United Nations Decade for Women. However, persisting inequalities between women and men are evident in the higher incidence of poverty, unemployment and illiteracy among women, the limited range of employment categories and the uneven share of home and family responsibilities borne by women. At the same time, it is increasingly recognized that socio-economic development is curtailed without the active participation of women in all fields of activity;

(e) Access to and knowledge of family planning have come to be much more widely permitted and supported by Governments as a contribution to maternal and child health, to the human rights of individuals and couples, and as a demographic measure. Nevertheless, data from the World Fertility Survey for developing countries indicate that, of women who wanted no more children and were exposed to the risk of pregnancy, on average over half were not using contraception;

(f) As a result of demographic trends, population structures have changed. In particular, the aging of populations and changes in household and family structure and composition have continued;

(g) In most regions of the world, urban populations continued to increase far more rapidly than total populations. In some developed countries, however, there was a trend towards deconcentration. Rapid urban population growth has become a matter of growing policy concern to most Governments, particularly in the developing regions in which the urban unemployment level remains extremely high. In some regions, the continued high levels of rural population growth renders rural development difficult;

(h) Persistent disparities among countries, particularly in population and economic development as also the felt needs of some host countries, have increased the potential of further international migration. These migrant workers do contribute to the economic development of receiving countries. However, the direction, magnitude and the type of international migration flows is a matter of concern to some countries;

(i) The flows of refugees are increasing in different regions of the world and are also a matter of increasing concern;

(j) Problems relating to involuntary migration have also increased;

(k) The overall social and economic development of the developing countries and the implementation of effective measures to deal with population trends in the period 1974-1984 have been greatly hampered by the serious effects of the international economic crisis on the economies of the developing countries. In the majority of developing countries, increases in population and its aspirations have contributed to increasing imports versus exports - food in particular. Furthermore, existing population programmes have been greatly affected by a shortage of adequate resources from both national and international sources;

(l) In many countries the population has continued to grow rapidly, aggravating such environmental and natural resource problems as soil erosion, desertification and deforestation, which affect food and agricultural production. The mechanisms to deal effectively with these problems are still in an incipient stage in many countries. There is, however, increasing awareness of the need to take into account natural resources and the quality of the environment along with social and economic factors;

(m) In the years since 1974 there have been a number of hopeful developments. New agricultural technologies, including the green revolution, have made it possible to better meet the needs of growing populations. Progress in molecular biology has potential for influencing both levels of fertility and mortality and the development of communication satellites may greatly advance mass education, including education directly related to population issues. The economic and social consequences of these advances raise serious ethical questions and may have a fundamental impact on the future of society.

4. The principles and objectives of the World Population Plan of Action affirm that the principal aim of social, economic and cultural development, of which population goals and policies are integral parts, is to improve the standards of living and quality of life of the people. Achieving this goal requires co-ordinated action in population with all socio-economic fields; thus, population trends must be co-ordinated with trends of economic and social development. In helping to achieve this co-ordination, the World Population Plan of Action should become an essential component of the system of international strategies for the promotion of economic development, the quality of life, human rights and fundamental freedoms.

5. The Plan affirms that the consideration of population problems cannot be limited to the analysis of population trends, since population variables influence development and are influenced by them. The present population situation in developing countries is related, inter alia, to unequal processes of socio-economic development, which are intensified by inequities in international relations, and by related disparities in standards of living.

6. It remains true that the basis for an effective solution of population problems is, above all, socio-economic transformation and, therefore, population policies must always be considered as a constituent element of socio-economic development policies and never as substitutes for them. However, even if social and economic development is slow or lacking, family planning programmes may have an impact on the level of fertility.

7. While the importance of integrating women into the development of society has been recognized by many Governments, much remains to be done to fulfil the recommendations adopted in 1974 by the World Population Conference as elaborated in 1975 by the World Conference of the International Women's Year, and in 1980 by the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women. The Plan, as well as other important international instruments, stressed the urgency of achieving the full integration of women in society on an equal basis with men and of abolishing any form of discrimination against women. In order to provide women with the freedom to participate fully in the life of society, it is equally necessary for men to share fully with women responsibilities in the areas of family planning, child-rearing and all other aspects of family life. The achievement of these objectives is integral to achieving development goals, including those related to population policy.

8. To achieve the goals of development, the formulation of national population goals and policies must take into account the need to contribute to an economic development which is environmentally sustainable over the long run and which protects the ecological balance.

9. The interdependence among countries has become ever more manifest and requires that national and international strategies pursue an integrated and balanced approach to population, resources, environment and development at national and international levels, by ensuring that the developing countries achieve significant improvement in their living standards and in the quality of life through economic and social transformation.

10. As the world enters a second decade after the World Population Conference of 1974, major challenges and problems in the area of population that are of primary concern to the international community and that are particularly relevant to the economic and social progress of the developing countries are:

(a) The task of reducing poverty, expanding employment and assuring the right to work by encouraging economic growth, which includes measures for the just distribution of wealth;

(b) The continued need to further promote the status of women and the expansion and advancement of their roles;

(c) The annual increments in population, which are projected to grow larger throughout the decade;

(d) The rate of population growth, which remains high in developing countries and which, for many countries, may even rise in the coming years;

(e) Changes in population structures, particularly the aging of populations, changes in household and family structure and composition, and the growth of the working-age populations in developing countries where economies are not growing adequately;

(f) High levels of infant and maternal mortality, and the important mortality differentials between regions, countries, social groups and sexes;

(g) The persistence of fertility rates substantially higher or lower than those desired by Governments and peoples in some countries;

(h) The unmet needs for family planning in many countries, which unless they are addressed will grow even greater as the number of couples of reproductive age increases substantially during the coming decade;

(i) The disequilibrium between rates of change in population and changes in resources, environment and development;

(j) The persistence of high rates of internal migration, new forms of mobility, high rates of urbanization, and the concentration of population in large cities in developing countries where these phenomena have negative consequences for development;

(k) The importance and diversity of international migration and its consequences for countries of origin and destination and the necessity for co-operation between these countries in this field;

(l) The need to find solutions to all problems related to refugees, whose numbers are increasing;

(m) The increasing number of persons who lack sufficient food, pure water, shelter, health care, education and the other facilities required to achieve full human potential;

(n) The consequences of progress in agricultural technology and in genetic engineering, which may lead to essential changes in the character of societies;

(o) The relatively high proportion of young people in the populations of the developing countries and the problems and consequences attendant to this which, unless addressed, will assure that populations will continued to grow for many decades to come;

(p) The need to strengthen the capacities of developing countries in data collection, analysis and utilization and to develop appropriately trained personnel in the population area;

(q) The need for increased national and international support to implement the Plan, in particular, adequate multilateral resources to support the efforts of developing countries.

11.* The Plan and the following recommendations for its further implementation should be considered within the framework of other intergovernmental strategies and plans. In this respect, they reaffirm the principles and objectives of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (General Assembly resolution 217 A (III)), the International Covenants on Human Rights (General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex), the Declaration on Social Progress and Development (General Assembly resolution 2542 (XXIV)), the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order (General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI)), the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States (General Assembly resolution 3281 (XXIX)) and the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade (General Assembly resolution 35/56, annex) and General Assembly resolutions 34/75 and 35/46 on the declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade. In addition, the following declarations, plans of action and other relevant texts that have emanated from intergovernmental meetings must be stressed because of their relevance to the objectives of the World Population Plan of Action:

(a) United Nations Declaration on the Rights of the Child (1959); b/

* While joining the consensus the delegation of the United States of America stated that:

"The United States reserved its position on all the international agreements mentioned in this document consistent with our previous acceptance or non-acceptance of them."

- (b) Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment and the Action Plan for the Human Environment (Stockholm, 1972) c/ and resolution 1 adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its session of a special character (Nairobi, 1982); d/
- (c) Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition (Rome, 1974); e/
- (d) World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year (Mexico City, 1975) f/ and Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women (Copenhagen, 1980); g/
- (e) Lima Declaration and Plan of Action on Industrial Development and Co-operation (Lima, 1975); h/
- (f) Declaration of Principles and Programme of Action adopted by the Tripartite World Conference on Employment, Income Distribution and Social Progress and the International Division of Labour (Geneva, 1976); i/
- (g) Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements, 1976; j/
- (h) Plan of Action to Combat Desertification (Nairobi, 1977); k/
- (i) Mar del Plata Action Plan adopted by the United Nations Water Conference (Mar del Plata, 1977); l/
- (j) Declaration of Alma-Ata adopted by the International Conference on Primary Health Care (Alma-Ata, 1978); m/
- (k) Programme of Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (Geneva, 1978), n/ programme of activities to be undertaken during the second half of the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination o/ and Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the Second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (Geneva, 1983); p/
- (l) Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries (Buenos Aires, 1978); q/
- (m) Declaration of Principles and Programme of Action of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (Rome, 1979); r/
- (n) Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development (Vienna, 1979); s/
- (o) Global Strategy for Health for All by the Year 2000, t/ adopted by the World Health Assembly in its resolution WHA 34.36 of 22 May 1981 and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 36/43 of 19 November 1981;
- (p) Nairobi Programme of Action for the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy (Nairobi, 1981); u/
- (q) Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries (Paris, 1981); v/
- (r) International Plan of Action on Aging (Vienna, 1982). w/

II. PEACE, SECURITY AND POPULATION

12. Being aware of the existing close links between peace and development, it is of great importance for the world community to work ceaselessly to promote, among nations, peace, security, disarmament and co-operation, which are indispensable for the achievement of the goals of humane population policies and for economic and social development. Creating the conditions for real peace and security would permit an allocation of resources to social and economic rather than to military programmes, which would greatly help to attain the goals and objectives of the World Population Plan of Action.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

13. Many of the following recommendations are addressed to Governments. This is not meant to preclude the efforts or initiative of international organizations, non-governmental organizations, private institutions or organizations, or families and individuals where their efforts can make an effective contribution to overall population or development goals on the basis of strict respect for sovereignty and national legislation in force.

A. Socio-economic development, the environment and population

14. The World Population Plan of Action recognizes explicitly the importance of the interrelationships between population and socio-economic development and affirms, inter alia, that "the basis for an effective solution of population problems is, above all, socio-economic transformation" (paragraph 1) and that "population policies are constituent elements of socio-economic development policies, never substitutes for them" (paragraph 14 (d)). Consequently, the Plan of Action includes a number of recommendations dealing with socio-economic policies, the contents of which fully deserve reaffirmation and further development. The following recommendations reflect the view that if national and international policies are not adopted and implemented to increase the overall resources and the share of the world's resources going to the very poor, it will be extremely difficult for many countries to achieve the levels of fertility and mortality that they desire. The recommendations reflect the importance to be attached to an integrated approach towards population and development, both in national policies and at the international level. The recommendations also reflect the view that, although the actions of the developing countries are of primary importance, the attainment of the goals and objectives stipulated in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade will require appropriate policies by the developed countries and by the international community which support the efforts of the developing countries to achieve those objectives.

Recommendation 1

Considering that social and economic development is a central factor in the solution of population and interrelated problems and that population factors are very important in development plans and strategies and have a major impact on the attainment of development objectives, national development policies, plans and programmes, as well as international development strategies, should be formulated on the basis of an integrated approach that takes into account the

interrelationships between population, resources, environment and development. In this context, national and international efforts should give priority to action programmes integrating population and development.

Recommendation 2

National and international efforts should give high priority to the following development goals included in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade: the eradication of mass hunger and the achievement of adequate health and nutrition levels, the eradication of mass illiteracy, the improvement of the status of women, the elimination of mass unemployment and underemployment and the elimination of inequality in international economic relations. To achieve these goals, it is further recommended that Governments should take population trends fully into account when formulating their development plans and programmes.

Recommendation 3*

In order to promote the broadly based socio-economic development that is essential to achieving an adequate quality of life as well as national population objectives and to respond effectively to the requirements posed by demographic trends, all countries are urged to co-operate in efforts to achieve the above objectives and to accelerate development, particularly in developing countries, inter alia, through policies to lower barriers to trade, to increase multilateral and bilateral development assistance, to improve the quality and effectiveness of this assistance, to increase real income earnings from the export of commodities, to solve the problems arising from the debt burden in a significant number of developing countries, to increase the volume and improve the terms of international lending, and to encourage various sources of investment and, wherever appropriate, entrepreneurial initiatives. To respond to the needs of populations for employment, food self-sufficiency, and improvements in the quality of life and to increase self-reliance, productive investment should be increased, appropriate industries should be encouraged and substantial investments should be fostered in rural and agricultural development.

* While joining the consensus the delegations of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic stated that:

"They cannot accept the unbalanced wording in recommendation 3, which implies underestimation of the role that the State sector is playing in socio-economic development as reflected in relevant United Nations documents."

While joining the consensus the delegation of the United States of America stated that:

"The United States wished to underline that endorsement of this document does not change known United States positions on commodity agreements or future lending resources for international financial institutions."

Recommendation 4

In countries in which there are imbalances between trends in population growth and resources and environmental requirements, Governments are urged, in the context of overall development policies, to adopt and implement specific policies, including population policies, that will contribute to redressing such imbalances and promote improved methods of identifying, extracting, renewing, utilizing and conserving natural resources. Efforts should be made to accelerate the transition from traditional to new and renewable sources of energy while at the same time maintaining the integrity of the environment. Governments should also implement appropriate policy measures to avoid the further destruction of the ecological equilibria and take measures to restore them.

B. The role and the status of women

15. The World Population Plan of Action (paragraphs 15 (e), 32 (b), 42 and 43) as well as other important international instruments - in particular the 1975 Mexico City Plan of Action, the 1980 Copenhagen Programme of Action for the United Nations Decade for Women and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex) - stress the urgency of achieving the full integration of women in society on an equal basis with men and of abolishing any form of discrimination against women. Comprehensive strategies to address these concerns will be formulated at the 1985 Nairobi Conference which is being convened to review and appraise the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women.

16. In view of the slow progress made since 1974 in the achievement of equality for women, the broadening of the role and the improvement of the status of women remain important goals that should be pursued as ends in themselves. The achievement of genuine equality with respect to opportunities, responsibilities and rights would guarantee that women could participate fully with men in all aspects of decision-making regarding population and development issues that affect their families, communities and countries.

17. The ability of women to control their own fertility forms an important basis for the enjoyment of other rights; likewise, the assurance of socio-economic opportunities on an equal basis with men and the provision of the necessary services and facilities enable women to take greater responsibility for their reproductive lives. The following recommendations take into account the need for actions to ensure that women can effectively exercise rights equal to those of men in all spheres of economic, social, cultural and political life, and in particular those rights which pertain most directly to population concerns.

Recommendation 5

Governments are strongly urged to integrate women fully into all phases of the development process, including planning, policy and decision-making. Governments should pursue more aggressively action programmes aimed at improving and protecting the legal rights and status of women through efforts to identify and to remove institutional and cultural barriers to women's education, training, employment and access to health care. In addition, Governments should provide remedial measures, including mass education programmes, to assist women in attaining equality with men in the social, political and economic life of their countries. The promotion of

community support and the collaboration, at the request of Governments, of non-governmental organizations, particularly women's organizations, in expediting these efforts should be given paramount importance.

Recommendation 6

Governments should ensure that women are free to participate in the labour force and are neither restricted from, nor forced to participate in, the labour force for reasons of demographic policy or cultural tradition. Further, the biological role of women in the reproductive process should in no way be used as a reason for limiting women's right to work. Governments should take the initiative in removing any existing barriers to the realization of that right and should create opportunities and conditions such that activities outside the home can be combined with child-rearing and household activities.

Recommendation 7

Governments should provide women, through education, training and employment, with opportunities for personal fulfilment in familial and non-familial roles, as well as for full participation in economic, social and cultural life, while continuing to give due support to their important social role as mothers. To this end, in those countries where child-bearing occurs when the mother is too young, Government policies should encourage delay in the commencement of child-bearing.

Recommendation 8

Governments concerned should make efforts to raise the age of entry into marriage in countries in which this age at marriage is still quite low.

Recommendation 9

Governments should promote and encourage, through information, education and communication, as well as through employment legislation and institutional support, where appropriate, the active involvement of men in all areas of family responsibility, including family planning, child-rearing and housework, so that family responsibilities can be fully shared by both partners.

Recommendation 10

All Governments which have not already done so are strongly urged to sign and ratify or accede to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

C. Development of population policies

18. The World Population Plan of Action urges that population policies should not be considered substitutes for socio-economic development policies but rather should be integral components of those policies (paragraph 2). In formulating population policies, Governments may aim to affect one or more of the following population trends and characteristics, among others, population growth, morbidity and mortality, reproduction, population distribution, internal and international migration and population structure. The Plan also recognizes the sovereignty of

nations in the formulation, adoption and implementation of their population policies (paragraph 14), consistent with basic human rights and responsibilities of individuals, couples and families (paragraph 17).

Recommendation 11

Governments are urged to adopt population policies and social and economic development policies that are mutually reinforcing. Such policies should be formulated with particular attention to the individual, the family and community levels, as well as to other factors at the micro-level and macro-level. Special emphasis needs to be given to linkages between population trends, labour supply and demand, the problems of unemployment and the creation of productive employment. Governments are urged to share their experience in integrating population policies into other social and economic development policies.

Recommendation 12

Governments are encouraged to provide adequate resources and, where appropriate, to adopt innovative measures for the implementation of population policy. To be effective and successful, population programmes and development activities should be responsive to local values and needs, and those directly affected should be involved in the decision-making process at all levels. Moreover, in these activities, the full participation of the community and concerned non-governmental organizations, in particular women's organizations, should be encouraged.

D. Population goals and policies

1. Population growth

19. United Nations population projections, as assessed in 1982,* indicate that, between 1984 and the end of the present century, the growth rate of the world population will decline more slowly than during the past 10 years. This is partly due to the fact that, as a consequence of high fertility levels in the past, the number of women of child-bearing age (15-49) will continue to grow rapidly. Although, according to the medium variant projections, the total fertility rate during this period is expected to decline from 3.6 to 3.0 children per woman, the annual rate of growth is projected to reach only 1.5 per cent. For the world as a whole, the present annual increment of 78 million is projected to increase to 89 million by 1995-2000. Thus, in the 16 years from 1984 to 2000, the world population is expected to increase by 1.3 billion, from 4.8 billion in 1984 to 6.1 billion in 2000.

20. These global perspectives conceal significant demographic differences existing at the regional as well as the country levels. According to the United Nations estimates, the current total fertility rates range from 6.4 children per woman for Africa, 4.7 for South Asia, 4.1 for Latin America, 2.3 for East Asia, to 1.9 for Europe and North America. During the remainder of the present century these differences are not expected to narrow significantly. Moreover, these

* The United Nations demographic estimates or projections are revised every two years.

projections assume a continuation of present efforts and policies without which uninterrupted declines in both fertility and population growth cannot be achieved. The World Population Plan of Action invites countries to consider adopting population policies, within the framework of socio-economic development, which are consistent with basic human rights and national goals and values (paragraph 17). It is in the light of that provision and the above-mentioned trends that the following recommendation is made.

Recommendation 13

Countries which consider that their population growth rates hinder the attainment of national goals are invited to consider pursuing relevant demographic policies, within the framework of socio-economic development. Such policies should respect human rights, the religious beliefs, philosophical convictions, cultural values and fundamental rights of each individual and couple, to determine the size of its own family.

2. Morbidity and mortality

(a) Goals and general guidance for health policies

21. The World Population Plan of Action set targets for those countries with the highest mortality levels for 1985 and noted the progress necessary for each region to attain an average life expectancy of 62 years by 1985 and 74 years by 2000 (paragraphs 22 and 23). Recommendation 14 below updates the targets for countries with higher mortality levels and challenges countries with intermediate or lower mortality levels to continue and strengthen their efforts for the improvement of health and the reduction of mortality in the context of overall population and development planning. The targets are feasible, provided a commitment is made and resources are well allocated. Their achievement requires that communities become increasingly involved in efforts to promote their health and welfare, that all agencies and institutions of government be involved in this endeavour, and that each programme be evaluated. The achievement of these targets will also require that countries will not be subject to aggression (paragraph 24 (f)). The attainment of reduced levels of morbidity and mortality is in accordance with the Declaration of Alma Ata, endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 34/58 of 29 November 1979.

Recommendation 14

All Governments; regardless of the mortality levels of their population, are strongly urged to strive to reduce morbidity and mortality levels and socio-economic and geographical differentials in their countries and to improve health among all population groups, especially among those groups where the morbidity and mortality levels are the highest. Countries with higher mortality levels should aim for a life expectancy at birth of at least 60 years and an infant mortality rate of less than 50 per 1,000 live births by the year 2000. Countries with intermediate mortality levels should aim to achieve a life expectancy at birth of at least 70 years and an infant mortality rate of less than 35 per 1,000 live births by the year 2000. The countries with lower mortality should continue their efforts to improve the health of all population groups and to reduce mortality even further, in keeping with their social and economic capacities. Levels, trends and differentials in mortality should be monitored in order to evaluate the success of programmes in achieving these goals.

Recommendation 15

Governmental, intergovernmental, parliamentary and non-governmental organizations should involve the community in all possible ways in the planning, implementation and evaluation of health improvement programmes.

Recommendation 16

The promotion and preservation of health should be the explicit concern of all levels and branches of government. It is strongly urged, therefore, that governmental action in the area of mortality and health should go beyond the health sector and involve all relevant sectors of national and community development. All development programmes should be monitored and analysed by the Government concerned in order to assess and to improve their impact on health.

(b) Infant, child and maternal morbidity and mortality

22. The World Population Plan of Action (paragraphs 24 and 32 (a)) gives special attention to measures aimed at reducing foetal, infant and early childhood mortality, and related maternal morbidity and mortality. The following recommendations give more precise guidelines for the implementation of the Plan, in accordance with the objective of the Global Strategy for Health for All by the Year 2000, which was adopted by the World Health Assembly and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 36/43 of 19 November 1981.

Recommendation 17

Governments are urged to take immediate steps to identify the underlying causes of morbidity and mortality among infants and young children and develop special programmes to attack these conditions. Strategies to be considered include emphasis on mother and child health services within primary health care, the introduction and support of a package of specific intervention measures, and massive community-wide education and mobilization to support them. Special efforts should be made to reach under-served and deprived populations in rural areas and urban slums. The international community should take concerted action to support national efforts to this end.

Recommendation 18

All efforts should be made to reduce maternal morbidity and mortality. Governments are urged:

(a) To reduce maternal mortality by at least 50 per cent by the year 2000, where such mortality is very high (higher than 100 maternal deaths per 100,000 births);

(b) To provide pre-nuptial medical examinations;

(c) To provide prenatal and perinatal care, with special attention to high-risk pregnancies, and ensure safe delivery by trained attendants, including traditional birth attendants, as culturally acceptable;

(d) To give special emphasis in nutritional programmes to the needs of pregnant women and nursing mothers;

(e) To take appropriate steps to help women avoid abortion, which in no case should be promoted as a method of family planning, and whenever possible, provide for the humane treatment and counselling of women who have had recourse to abortion;*

(f) To support family planning as a health measure in maternal and child health programmes as a way of reducing births that occur too early or too late in the mother's life, of increasing the interval between births and of diminishing higher birth orders, and by giving special consideration to the needs of those in the post-partum and/or breast-feeding period;

(g) To encourage community education to change prevailing attitudes which countenance pregnancy and childbearing at young ages, recognizing that pregnancy occurring in adolescent girls, whether married or unmarried, has adverse effects on the morbidity and mortality of both mother and child.

Recommendation 19

Governments are urged, as a special measure, to take immediate and effective action, within the context of primary health care, to expand the use of techniques such as child growth monitoring, oral rehydration therapy, immunization and appropriate birth spacing, which have the potential to achieve a virtual revolution in child survival. All available communication channels should be used to promote these techniques. The important role of the family, especially of mothers, in the area of primary health care should be recognized.

Recommendation 20

Governments are urged to promote and support breast-feeding. Information should be widely disseminated on the nutritional, immunological and psychological benefits of breast-feeding, as well as its influence on child spacing. Nursing

* While joining the consensus the Swedish representative made the following statement:

"In the opinion of the Swedish delegation, effective contraception liberates women from unwanted pregnancies and induced abortions and improves considerably the health of both mothers and children. Prevention of unwanted pregnancies must always be the principal aim. However, illegal abortions performed under unsafe medical conditions represent a very serious health hazard in many countries.

"The Swedish delegation regrets very much that an amendment was adopted to delete the word "illegal" from recommendation 13 (e) as proposed by the Preparatory Committee, which suggests that this Conference failed to recognize the importance of this very serious problem. The Swedish delegation would like to reiterate that a major step towards the elimination of illegal abortions is to provide all women in the world with access to legal and safe abortions."

mothers, especially those in the labour force, should be provided with appropriate maternal benefits, including day-care facilities, access to proper food supplements for themselves, and complementary weaning and foods for their infants, in order to ensure adequate nutrition throughout infancy and early childhood. Governments which have accepted it should be urged to take the necessary steps to implement the International Code of Marketing of Breast-Milk Substitutes, as adopted by the 34th World Health Assembly (resolution WHA 34.22).

Recommendation 21

Governments are strongly urged to take all necessary measures, including, whenever they consider it useful, utilizing the services of non-governmental organizations, to raise the level of education attained by women as an end in itself and because of its close link to child survival and spacing. In countries where there are still many illiterate women, a supplementary effort should be made to extend mass education programmes.

(c) Adult morbidity and mortality

23. The levels of adult morbidity and mortality and their major causes are still of concern for many Governments in both developing and developed countries. The World Population Plan of Action recognizes the importance of improving health conditions for the working-age population and stresses the need for the eradication of infectious and parasitic diseases (paragraphs 24 (d) and (e)). In countries where infectious and parasitic diseases have reached low levels of incidence, chronic and non-infectious conditions still require urgent attention. As personal health practices and behaviour affect health, dissemination of the relevant information is important so that people can act on the basis of full information.

Recommendation 22

Governments of countries where mortality is still high are urged, with adequate international support, to implement intensive programmes to control infectious and parasitic diseases, provide as far as possible sufficient potable water and adequate sanitation facilities, and implement other elements of primary health care for both adults and children.

Recommendation 23

Governments, assisted by intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, are urged to provide individuals and families with all relevant information on the ways in which personal behaviour or practices affect health, and to ensure that the necessary resources are available for them to act on the basis of this information. In this context, Governments are urged to initiate or strengthen preventive action programmes to reduce the consumption of tobacco, alcohol, drugs and other products potentially dangerous to health.

Recommendation 24

Governments are urged to take necessary preventive or corrective measures to eliminate the negative consequences for health that characterize many occupations.

3. Reproduction and the family

24. The World Population Plan of Action recognizes the family, in its many forms, as the basic unit of society and recommends that it should be given legal protection and that measures should be taken to protect both the rights of spouses and the rights of children in the case of the termination or dissolution of marriage and the right of individuals to enter marriage only with their free and full consent (paragraph 39). It also recommends that all children, regardless of the circumstances of their parentage, should enjoy equal legal and social status and the full support of both parents (paragraph 40). The family is the main institution through which social, economic and cultural change affects fertility. While the family has undergone and continues to undergo fundamental changes in its structure and function, the family continues to be recognized as the proper setting for mutual love, support and companionship of spouses, as the primary determinant of the survival of children born into it, as the first agent of the socialization of future generations, and in many societies as the only supporting institution for the aged. The family is also an important agent of social, political and cultural change. Therefore, in the design and implementation of fertility policies, Governments must respect individual rights while at the same time giving full recognition to the important role of the family.

25. The World Population Plan of Action recognizes, as one of its principles, the basic human right of all couples and individuals to decide freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children (paragraph 14 (f)). For this right to be realized, couples and individuals must have access to the necessary education, information and means to regulate their fertility, regardless of the overall demographic goals of the Government (paragraphs 28 and 29 (a)). While this right is widely accepted, many couples and individuals are unable to exercise it effectively, either because they lack access to information, education and/or services or because, although some services are available, yet an appropriate range of methods and follow-up services are not. Indeed, data from the World Fertility Survey for developing countries indicate that, on average, over one fourth of births in the year prior to the Survey had not been desired. In addition, the decline in the prevalence of certain traditional practices, such as prolonged breast-feeding and post-partum abstinence, has increased the relative importance of non-traditional family planning as a tool for the proper spacing of births.

26. While the Plan also stresses the responsibility of individuals and couples in exercising their right to choose, the experience of the past 10 years suggests that Governments can do more to assist people in making their reproductive decisions in a responsible way (paragraph 14 (f)). Any recognition of rights also implies responsibilities; in this case, it implies that couples and individuals should exercise this right, taking into consideration their own situation, as well as the implications of their decisions for the balanced development of their children and of the community and society in which they live. The following recommendations reaffirm the provisions of the World Population Plan of Action and suggest specific measures for the attainment of the objectives of the Plan in these areas.

Recommendation 25

Governments should, as a matter of urgency, make universally available information, education and the means to assist couples and individuals to achieve their desired number of children. Family planning information, education and means

should include all medically approved and appropriate methods of family planning, including natural family planning, to ensure a voluntary and free choice in accordance with changing individual and cultural values. Particular attention should be given to those segments of the population which are most vulnerable and difficult to reach.

Recommendation 26

Governments are urged to promote the best conditions for family formation and family life, ensuring, inter alia, that children enjoy the most favourable environment for their physical, psychological and social development.

Recommendation 27

Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are urged to allocate, in accordance with national policies and priorities, the necessary resources to family planning services, where these services are inadequate and are not meeting the needs of a rapidly growing population of reproductive age.

Recommendation 28

Governments are urged to improve the quality and enhance the effectiveness of family planning services and of the monitoring of those services, including appropriate follow-up. Coverage should be extended as rapidly as possible to all couples and individuals of both sexes, particularly in rural areas. Family planning services should be made available through appropriate and practicable channels, including integrated health-care programmes (especially maternal and child health and primary health care), community-based distribution, subsidized commercial retail sales, and, in particular, local distribution through retail outlets where health infrastructure and health referral services exist. Also, Governments should bear in mind the innovative role which non-governmental organizations, in particular women's organizations, can play in improving the availability and effectiveness of family planning services. All countries should ensure that fertility control methods conform to adequate standards of quality, efficacy and safety.

Recommendation 29

Governments are urged to ensure that adolescents, both boys and girls, receive adequate education, including family-life and sex education, with due consideration given to the role, rights and obligations of parents and changing individual and cultural values. Suitable family planning information and services should be made available to adolescents within the changing socio-cultural framework of each country.

Recommendation 30

Governments are urged to ensure that all couples and individuals have the basic right to decide freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children and to have the information, education and means to do so; couples and individuals in the exercise of this right should take into account the needs of their living and future children and their responsibilities towards the community.

Recommendation 31

Legislation and policies concerning the family and programmes of incentives and disincentives should be neither coercive nor discriminatory and should be consistent with internationally recognized human rights as well as with changing individual and cultural values.

Recommendation 32

Governments which have adopted or intend to adopt national fertility goals should translate these goals into specific policies and operational steps that are clearly understood by the citizens.

Recommendation 33

Governments that have adopted or intend to adopt fertility policies are urged to set their own quantitative targets in this area. Countries implementing family planning programmes should establish programme targets at the operational level, respecting the basic right of couples and individuals to decide freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children, taking into account the needs of their living and future children and their responsibilities, assumed freely and without coercion, towards the community.

Recommendation 34

Family policies adopted or encouraged by Government should be sensitive to the need for:

- (a) Financial and/or other support to parents, including single parents, in the period preceding or following the birth of a child, as well as the period during which parents assume the major responsibility for the care and education of children;
- (b) A strengthening of child welfare services and child-care provisions;
- (c) Maternity and paternity leave for a sufficient length of time to enable either parent to care for the child, with adequate remunerative compensation and without detriment to subsequent career prospects and basic communal facilities that will enable working parents to provide care for children and aged members of their families; and
- (d) Assistance to young couples and parents, including single parents, in acquiring suitable housing.

Recommendation 35

Governments wishing to decrease fertility levels should adopt development policies that are known to reduce the level of fertility, such as improved health, education, integration of women and social equity. Governments that view the level of fertility in their countries as too low may consider financial and other support to families to assist them with their parental responsibilities and to facilitate their access to the necessary services. Such policies should not restrict access to education, information and services for family planning.

4. Population distribution and internal migration

27. The World Population Plan of Action makes a number of recommendations in regard to population distribution and internal migration that are of continuing relevance (paragraphs 44-50). The Plan recommends that population distribution policies should be integrated with economic and social policies. In formulating and implementing migration policies, Governments are urged to avoid infringing the right of freedom of movement and residence within States, to promote more equitable regional development, to locate services and industry so as to promote interpersonal equity as well as efficiency, to promote networks of small and medium-sized cities, and to improve economic and social conditions in rural areas through balanced agricultural development. In addition, the Plan recommends that migrants should be provided with information on economic and social conditions in urban areas, that employment creation, systems of land tenure and the provision of basic services should be improved in rural areas and that Governments should share experiences relevant to their policies. The area of population distribution and internal migration is still one of great concern to many Governments. The following recommendations indicate the means for the further implementation of the Plan of Action.

Recommendation 36*

Population distribution policies must be consistent with such international instruments as the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (1949), wherein article 49 prohibits individual or mass forcible transfers from an occupied territory and forbids the occupier from transferring parts of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies. Furthermore, the establishment of settlements in territories occupied by force is illegal and condemned by the international community.

Recommendation 37

Governments are urged to base policies aimed at influencing population distribution on a comprehensive evaluation of costs and benefits to individuals, families, different socio-economic groups, communities, regions and the country as a whole. Population distribution goals (e.g., target growth rates for primate cities or rural population retention goals) should be pursued to the extent that they help to achieve broader societal goals, such as raising per capita incomes, increasing efficiency, making the distribution of income more equitable, protecting the environment and improving the quality of life. In so doing, Governments should ensure that the rights of indigenous and other groups are recognized.

* While joining the consensus the delegation of the United States of America stated that:

"The United States delegation strongly protested the inclusion of this issue, believing it politically divisive and extraneous to the work of the Conference. The United States also challenged the competence of the Conference to interpret one of the most critical international instruments governing the rules of war, the Geneva Convention."

Recommendation 38

Governments are urged, in formulating population distribution policies, to take into account the policy implications of various forms of population mobility (e.g., circular, seasonal, rural-rural, and urban-urban, as well as rural-urban), to consider the direction, duration and characteristics of these movements and the interrelationships between territorial mobility and levels and characteristics of fertility and mortality.

Recommendation 39

Governments are urged to review their socio-economic policies in order to minimize any adverse spatial consequences, as well as to improve the integration of population factors in territorial and sectoral planning, particularly in the sectors concerned with human settlements.

Recommendation 40

Governments wishing to minimize undesired migration should implement population distribution policies through incentives, rather than migration controls, which are difficult to enforce and may infringe human rights.

Recommendation 41

Governments which have adopted, or intend to adopt, a comprehensive urbanization policy, should seek to integrate such policies into the overall development planning process, with the aim of achieving, inter alia, a reduction in current high migration to capital cities and other large urban centres, the development of medium-sized towns and a reduction of rural-urban and regional inequalities. Developed countries and the international community should extend the necessary assistance to the efforts of developing countries in this direction.

Recommendation 42

Governments should support programmes of assistance, information and community action in support of internal migrants and should consider establishing networks of labour exchanges that could allow potential migrants to have adequate information about social conditions and about the availability of employment in receiving areas.

Recommendation 43

Rural development programmes should be primarily directed towards increasing rural production and efficiency, raising rural incomes and improving social conditions and rural welfare, particularly for small peasant producers and rural women. Governments should therefore improve the accessibility of basic social services and amenities to scattered populations, regularize land ownership, facilitate access to credit, new technology and other needed inputs, and adopt pricing policies geared to the needs of smallholders. Appropriate measures must be taken to carry out agrarian reform as one of the important factors which increase agricultural production and promote the development of rural areas.

Recommendation 44

Governments should adopt effective policies to assist women migrants, especially those who are agricultural workers, as well as women, children and the

elderly left behind unsupported in rural areas. Governments are also urged to pay special attention to the difficulties of adaptation encountered in urban areas by migrant women of rural origin and to take appropriate measures to overcome these difficulties.

5. International migration

(a) General guidelines for formulating international migration policies

28. The general validity of the recommendations made in the World Population Plan of Action with respect to international movements is reaffirmed (paragraphs 51-62). However, recent developments regarding the trends of international migration flows demand greater attention from the international community, especially with regard to certain types of migrants, such as documented migrant workers, undocumented migrant workers and refugees. The guidelines set out below give due consideration to the basic fact that international migration is of concern to both the receiving countries and the countries of origin, particularly when the migration of skilled persons is involved. They reflect the bearing that international migration may have on the process of establishing a New International Economic Order and recognize that the effective safeguarding of the basic human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, without discrimination on the basis of race, culture, religion or sex, is an essential prerequisite for the realization of their positive contributions to the host society.

Recommendation 45

International migration policies should respect the basic human rights and fundamental freedoms of individuals as set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, x/ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights y/ and other pertinent international instruments. In keeping with these documents, receiving countries should adopt measures to safeguard the basic human rights of all migrants in their territory and to ensure the respect of their cultural identity. Measures should also be taken to promote the mutual adaptation of both immigrant groups and the population of the receiving country.

Recommendation 46

In formulating policies on international migration, Governments of receiving countries should take into account not only their own country's economic and social needs but also the well-being of the migrants concerned and their families and the demographic implications of migration. Governments of countries of origin concerned with the continuing outflow of skilled workers and professionals should seek to retain those workers as well as encourage their return through, inter alia, the promotion of an economic environment favourable to the expansion of employment opportunities. To redress the existing imbalance of skills, Governments should try to identify alternative skill resources. Governments should formulate national and international measures to avoid the brain-drain from developing countries and to obviate its adverse effects. While pursuing these purposes in a manner consistent with respect for human rights, Governments are invited to conduct, inter alia, consultations or negotiations, on either a bilateral or a multilateral basis, with the support, upon request, of competent international organizations.

Recommendation 47

High priority should be placed on the rehabilitation of expelled and homeless people who have been displaced by natural and man-made catastrophes. In all cases, Governments are urged to co-operate fully in order to guarantee that the parties involved allow the return of displaced persons to their homes and ensure their right to possess and enjoy their properties and belongings without interference.

(b) Documented migrant workers

29. The World Population Plan of Action calls for the proper treatment of migrant workers and their families (paragraphs 55 and 56) whose migration has been promoted by countries facing labour shortages and who are referred to hereafter as "documented migrant workers". The Plan also addresses the concerns of countries of origin (paragraph 54) and suggests concerted action at the bilateral and multilateral levels (paragraphs 54 and 62). In 1979, recognizing that, despite the efforts made by the States involved, documented migrant workers were still not able to exercise their rights as defined by the relevant international instruments, the General Assembly called for the elaboration of an international convention on the protection of the rights of all migrant workers and their families (resolution 34/172 of 17 December 1979). Many of the following recommendations reflect the contents of the draft of this convention. z/ It is hoped that upon adoption of the convention, it may serve as a guideline for the treatment of migrant workers and their families.

Recommendation 48

Governments of receiving countries should work towards extending to documented migrant workers and accompanying members of their families whose situation as regards stay and employment in the receiving country is regular, treatment equal to that accorded their own nationals with regard to the enjoyment of basic rights, including the equality of opportunity and treatment in respect of working conditions, social security, participation in trade unions and access to health, education and other social services. In achieving this aim, Governments are invited to use as guidelines all relevant international instruments, in particular, the ILO Convention concerning Migration for Employment (Revised) 1949 (No. 97) and the ILO Convention concerning Migrations in Abusive Conditions and the Promotion of Equality of Opportunity and Treatment of Migrant Workers, 1975 (No. 143), part II. aa/

Recommendation 49

Governments of receiving countries that have not already done so are urged to consider adopting appropriate measures to promote the normalization of the family life of documented migrant workers in the receiving country concerned through family reunion. Demographic and other considerations should not prevent Governments from taking such measures.

Recommendation 50

Countries of origin and receiving countries should undertake information and education activities to increase the awareness of migrants regarding their legal position and rights and to provide realistic assessments of the situation of migrants, including the availability of job opportunities. Receiving countries

should recognise the right of migrants to form associations so that they may participate more effectively in the receiving society while maintaining their cultural identity.

Recommendation 51

Governments of countries of origin and of receiving countries should encourage and promote the widest dissemination, inter alia, through the mass media, of information aimed at promoting public understanding of and preventing any activity prejudicial to the contribution of documented migrant workers to economic development and cultural interchange.

(c) Undocumented migrants

30. The World Population Plan of Action recommends that Governments bear in mind humanitarian considerations in the treatment of undocumented migrants* (paragraph 56). Owing to the irregularity of their situation, undocumented migrants are particularly vulnerable to exploitation and mistreatment. It is therefore urgent that their basic human rights and fundamental freedoms be universally recognized and that they enjoy international protection as well as the protection of receiving countries within the framework of bilateral conventions. The widest recognition of the rights of all migrant workers and the effective safeguarding of these rights will tend to discourage exploitation of undocumented migrants, particularly exploitation in the sphere of employment, by employers who wish to reap the benefits of unfair competition. bb/

Recommendation 52

All measures adopted or implemented by countries of departure and of arrival to reduce the illegal entry, stay or employment of undocumented migrants (including amnesties, other regularization schemes, border controls and deportations) should respect their basic human rights.

Recommendation 53

In formulating laws and regulations to limit undocumented migration, Governments of receiving countries are invited to consider the guidelines set forth in the ILO Convention concerning Migrations in Abusive Conditions and the Promotion of Equality of Opportunity and Treatment of Migrant Workers, 1975 (No. 143), part I. cc/ To be effective, such laws and regulations should address the treatment not only of the undocumented migrants themselves but also of those persons inducing or facilitating undocumented migration.

(d) Refugees

31. The World Population Plan of Action addresses the problems of refugees (paragraph 53). Since its adoption in 1974, refugees have been a source of growing concern to the international community because of their increasing numbers, the

* For the purpose of the following recommendations, undocumented migrants are persons who have not fulfilled all the legal requirements of the State in which they find themselves for admission, stay or exercise of economic activity.

fact that a large proportion of them are from the vulnerable groups - women, children and the aged - and particularly because most refugees originate and relocate in developing countries, which have had to cope with the added economic and social burdens imposed on them. This concern has resulted in programmes by developing countries, as well as by third countries of resettlement, generally developed countries, to alleviate the dislocations associated with the influx of refugees. There seems to be broad agreement that through international co-operation within the framework of the United Nations an attempt should be made to remove the causes of new flows of refugees, having due regard to the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of sovereign States. In view of the existing situation, the recommendations set out below emphasize the need for continued international co-operation in finding durable solutions to the problem of refugees and for the provision of support and assistance to countries of first asylum.

Recommendation 54

States that have not already done so are invited to consider acceding to the international instruments concerning refugees, in particular to the 1951 Convention dd/ and the 1967 Protocol ee/ relating to the Status of Refugees.

Recommendation 55

Governments and international agencies are urged to find durable solutions to problems related to refugees and refugee movements and to work towards the elimination of the causes of these problems. Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations are urged to continue to promote the protection of refugees and to provide support and assistance to first asylum countries in satisfying the basic needs of refugees. Efforts towards the creation of conditions in which voluntary repatriation may take place should be pursued and assistance should be provided in rehabilitating returnees. The basic freedoms and human rights of returnees and their families should be guaranteed and assistance should be provided in developing opportunities for a return to a normal and productive way of living. In situations where neither voluntary repatriation nor resettlement in third countries appears to be feasible, Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations are urged to provide support and assistance to the countries of first asylum in developing the capacity of the national economic and social infrastructure to sustain and, subject to the full approval of the host countries, to integrate refugees.

6. Population structure

32. The World Population Plan of Action (paragraphs 63-67) takes particular note of changing population age structures resulting from sustained demographic change, and of the effect of such changes on socio-economic development and on family and household structures. Closely linked issues such as employment for rapidly expanding working age groups, shifts from agricultural to non-agricultural occupations and health needs of particular age and sex groups are dealt with elsewhere in these recommendations. In countries where fertility levels are high, the large absolute and relative number of children and youth is a continuing burden for social and economic development, including educational development. On the other hand, the aging of the population has become an important issue in developed countries, and an emerging one in those developing countries which experienced

declines in fertility in the recent past. The rising proportion of the aged in these populations is imposing an economic burden with respect to national expenditures for social security and social services. It is noted, however, that the aged can make significant contributions to society. The following recommendations note the above and contain proposals to foster the growth and value of all age and sex groups in the community.

Recommendation 56

Governments and the international community should continue to bear in mind the considerations that led to the designation of the International Year of the Child, as well as the recommendations of the World Population Plan of Action with respect to age distribution, giving due attention to the full range of the needs of children.

Recommendation 57

Governments, specialized agencies of the United Nations system and other concerned intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are invited to intensify their efforts in the execution of specific programmes related to youth, duly taking into account the situation, the needs, the specific aspirations of youth and the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities to be undertaken before and during the International Youth Year endorsed by the General Assembly. ff/

Recommendation 58

Governments are urged to reaffirm their commitment to the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Aging. w/ In this context, further efforts should be made to analyse the issue of aging, particularly its implications for overall development, social services, medical care and other related fields, and on the basis of such data Governments are urged to take appropriate measures to secure the welfare and safety of older people, paying particular attention to the situation and the needs of older women. Governments and international agencies should increase their efforts and activities with a view to improving care for the aged within the family unit. Moreover, Governments should view the aging sector of the population not merely as a dependent group, but in terms of the active contribution that older persons have already made and can still make to the economic, social and cultural life of their families and community.

Recommendation 59

In planning for economic and social development, Governments should give appropriate consideration to shifts in family and household structures and their implications for requirements in different policy fields.

E. Promotion of knowledge and policy

1. Data collection and analysis

33. The recommendations of the World Population Plan of Action regarding data collection and analysis (paragraphs 72-77) continue to be both valid and urgent and thus every effort should be made for their full implementation. The collection and analysis of population and related statistics is an indispensable basis for a full

and accurate understanding of population trends and prospects for formulating population and development plans and programmes and for monitoring effectively the implementation of these plans and programmes. During the past decade considerable progress has been achieved in the field of data collection and analysis. For example, nearly all countries have carried out a population census; well-designed fertility and other surveys were carried out in many developed and developing countries; efforts aimed at improving continuing national survey-taking capabilities were initiated in a number of developing countries; and major advances were made in the development of methods for use in the analysis of incomplete data. However, a number of critical gaps in official statistics remain, including those related to the classification of data for urban agglomerations. In view of these developments and future requirements, priority attention should be given to the following recommendations.

Recommendation 60

Governments are urged to develop durable capabilities for data collection, processing and analysis, including needed computer facilities, to provide reliable and timely information in support of population and other development programmes. They are also urged to accord priority to the development of national and regional population information systems. Required assistance should be provided to developing countries by the international community to develop these activities.

Recommendation 61

Governments are urged to monitor population trends and to assess future demographic prospects and their implications on a regular basis. Inasmuch as population projections provide basic tools for economic and social development planning, efforts should be made to prepare statistics relevant for this purpose. Co-ordination and co-operation in this work within and between countries should be promoted.

Recommendation 62

Governments are urged to ensure that population and related data are tabulated and published separately by sex, as well as data concerning other demographic, social and economic variables, so that the situation of women is rendered clearly and in order to measure the impact on women of changes that will ensue from the implementation of the World Population Plan of Action.

Recommendation 63

Governments are encouraged to tabulate and publish data about minority groups to assist in assessing the impact of the World Population Plan of Action on such groups.

Recommendation 64

Because migration is the least developed area of current demographic statistics, Governments may consider undertaking a comprehensive programme of migration statistics, in line with national priorities, focusing on such areas of concern as (1) internal migration, (2) urbanization and (3) international migration. It is also recommended that migration should be studied in the context of the family. To this end, Governments should consider ways of strengthening

their national population censuses, sample surveys or administrative record systems in order to obtain needed migration data and estimates. Countries of origin and of destination are urged to exchange such pertinent statistical data, through the relevant United Nations authorities and other competent international organizations, where appropriate.

Recommendation 65

All countries are requested to participate in the 1990 World Population and Housing Census Programme and endeavour to improve further their censuses, giving particular attention to the timely publication of census results in order to assist, inter alia, in the evaluation of population and development trends at all levels. Required assistance in support of these activities should be provided to developing countries by the international community.

Recommendation 66

Governments, in collaboration with appropriate international organizations, are urged to establish or strengthen national sample survey programmes that can provide, in conjunction with data from other sources, a continuous flow of integrated statistics in support of population and other development programmes, and to build enduring capabilities for conducting surveys. It is recommended, in particular, that surveys should be carried out periodically on fertility, family planning health of mothers and children, mortality and migration and that technical assistance for this purpose should be made available from international sources.

Recommendation 67

Governments are urged, in the collection, analysis and dissemination of statistical data, and in the context of national laws and practices, to ensure that confidentiality and the privacy of the individual are safeguarded.

Recommendation 68

Governments are urged to collect, compile and publish on a timely basis the full range of vital statistics, as well as other demographic and related social and economic statistics needed to plan and evaluate population and health programmes, including family planning programmes. To this end, Governments should establish or strengthen civil registration systems and make use of well-designed sample surveys, special studies and available administrative reporting systems, such as population registers.

2. Research

34. The World Population Plan of Action (paragraphs 78-80) gives great emphasis to research activities relating to population and identifies a list of research priorities related to the theoretical, operational and policy-oriented aspects of population analyses. Throughout the course of the review and appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action, in each of the expert group meetings convened as part of the preparations for the International Conference on Population, 1984, as well as in all other review activities, the continuing need for research both to fill gaps in knowledge and to support programmatic activity was made evident. Increased research efforts together with the necessary institutional and financial support are made necessary by changes in the social and

economic contexts within which population policies are formulated and implemented. Similarly, changes in population policies and in demographic conditions themselves and new research findings, including those concerning contraceptive technology, call for an expansion of research activities.

Recommendation 69

Governments and funding agencies are urged to allocate increased resources for research in human reproduction and fertility regulation, including biomedical research, in order to improve the safety and efficacy of existing family planning methods, to develop new methods (including those for males), to develop better methods of recognizing the female fertile period and to address problems of infertility and subfecundity, including those caused by environmental pollution. Such research should be sensitive to the varying acceptability of specific methods in different cultures. Other important aspects requiring increased research efforts and support include epidemiological research on the short- and long-term adverse and beneficial medical effects of fertility-regulating agents. Modernization and updating of the official requirements for the preclinical and clinical assessment of new fertility regulating agents and a strengthening of the research capabilities of developing countries in these areas are also urgently needed.

Recommendation 70

Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations should give priority to service and operational research, including (a) acceptability of programmes and methods; (b) programme design and implementation; (c) management of programmes, including training of personnel, monitoring, logistics and impact evaluation; and (d) effectiveness of programmes, including information on planning the number of children. To increase the acceptance and to improve the design of family planning service programmes, priority should be given to social research into the determinants and consequences of fertility. However, substantive priorities should continue to reflect the needs of countries. The allocation of research tasks should be pragmatically divided among institutions that operate at the national, regional or global levels, in order to make the best possible use of available resources.

Recommendation 71

Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations should provide required assistance for the development and continued effectiveness of research capabilities, especially at the country level, as well as at the regional and global levels. Arrangements to facilitate the exchange of research findings within and between regions should also be further strengthened. Results of such research should be used in the implementation of action programmes, which in turn should have adequate built-in evaluation procedures.

Recommendation 72

In setting population research goals, Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations should endeavour to make them relevant to policies and programmes, with the objective of making innovations in policy formulation, implementation and evaluation. Special emphasis should be given to research on the integration of population processes with socio-economic development, considering not only applied but also theoretical and methodological topics.

3. Management, training, information, education and communication

35. The World Population Plan of Action contains a series of recommendations on management, training, information, education and communication in the field of population (paragraphs 81-93). Since its adoption, the need for the further development of management in all fields related to population has been acknowledged, both nationally and regionally, in order to enhance the effectiveness of population programmes. In view of the importance of considering the changing demographic situations as well as the interrelationships between population and development in the formulation of population policies and measures, training programmes in population and population-related studies need to be further strengthened. There is also a growing awareness of the supportive roles in population policies and programmes of dissemination of population information and of population education at national, regional and global levels. The following recommendations relate to these activities.

Recommendation 73

Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations should increase their support to the management of population programmes. They should also expand training programmes in population fields, particularly in the areas of demography, population studies, survey research, management, family life, sex education, maternal and child health, family planning and reproductive physiology. Such efforts should focus on action-oriented training, reflecting the milieu of the area, country or region concerned. Local-level training should be supplemented by programmes of technical co-operation among the developing countries and between the developed and the developing countries, so that they can learn from each other's experience. Development and expansion of national and regional population training institutes and facilities should be encouraged and strengthened. Special attention should also be given to the need to train those who will be involved in training activities. In order to ensure increased participation of women in the design, management, implementation and evaluation of population programmes, special attention should be given to the need to include women in all training activities.

Recommendation 74

Governments, with the assistance, as appropriate, of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, should continue to explore innovative methods for spreading awareness of demographic factors and for fostering the active involvement and participation of the public in population policies and programmes and to intensify training of national personnel who are engaged in information, education and communication activities (including the management and planning of those activities), in developing integrated communication activities and education strategies, utilizing mass media and community-level and interpersonal communication techniques.

Recommendation 75

Governments are invited to develop an adequate corps of trained persons for the effective formulation and implementation of integrated population and development policies, plans and programmes at all levels. In this regard, increased efforts should be made by Governments and training institutions, both at national and international levels, to further facilitate the integration of population studies into training curricula for policy-makers and executives who plan and implement development programmes.

Recommendation 76

Governments and intergovernmental organizations are urged to make more effective use of available population data and, for this purpose, to promote forums for assessing the priorities in the population fields, based on the results of population data and studies, and for considering their reorientation, as necessary; moreover, national and international support should be increased with a view to improving the dissemination and exchange of information at the national levels.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

A. Role of national Governments

36. The World Population Plan of Action underscores the primary role of national Governments in the formulation, implementation and achievement of the principles and objectives of the Plan (paragraphs 96-99). The experience of the last decade has demonstrated the variety of policy approaches that can be effective when designed and implemented by Governments with due regard for the particular political, social, cultural, religious and economic conditions of their countries. However, many factors, including the lack of definite commitment, inadequate resources, ineffective co-ordination and implementation and insufficient data, have limited the effectiveness of Governments in the implementation of their national population policies. The following recommendations emphasize specific means whereby Governments can enhance the effectiveness of population policies within the context of the guidelines articulated in the Plan of Action.

Recommendation 77

Governments are urged to attach high priority to the attainment of self-reliance in the management of their population programmes. To this end, Governments are invited:

(a) To establish monitoring and evaluation systems and procedures as an important managerial tool for policy-making and programming;

(b) To strengthen the administrative and managerial capability needed for the effective implementation of population programmes;

(c) To ensure that international assistance is provided under arrangements and on conditions that are adapted to the administrative resources of the recipient country, and that such assistance is co-ordinated at the national level in a manner that will facilitate effective and efficient programmes;

(d) To involve communities more actively in the planning and implementation of population programmes.

Recommendation 78

Government are encouraged to continue to utilize technical co-operation among developing countries; subregional, regional and interregional co-operation should be encouraged.

B. Role of international co-operation

37. The World Population Plan of Action outlines the supportive role of the international community in providing technical and financial assistance to achieve the goals of the Plan (paragraphs 100-106). Since the Bucharest Conference, international co-operation activities of multilateral and bilateral agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations have achieved a number of notable successes in attaining these goals. Technical assistance among developing countries has also become increasingly effective. As noted in the Review and Appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action (E/CONF.76/4) the needs of developing countries for assistance in population have increased dramatically. Although the resources available have more than doubled in nominal terms, this increase has not been sufficient either to keep pace with the demand or to compensate for erosion due to inflation. The developing countries themselves are allocating increasing shares of development expenditure for population programmes. The need for assistance for population programmes as for all development programmes continues to grow. The recommendations in this section encourage further assistance for development and population, both to enlarge programmes where effective use of resources has been demonstrated and to initiate new activities.

Recommendation 79

The international community should play an important role in the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action. For this purpose, among other things, adequate and substantial international measures of support and assistance should be provided by developed countries, other donor countries and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

Recommendation 80

Organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and donor countries which play an important role in supporting population programmes, as well as other international, regional and subregional organizations, are urged to assist Governments at their request in implementing these recommendations. Of no less importance will be the review of existing criteria for setting co-operation priorities, bearing in mind considerations of regional equity and the proper balance between the various phenomena in the field of international co-operation.

Recommendation 81

The international community should give particular emphasis to:

- (a) Initiation and expansion of research and action programmes;
- (b) Institutionalization of the integration of population planning in the development process;
- (c) Improving the status and strengthening the role of women and providing appropriate financial and technical support for this purpose in population programmes;
- (d) Biomedical and social science research;
- (e) Collection and analysis of needed data;

(f) Identification of successful programmes, ascertaining those factors accounting for their success and disseminating such information to those developing countries which initiate programmes;

(g) Implementation of monitoring and evaluation systems in order to ascertain the effectiveness and impact of programmes and their continued responsiveness to community needs;

(h) Promotion of exchanges between countries with common experiences;

(i) Education and training in population matters.

Recommendation 82

Governments are urged to increase the level of their assistance for population activities in the light of continuing needs in the field and the increasing commitment of developing countries, with a view to reaching the goals set for this purpose in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade. In this context Governments of developed countries and other donor countries are urged to allocate increased contributions for population and population-related programmes in accordance with national goals and priorities of recipient countries. This increase should not be detrimental to the levels of economic development assistance in other areas.

Recommendation 83

In view of the leading role of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities in population matters, the Conference urges that the Fund should be strengthened further, so as to ensure the more effective delivery of population assistance, taking into account the growing needs in this field. The Secretary-General of the United Nations is invited to examine this recommendation, and submit a report to the General Assembly on its implementation as soon as possible but not later than 1986.

Recommendation 84

National non-governmental organizations are invited to continue, in accordance with national policies and laws, their pioneering work in opening up new paths and to respond quickly and flexibly to requests from Governments, intergovernmental and international non-governmental organizations, as appropriate, for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action. Governments are urged, as appropriate, within the framework of national objectives, to encourage the innovative activities of non-governmental organizations and to draw upon their expertise, experience and resources in implementing national programmes. Donors are invited to increase their financial support to non-governmental organizations.

Recommendation 85

Members of parliament, the scientific community, the mass media, and others in influential positions are invited, in their respective areas of competence, to create an awareness of population and development issues and to support appropriate ways of dealing with these issues.

Recommendation 86

Policy makers, parliamentarians, and other persons in public life are encouraged to continue to promote and support actions to achieve an effective and integrated approach to the solution of population and development problems by arousing public awareness and working towards the implementation of national population policies and programmes. The United Nations Fund for Population Activities and the other international organizations concerned are invited to continue providing support for such actions.

Recommendation 87

The General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme and legislative and policy-making bodies of the specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations are urged to examine and support the recommendations for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action and to include population questions among their major priorities.

C. Monitoring, review and appraisal

Recommendation 88*

The monitoring of population trends and policies and review and appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action should continue to be undertaken by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as specified in the Plan. The monitoring of multilateral population programmes of the United Nations system aimed at the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action should be undertaken by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, through appropriate arrangements. The next comprehensive and thorough review and appraisal of progress made towards achieving the goals and recommendations of the World Population Plan of Action will be undertaken in 1989.

* While joining the consensus the Mexican representative made the following statement:

"The Mexican delegation expressed its reservation concerning the text of recommendation 88, noting that it is not for the Secretary-General to keep the implementation of population programmes funded by multilateral assistance under review, as this is exclusively the prerogative of Governments. In this sense, the Secretary-General may only keep under review the use of the assistance provided by United Nations agencies to governmental programmes in regard to population."

The representative of India associated himself with the statement by the representative of Mexico.

Notes

- a/ See Report of the United Nations World Population Conference, 1974, Bucharest, 19-30 August 1974 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.XIII.3), chap. 1).
- b/ General Assembly resolution 1386 (XIV).
- c/ Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5-16 June 1972, (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.73.II.A.14 and corrigendum), chaps. I and II.
- d/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/37/25), part one, annex 1.
- e/ Report of the World Food Conference, Rome, 5-16 November 1974 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.II.A.3), chap. I.
- f/ Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, Mexico City, 13 June-2 July 1975 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.1), chap. II, sect. A.
- g/ Report of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Copenhagen, 14-30 July 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.IV.3 and corrigendum), chap. I, sect. A.
- h/ See A/10112, chap. IV.
- i/ See Meeting Basic Needs: Strategies for Eradicating Mass Poverty and Unemployment (Geneva, International Labour Office, 1977).
- j/ Report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Vancouver, 31 May-11 June 1976 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7 and corrigendum), chap. I.
- k/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Desertification, Nairobi, 29 August-9 September 1977 (A/CONF.74/36), chap. I.
- l/ Report of the United Nations Water Conference, Mar del Plata, 14-25 March 1977 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.77.II.A.12), chap. I.
- m/ See Primary Health Care: Report of the International Conference on Primary Health Care, Alma-Ata, USSR, 6-12 September 1978 (Geneva, World Health Organization, 1978).
- n/ Report of the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, Geneva, 14-25 August 1978 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.XIV.2), chap. II.
- o/ General Assembly resolution 34/24, annex.
- p/ Report of the Second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, Geneva, 1-12 August 1983 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.XIV.4 and corrigendum), chap. II.

Notes (continued)

g/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1978 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

r/ Report of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, Rome, 12-20 July 1979 (WCARRD/REP) (Rome, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 1979), part one.

s/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, Vienna, 20-31 August 1979 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.I.21 and corrigenda), chap. VII.

t/ Global Strategy for Health for All by the Year 2000, "Health for All" Series, No. 3 and corrigenda (Geneva, World Health Organization, 1981).

u/ Report of the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, Nairobi, 10-21 August 1981 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.I.24), chap. I, sect. A.

v/ Report of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 1-14 September 1981 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.8), part one, sect. A.

w/ Report of the World Assembly on Aging, Vienna, 26 July-6 August 1982 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.16), chap. VI, sect. A.

x/ General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

y/ General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

z/ See A/C.3/38/WG.1/CRP.2/Rev.1; for the deliberations of the Working Group on the drafting of an international Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Their Families, see A/C.3/35/13, A/36/378, A/36/383, A/C.3/36/10, A/C.3/37/1, A/C.3/37/7 and Corr.1 and 2, A/C.3/38/1 and A/C.3/38/5.

aa/ See International Labour Conventions and Recommendations, 1919-1981 (Geneva, International Labour Office, 1982).

bb/ See, in this connection, the draft Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Their Families (A/C.3/38/WG.1/CRP.2/Rev.1), preambular paragraph 18 and proposed preambular paragraph 19, and the report of the Working Group on its meetings during the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly (A/C.3/36/10), para. 25.

cc/ See International Labour Conventions and Recommendations, 1919-1981 (Geneva, International Labour Office, 1982).

dd/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 189, No. 2545, p. 137.

ee/ Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791, p. 267.

ff/ General Assembly resolution 36/28.

C. RESOLUTIONS

I. Credentials of representatives to the International Conference on Population

The International Conference on Population,

Having examined the report of the Credentials Committee (E/CONF.76/17),

Approves the report of the Credentials Committee.

10th plenary meeting
13 August 1984

II. Expression of thanks to the people and Government of Mexico

The International Conference on Population, 1984,

Having met in Mexico City from 6 to 14 August 1984 at the invitation of the Government of Mexico,

Having adopted recommendations for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action and a Declaration setting forth principles and guidelines that reflect the consensus of the participants in the Conference,

1. Expresses its profound gratitude to the President, the people and the Government of Mexico, and to the civic authorities of Mexico City for their generous hospitality, for the efficient facilities and services provided and for the courtesy shown to the participants;

2. Notes with great satisfaction the adoption of the "Mexico City Declaration on Population and Development";

3. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to ensure that the Declaration receives the widest possible circulation and publicity.

12th plenary meeting
14 August 1984

Chapter II

BACKGROUND OF THE CONFERENCE

2. The first intergovernmental world conference on population questions was held under the auspices of the United Nations in Bucharest in August 1974. The Conference adopted a "World Population Plan of Action" and a number of resolutions and recommendations. 1/ Among the recommendations for the implementation of the Plan of Action there was one concerning the periodic review and appraisal of progress made towards the achievement of the Plan's objectives, to be undertaken by the United Nations system; it was suggested that the first such review should be made in 1979 and at five-yearly intervals thereafter and that the findings of such systematic evaluations should be considered by the Economic and Social Council. 2/

3. By resolution 3344 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, the General Assembly, after taking note with satisfaction of the report of the Conference and of the World Population Plan of Action, inter alia, requested the Economic and Social Council to pay particular attention to the implementation of the Plan of Action, including the functions of the monitoring and review and appraisal of the Plan both at the global and at the regional level.

4. In 1979 the Council considered and approved the findings of the first quinquennial review and appraisal carried out in pursuance of the Conference's recommendation. By its resolution 1979/32 of 9 May 1979 the Council urged States and regional and international bodies, both governmental and non-governmental, to take account of the recommendations concerning certain priority areas identified in the annex to that resolution. In addition, the Council, inter alia, requested the Population Commission in consultation with appropriate United Nations bodies and non-governmental organizations "to consider ..., and advise the Council on, the possibility of holding an international conference to review population developments in the first decade following the World Population Conference, with the aim of contributing to the process of quinquennial review and appraisal ... and to the further implementation of the Plan of Action".

5. In 1981, in a report addressed to the Council, the Population Commission recommended "the convening of a new population conference". In the light of that report and of other considerations, the Council adopted resolution 1981/87 of 25 November 1981 by which it decided, inter alia, "to convene in 1984, under the auspices of the United Nations, an International Conference on Population open to all States as full members and to the specialized agencies, bearing in mind that it should be conducted with the utmost economy in size, duration and other cost factors and the need to utilize extrabudgetary resources for its financing to the maximum extent possible". The Council further decided that the Conference should "be devoted to the discussion of selected issues of the highest priority", and made certain recommendations concerning preparations for the Conference. By the same resolution the Council designated the Population Commission as the Preparatory Committee 3/ for the Conference and requested the Secretary-General to appoint the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to serve as Secretary-General of the Conference and the Director of the Population Division of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs as Deputy Secretary-General.

6. The Government of Mexico having offered to act as host to the Conference in 1984, the Council by resolution 1982/7 of 30 April 1982 welcomed the offer; by the same resolution the Council, after noting the status of preparations for the Conference, urged Member States to provide necessary assistance and financial support in order to ensure the success of the preparatory activities and of the Conference. Later in the same year, on 27 July 1982, the Council adopted resolution 1982/42 by which it decided to accept with gratitude the offer of the Government of Mexico and, inter alia, scheduled a session of the Preparatory Committee to follow the twenty-second session of the Population Commission in January 1984 and invited the regional commissions to formulate suggestions and recommendations for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action at the regional level, for consideration by the Conference.
7. In the following year the Council took further action relating to the Conference. By resolution 1983/6 of 26 May 1983 it settled the dates of the Conference, specified that all States and the interested specialized agencies, as well as interested intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and certain movements, were to be invited to attend the Conference, requested the Secretary-General to make certain arrangements for the Conference, gave directives to the Preparatory Committee, and recommended that the General Assembly should approve the budgetary resources for the Conference.
8. In the light of the Council's decisions concerning the Conference and of other considerations the General Assembly, by resolution 38/148 of 19 December 1983, endorsed the Council's decisions, expressed its appreciation to the Government of Mexico for offering to act as host to the Conference and made a number of requests to the Preparatory Committee, the Secretary-General and the regional commissions concerning their respective contributions to the preparations for the Conference. It also requested the Secretary-General to report on the outcome of the Conference at the thirty-ninth (1984) session of the General Assembly.
9. The Preparatory Committee met at United Nations Headquarters from 23 to 27 January and again in resumed session from 12 to 16 March 1984. After intensive consultations it formulated and approved the text of the preamble and the recommendations for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action; 4/ it decided to transmit the text to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1984, together with the introductory paragraphs to the recommendations that the Committee requested the Secretariat to edit, as well as one draft recommendation not fully discussed at the resumed session. 5/ That text was to become the basis of deliberations at the Conference.
10. The Preparatory Committee furthermore recommended, inter alia, for endorsement by the Economic and Social Council, the provisional agenda for the Conference and the text of the provisional rules of procedure for the Conference. In addition, it made certain other recommendations concerning the composition of the Credentials Committee of the Conference, the allocation of agenda items to the plenary and to the Main Committee of the Conference, and other matters related to the procedure and organization of the Conference, including for example, the election of officers, the use of time, the structure of the report of the Conference. 6/ These recommendations were endorsed by the Council in decision 1984/118.
11. The substantive preparations, entrusted to the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, included the holding of four expert group meetings in the first half of 1983. These meetings were convened to review the major

developments in each of the four issues identified by the Population Commission as being of the highest priority: Fertility and Family (New Delhi, 5-11 January); Population Distribution, Migration and Development (Hammamet, 21-25 March); Population, Resources, Environment and Development (Geneva, 25-29 April); and Mortality and Health Policy (Rome, 30 May-3 June). The Governments of India, Tunisia, the Federal Republic of Germany and Italy provided facilities or support for these expert group meetings. The conclusions and recommendations of each expert group meeting were submitted to the Preparatory Committee. 7/

12. In addition to the above expert group meetings, the product of regular activities of the Population Division of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs such as the 1983 Monitoring Report of Population Trends and Policies and the results of the Fifth Population Inquiry among Governments, 8/ also served as inputs for the preparation of the review and appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action and the draft recommendations for the further implementation of the Plan of Action that the Secretary-General proposed to the Preparatory Committee. Substantive contributions to these preparatory activities were provided by the regional commissions, specialized agencies and other bodies and programmes of the United Nations system and other non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations.

13. The preparatory activities at the regional level for the Conference included five intergovernmental meetings:

(a) The Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference, convened by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 20-29 September 1982;

(b) The Meeting on Population convened by the Economic Commission for Europe, Sofia, Bulgaria, 6-12 October 1983;

(c) The Latin American Regional Preparatory Meeting for the International Conference on Population, held within the Seventh Session of the Committee of High-Level Government Experts, convened by the Economic Commission for Latin America, Havana, Cuba, 16-19 November 1983;

(d) The Second African Population Conference, convened by the Economic Commission for Africa, Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, 9-13 January 1984;

(e) The Third Regional Population Conference in the Arab World, convened jointly by the Economic Commission for Western Asia and the League of Arab States, Amman, Jordan, 25-29 March 1984.

14. The results of these intergovernmental meetings were endorsed at the annual session of the respective regional commissions in the Spring of 1984. 9/

15. Non-governmental organizations contributed to the substantive preparation for the Conference through their participation in the four expert group meetings and in briefing sessions on the Conference. In addition, an International Consultation of Non-Governmental Organizations on Population Issues was convened by the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. It took place in Geneva from 13 to 15 September 1983 with close to 200 participants from 62 international and 30 national non-governmental organizations. The Consultation was scheduled well in advance of the Conference

in order to ensure that the views and concerns of these organizations could be taken into account in the preparation of the documentation for the Conference. 10/

16. In addition, with a view to preparing for the Conference, national committees were formed by Governments of Member States to consider and draw attention to demographic phenomena in the countries concerned.

Notes

1/ See the Report of the United Nations World Population Conference (Bucharest, 19-30 August 1974), United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.XIII.3 (E/CONF.60/19).

2/ Ibid., chap. I, paras. 107 and 108.

3/ The Preparatory Committee was open to the participation of all States.

4/ For the Committee's reports to the Economic and Social Council, see documents E/1984/28 and Add.1; for the text of the recommendations see document E/1984/28/Add.1, annex I.

5/ The passages in question were indicated in the Committee's report on its resumed session (see E/1984/28/Add.1, para. 1 (b) and (c)).

6/ See the Preparatory Committee's first report (E/1984/28); the text of the provisional rules of procedure and the provisional agenda were circulated in documents E/CONF.76/PC/3 and Corr.1 and E/CONF.76/PC/4.

7/ See documents E/CONF.76/PC/6-9.

8/ See World Population Trends and Policies: 1983 Monitoring Report (ST/ESA/SER.A/93 and Add.1), future United Nations publication.

9/ See the report of the Secretary-General on the recommendations of the regional commissions for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action at the regional level (E/CONF.76/6).

10/ See the Report of the Consultation, published by the Population Institute, Washington, D.C., 1983.

Chapter III

INAUGURATION OF THE CONFERENCE

17. An inaugural ceremony was held at the Palacio de Bellas Artes, Mexico City, on 6 August 1984.
18. The Under-Secretary-General for the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, in an inaugural address, conveyed the good wishes of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the success of the Conference and his appreciation for the hospitality offered by the Government of Mexico. He added that in recognition of the importance of the Conference, the Secretary-General would come to address the Conference in person at a later stage of the proceedings.
19. In a statement made at the inaugural ceremony, Mr. Rafael M. Salas, Secretary-General of the Conference, said that the overriding objective of population policies should be the stabilization of the global population, subject to respect for the dignity and freedom of the human person and with due regard for the availability of resources, technological progress, the safeguarding of the environment, and social innovations. He called for the continuation and strengthening of global population programmes, until the promise of stabilization was within sight. All people should have access to the knowledge and the means enabling them to bring forth only the children for whom they could provide the fullest opportunities for growth.
20. Ideally, he said, the stabilization of the global population - in the sense of a balance between population and resources - should be achieved within the shortest period possible before the end of the next century. Population stabilization would make it less difficult for the developing countries to improve their levels of living. He referred to voluntary family planning as a vital means in reaching this global goal, provided that it was consistent with human rights, religious beliefs and cultural values.
21. The task of the Conference was to examine, determine and agree on global strategies that would complement national population policies and programmes and make the provisions of the World Population Plan of Action adopted at Bucharest in 1974 a continuously operative and relevant framework for national and international efforts in the population field. It was, of course, for the sovereign States to consider, judge, decide and agree on what was proper for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action.
22. He suggested five guiding principles. Countries should try to make their national policies and goals consistent with the global ones incorporated in the World Population Plan of Action; realize that population policies take effect within a much longer time-frame than other programmes; strive for coherence among their recommendations; be aware of the ever-changing state of knowledge and allow for new technological advances and innovations; and be sensitive to the basic rights of individuals and couples to make free and responsible decisions on fertility.
23. While the overall world population growth rate had declined, he pointed out that the number of new human beings added to the world population each year was still increasing, owing to an imbalance between global death rates and birth rates,

in that mortality rates had declined, but that fertility rates had declined less. The world population in 1984 was estimated at 4.76 billion, having been 3.99 billion in 1974. The annual rate of population growth had declined from an estimated 2.03 per cent in 1970-1975 to 1.67 in 1980-1985. However, he said, the annual increment of the world population had remained relatively stable at above 75 million throughout the decade and was expected to increase to 89 million by 1995-2000.

24. According to United Nations projections, the world population would continue to grow for 110 years, although at a progressively slower pace. Almost the entire future growth would occur in the developing countries, many of which even now considered their rates of population growth too high. The rate of population growth had declined but slowly, and unless the current momentum to reduce fertility was maintained, the growth rate might actually increase during the remainder of this century.

25. He stated that the global birth rate had declined in the past decade, but the levels of fertility continued to vary substantially among developing countries. Whereas several countries of Asia and Latin America had experienced rapid declines in fertility, fertility rates remained very high in much of Africa and Western Asia. Government programmes to reduce fertility were available to 80 per cent of the eligible population of the developing world, but the fertility levels were still too high to achieve eventual population stability, which would result if each woman had only 2.1 children instead of the current much higher numbers. The continued momentum of population growth in the developing countries would lead to a doubling by the year 2025 in the number of women in the reproductive ages, currently estimated at 873 million.

26. In consequence of a world-wide improvement in health and human longevity, global life expectancy at birth had risen to 59 years, but in developing countries to only 56.6 years. In 40 or more countries of Africa and Asia life expectancy at birth was less than 50 years. He pointed to the large differential in the levels of infant mortality rates between developed and developing countries: in developed countries the rate was 17 infant deaths per 1,000 live births, whereas it was 91 per 1,000 in developing countries.

27. He referred to the increase in international migration and rural-to-urban migration within individual countries. The direction and characteristics of international migration flows had changed since the Bucharest Conference, causing increased concern for the human rights and welfare of permanent immigrants, expatriate workers, undocumented or illegal migrants and refugees.

28. The proportion of the urban in the total population had risen from 38 to 41 per cent since 1974 and was expected to reach approximately 50 per cent at the global level by the end of this century. The number of cities with 4 million or more inhabitants had increased during the decade from 28 to 41. In the developing world, however, the number had almost doubled, from 15 to 27, during the decade. The influx into the cities was expected to continue, and by the year 2000 there would probably be about 66 cities with 4 million or more inhabitants. He referred also to the increase in the numbers of the elderly, which placed an additional burden on social services in many countries, and to the increase in the size of the labour force, which necessitated the creation of new jobs.

29. He stated, in conclusion, that only the determined, rational and humane national population policies of countries could ensure a more satisfying future for the coming generations. Governments must plan and work to create a secure and viable global society, one in which individuals could develop their full potential free from the capricious inequalities of development and threats of environmental degradation.

30. H.E. Mr. Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado, President of Mexico, in his inaugural address welcomed the Conference and its participants on behalf of the people and Government of Mexico.

31. He expressed the hope that the Conference would achieve its objectives in a spirit of harmony and in conformity with the principles of peaceful coexistence, international co-operation, justice, freedom and development, and respect for human rights. Essentially, the Conference was concerned with the conditions of life of the 4.8 billion individuals who constituted the world's population. He considered that the Earth's resources and human integrity would be able to satisfy basic needs, provided that these resources and capabilities were used rationally. The task of providing shelter, food and employment for all people was a formidable one, and it was the duty of Governments, whatever their social and economic philosophy, to respond to the challenge.

32. Despite the notable progress made in ensuring a longer and better life for the population of many countries, the economic, social, cultural and scientific development still lagged behind in many others. In view of the interrelationship of the demographic situation and the economic and social situation, the policies of Governments needed to be integrated so as to cover all these fields in a coherent manner. Obviously, conditions varied from region to region and from country to country, and hence national population policies had to take account of these conditions. It was the sovereign right and responsibility of every Government to determine the population policy appropriate for its country.

33. He described measures adopted in Mexico to carry into effect the population policy elaborated in the past decade, in the context of the broader development policy, and he mentioned results achieved in such matters as family planning, decline of the birth rate, internal migration, and maternal and child health. The achievement of certain targets in his as in other developing countries was hampered by financial constraints and the repercussions of the world economic crisis.

34. He hoped that the Conference would point the way towards a better future for the world's population - a future of peace and justice, free of racial prejudice and discrimination, a future marked by international solidarity and co-operation.

Chapter IV

REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF THE WORLD POPULATION PLAN OF ACTION: SUMMARY OF THE DEBATE

35. The President invited the Conference to consider item 4 of its agenda, and drew attention to the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Review and appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action" (E/CONF.76/4 and Corr.1).

Statement by the Queen of Jordan

36. Her Majesty Queen Noor al Hussein of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, addressing the Conference at the invitation of the President, said that the principles adopted at the Bucharest Conference of 1974 remained valid. Thus, for the first time in history, universal population concerns could be addressed on a comprehensive universal basis.

37. She stressed that the terminology and statistics concerning population might be inappropriately clinical, to the point that they camouflaged the raw humanity of the real issues faced by mankind. The individual human being defied quantification and refused to be abstracted: this was the paradox and true challenge of population studies.

38. She pointed out that all were aware of the magnitude of the population problem - that the projected growth to the year 2000 was truly alarming. In this connection, she noted that it was significant that the Conference had been convened especially on the urging of the developing countries, whereas the Bucharest Conference had been initiated in response to the concern of the industrialized nations. This shift in concern and commitment was not surprising in view of the changing patterns of population growth.

39. She emphasized that when individuals were deprived of essential services, there was a population problem, but when basic human needs were satisfied, population problems began to fade away. The population issues facing the developing countries were staggering, but many of these problems were not attributable to high fertility rates or economic imbalances alone. By way of example, she pointed to the plight of the millions of refugees and victims of political conflicts. In particular, she described the terrible cost to the people of her own country and to the Palestinians of the continuing instability in the region.

40. She referred, in conclusion, to possibilities for progress that might be achieved, for example, through an improved status for women, better education for both men and women, integrated rural development, and most fundamentally a renewed commitment to meeting basic human needs.

Summary of the debate

41. The delegations which participated in the debate considered that the Conference offered a welcome opportunity for taking stock of the demographic changes that had occurred since the Bucharest Conference, 1974. It also provided an occasion for an exchange of views on measures to be taken for reviewing and giving further effect to the World Population Plan of Action of 1974 in the

circumstances of a demographic structure that had in some respects changed in the decade that had elapsed since 1974 and for envisaging future steps that might be taken, nationally and internationally, in order to enable States to deal with these changing demographic circumstances. They expressed the hope that the recommendations to be adopted by the Conference would be conducive to the betterment of the conditions of life of all human beings, that they would offer guidelines to Governments in formulating their population policies and designing their programmes, and that they would be adopted in an atmosphere of concord.

42. Some delegations expressed the view that the main reason why some of the results of the implementation of the World Plan of Action had been unsatisfactory and slow to materialize was the deterioration of the international political climate.

43. Many speakers pointed to the contrast between the demographic situation as it had existed in 1974 and the present situation, and especially to the difference between the views, interpretations and forecasts advanced then and the ideas prevailing now. In many industrial countries the birth rate had declined so sharply that the population was virtually stable - in some cases it had actually declined - while in developing countries, despite a certain decline of the birth rate from a very high level and, apart from notable exceptions, the size of the population was still growing very rapidly.

44. Many delegations stressed that, while it would be useful for the Conference to approve broad general guidelines, it was in the final analysis the responsibility of Governments, in the exercise of their sovereign authority, to formulate the population policies which they considered most appropriate and consistent with national social, economic and cultural conditions and factors. Several delegations considered that it was utopian to aspire to the formulation of global policies, in view of the diversity of national situations. It was generally recognized, however, that conscious efforts had to be made by Governments to frame coherent population policies adapted to the conditions in their countries and consistent with plans or programmes relating to social and economic development as a whole. It was also stressed that population policies were integral parts of the long-range socio-economic development policies of each country.

45. Many of the delegates reaffirmed the validity of the principles and objectives of the World Population Plan of Action, as the essential basis of the consensus to be reached at the Conference.

46. Particular emphasis was given by many of the speakers to two fundamental principles. First, the strict respect of State sovereignty in the formulation and implementation of national population policies, although this should not deter countries from undertaking collective efforts in this area. Second, all couples and individuals have, as a basic human right, full freedom to decide the number and spacing of their children, as well as to have access to the information and means necessary to make their decisions.

47. Special emphasis was also given to the basic proposition in the Plan of Action that population and development are interrelated; that population variables influence and are influenced by development variables. Furthermore, it was recognized that population policies should be constituent elements of socio-economic development policies and not substitutes for them.

48. One delegation said that the rich diversity of cultures and traditions represented at the Conference might, of course, give rise to differences of views on various issues, but considered that the sharing of experience, insights and perspectives would help to identify how common goals can be achieved. Referring to past experience, this delegation stated that hitherto policies had concentrated on how to arrest the surge in human numbers rather than on how expanding population might be accommodated. The population problem must be put in proper perspective. People were producers as well as consumers. There were examples of nations experiencing increases in population growth that had also experienced economic growth, relying on the creativity of private individuals working within a free economy. Excessive population growth became a threat if individual initiative and the ability of men and women to work towards a better future were inhibited by the concentration of economic decision-making in the hands of planners and public officials. The delegation mentioned the demographic evolution in the developed countries as showing that economic development reduced the incentive to have large families.

49. The vast majority of delegations stressed that demographic processes in harmony with social and economic processes could only be ensured under conditions of peace and fruitful co-operation of nations.

50. Many speakers also stated that it was necessary to achieve disarmament and security and to stop military conflicts and the arms race, which were the greatest danger to mankind and to its development. They stressed that resources used for military purposes should be redirected to the realization of programmes planned in the social and economic spheres, especially the improvement of the quality of life, in both developed and developing countries, and in this way most of the population problems would be resolved.

51. A number of delegations stressed that the current world economic crisis seriously impeded efforts to deal with population problems. Many speakers added that the continuing deterioration in the world economy would threaten not only the effective response to demographic concerns of Governments, but any improvement in the quality of life - which was, after all, the ultimate goal of all activity in the area of population. It was also noted that, in particular, a large number of developing countries had been severely affected by the current world economic crisis. As a consequence, many of these countries lacked the resources for carrying out even relatively modest population policies. There was a constant struggle to satisfy the elementary material needs of a still growing population, and they had to contend not only with a frequently hostile natural climate but also with other constraints such as trade barriers, indebtedness and poor markets for their export commodities.

52. Some delegations mentioned that, in consequence of the drop in the death rate and of the still high birth rate, the population as a whole was increasing in developing countries, while the proportion of the poor remained high. In the opinion of many delegations it was one of the most noteworthy achievements of the Bucharest Conference and the Plan of Action that they had made Governments and people aware of the connection between poverty and the size, age, structure, rate of growth, distribution and age of the population.

53. Many speakers stated that high interest rates and the external indebtedness of many developing countries were seriously limiting the efforts of these countries to implement their social and economic policies. One speaker stated that the

political and economic pressures and imperialistic policies of some countries and multinational corporations were aggravating the economic crisis.

54. It was repeatedly stressed in the course of the debate that government policies in the matter of population had to reconcile the demands for the well-being of society as a whole with the respect due to the dignity of the human person and with the observance of human rights. Many speakers emphasized the need for removing the causes of social injustice, inequalities and discrimination that still affected certain population groups, particularly in developing countries.

55. It was stressed by the representatives of some developing countries that, in any attempt to deal with very high rates of population growth, it was essential to avoid any policies that would disrupt or even destroy the framework of the traditional society, and in particular the family. There could be no question of constructing a wholly new society simply for the sake of achieving population policy goals. Thus, policies would have to be based on full recognition of the prevailing values and structure of the society. Policies and programmes could not go substantially beyond what the community was prepared to accept.

56. Several representatives stated that, very understandably, the principal preoccupation of many developing countries had been and still was the size and growth of their population, especially seen in the light of rising expectations and aspirations for a better life. They pointed out, however, that some developing countries, or some regions, were not densely populated. In those cases, they stressed, the situation was not one of overpopulation but of underdevelopment and underutilization of resources.

57. Several speakers stated that population policies should take into account the endowment of natural resources and the quality of the environment. The devastating effects of, for example, acid rain, pollution of water, the oceans and even of outer space needed immediate attention. It was important, in their opinion, to foster the conviction that the environment had ceased to be a national domain. Governments must unite to preserve the global environment for the survival of mankind.

58. In the opinion of some representatives there was a risk that the twentieth century might become the turning point at which the balance between population, resources and the environment could become irredeemably altered. This was due both to the lifestyles and consumption patterns in the industrialized countries, and to the cycle of poverty and high population growth which were putting pressures on the resources of developing countries.

59. Many delegations noted that a historic change in population growth had occurred since the Bucharest Conference, 1974. The global rate of population growth had peaked and begun an apparent downward trend. Nevertheless, the annual increments in the size of population at the global level remained very high. Many speakers also emphasized the necessity to consider population growth at the regional, national and local level, and not merely from a global point of view, for there were substantial differences in the changes in rates of growth between countries and regions. Indeed, the widening discrepancy between rates of growth itself had become part of the population problem. It was also observed that negative population growth in some developed countries, resulting in aging population structures, made it clear that population was now an issue of major concern to countries at all levels of development. This was a somewhat different

situation from that perceived in 1974, when the population problem was seen almost entirely as a characteristic of the developing countries. The low growth observed in developed countries was attributed by some speakers to the third industrial revolution, as well as to a rejection of traditional family values, in particular by the younger generation.

60. Several speakers drew attention to the risks associated with the apparently persistent high population increase in many developing countries. The pressure on the land, aggravated in some cases by climatic disasters, the urban congestion, the strain on food resources and the consequential heavy demand on the limited financial resources of the countries concerned rendered life extremely precarious, and cases of famine had occurred in certain regions. It was in such situations, they stressed, that rational population policies were indispensable. Other speakers expressed confidence in the ability of human beings to develop and exploit the Earth's still abundant resources in such a way that the needs of the human species would be satisfied, though these resources might not be unlimited.

61. Some delegates stressed that the encouraging signs in the decline of the global population growth rate during the past decade should not lead to complacency with respect to efforts to deal with population issues.

62. Numerous references were made in the course of the debate to the decline in mortality rates in almost every region, thanks largely to advances in medical science and the treatment of infectious and parasitic diseases. Both mothers and children had better chances of survival as a result of such progress, though it was true that the infant mortality rate remained high in some of the least developed countries.

63. Many delegations pointed out, however, that disturbing interregional and intra-regional differences in mortality remained and were a subject of concern to certain countries that shared common social and economic characteristics.

64. Many delegations urged that measures be taken to achieve a further reduction of morbidity and mortality, especially as regards mothers and children. It was widely acknowledged that efforts should be strengthened to control infectious and parasitic diseases, improve nutrition and health care systems, and ensure greater access to primary health care for all sectors of the population, and particularly for the poorest.

65. Many delegations reported on the nature of policies and programmes adopted and implemented in their countries in order to influence demographic trends. They emphasized that such policies had to be designed with reference to the distinctive national conditions. For example, while a great many developing countries sought to reduce fertility from very high levels, some developed countries with fertility below replacement levels were applying policies to raise it. In every case, however, such policies should respect the values and the basic human rights of the population. In most countries, the importance of integration with overall health policies was stressed. In addition, in the opinion of several speakers, in any attempt to influence fertility it was essential to strengthen the family. Repeated reference was made to the valuable contribution that assistance for family planning could make to the health of women and thus to their more complete integration into the social and economic life of the community. One representative considered that the decline in fertility could ideally be viewed as a measure of the extent to which increasing numbers of families were exercising the right freely to control their own fertility and not as a reflection of any use of coercion.

66. With reference to the future in countries that were experiencing very low fertility, it was observed that policies would be needed that would support the family but at the same time would not interfere with the freedom of individuals to have or not to have children. For example, arrangements should be made so that women's participation in the labour force would not interfere with their decision to have a family. It was essential that the public should be made fully aware of the implications of fertility levels, and demographic conditions in general, in the developed countries.

67. Among various approaches used by Governments to reduce fertility, some speakers noted that both direct and indirect measures were used. Among the former, reference was made to an increase in the legal minimum age of marriage for both men and women, along with family planning. Key indirect measures mentioned were higher educational attainments and an improvement in the status of women, especially of those in rural areas. One developing country stated that one component of its approach was the establishment of the nuclear family as the ideal towards which social change was oriented. Among various supporting measures, changes in population law, such as the removal of restrictions on the importation of contraceptives and of prohibitions on family planning information, were mentioned.

68. With reference to the rights and responsibilities of parents, and also with reference to the moral and ethical rules of different societies, it was observed, as an example, that Islam enjoined parents to have no more children than they could appropriately care for. Other representatives pointed out that in some regions family planning programmes necessarily encompassed not only child spacing but also efforts to reduce infertility and subfecundity. Infertility was a cause of social ills and stagnation in some regions.

69. The role of the family as the basic unit of society was stressed by several delegations, and it was urged that measures be taken to strengthen that role. Some representatives expressed the opinion that the family setting in which children grew up should be fully assured, in order that they might realize their personal development in society.

70. Many representatives stated that in their countries family planning programmes were integrated with the public health service. They stressed that the information provided concerning birth control took into account the cultural, social and religious values of society. Accordingly, the supply of such information and of contraceptive devices was restricted in certain cases, for example in the case of young persons. Several delegations expressed the view that international assistance in support of family planning programmes, however necessary and welcome, should not be made conditional on the adoption or non-adoption of any particular family planning policy in the recipient country.

71. Several representatives expressed the view that family planning programmes should not be viewed in isolation, but as forming part of the general effort to maintain or improve the health of the nation. The services offered in the context of such programmes, e.g. advice on fertility regulation, which in many cases was provided by non-governmental organizations, should be in keeping with the needs and preferences of the persons - women or men - who applied for them. Some of these speakers suggested that advice on contraception and contraceptive devices might well be provided by locally based community agencies, instead of by the medical service. Some delegations stressed, moreover, the crucial role of direct local involvement in population and family planning programmes, and the need to support voluntary organizations and encourage community participation in such programmes.

72. Some delegations stated that family planning should be encouraged for the purpose of enabling persons to determine the number and spacing of their children consciously. This would include, as a form of prevention, also the comprehensive availability of all kinds of contraception, as far as possible free of charge. It was also stated that, in order to avoid the risks of illegal abortions and to reduce maternal mortality, women should have the right to have their pregnancies terminated by or under the supervision of a physician. One delegation stated that, as illegal abortions performed under unsafe conditions constituted a very serious health hazard in many countries, all women should have access to legal and safe abortions.

73. One delegation, while expressing its opposition to the practices of abortion, sterilization and contraception, stated that it was the duty of Governments to create conditions that would enable couples to exercise responsibly their right to form families, to bear and to rear children without coercion or pressure to conform to the small family model. That delegation further supported access to and instruction in natural family planning methods, and suggested continued research in order to promote a better understanding of the female fertility cycle.

74. Another delegation expressed its categorical rejection of abortion and sterilization as a method of fertility control.

75. One delegate stated that it was his Government's policy not to allow its population assistance contribution to be used to finance or promote abortion. His Government's contributions to nations which supported abortion with other funds would need to be kept in segregated accounts that could not be used for abortion. In addition, his Government would no longer contribute to non-governmental organizations which perform or actively promote abortion as a method of family planning in other nations. He added that no part of his Government's contributions to multilateral funding organizations could be used for abortion, and his Government would also require concrete assurances that such organizations are not engaged in, and do not provide funding for, abortion or coercive family planning programmes.

76. Some speakers emphasized the need for establishing specific demographic targets consistent with social and economic development plans. They considered targets useful because they quantified explicitly the goals of social and economic development strategies. Other speakers, however, cautioned that demographic targets might conflict with the rights of couples and individuals to make their own reproductive choice.

77. It was noted by a number of delegations that hundreds of millions of people lacked access to safe contraception. They emphasized the need to increase the access to and acceptance of family planning for men and women, including young persons, in order to ensure the right of all couples and individuals to the information, education and means to decide on the number and spacing of their children. In this connection, they stressed that family planning should not be approached in an isolated fashion, but should be integrated into primary health care and maternal and child health programmes. In addition, steps should be taken to improve nutrition and maternal education, while recognizing the importance of breast feeding to maternal and child health. Such measures would not only have an immediate positive impact on the well-being of mothers and children, but would also affect fertility rates.

78. Several delegations stated that the WHO code for the marketing of breast-milk substitutes should be implemented in all countries. Several speakers considered that efforts to improve access to family planning services should be supported by expanded research into safe and effective methods of fertility regulation, as well as into family planning service delivery. The research capabilities of developing countries in these areas should be strengthened.

79. Most speakers referred to the importance of the status of women in the formulation and implementation of population policies and programmes. They pointed to the strong evidence indicating that, as their educational and economic status improved, women tended to bear fewer children. Hence, by offering women access to education and to participation in economic life, Governments would be able to achieve the objective of lowering the birth rate and so a decrease in the population growth rate where this was considered desirable. They stressed moreover that, with the wider recognition of the equality of the sexes, men might progressively take a greater share in family responsibilities and so relieve women of some of their onerous tasks.

80. Several delegations commented on the increase in international migratory movements, both those caused by sheer necessity, such as food shortages, and those attributable to political events, conflicts, or violations of fundamental human rights. Such large-scale movements presented a serious challenge to host countries, for these had to try to absorb the migrants without disrupting the pattern of life of the resident society. The speakers urged that consideration should be shown towards migrant groups which became ethnic minorities in the host countries.

81. Some representatives stressed the importance of immigration in the past and noted that, although immigration programmes could not lead to any significant redistribution of the global population, the reunification of families and provision for resettlement opportunities should continue to be the principal objectives of such programmes.

82. Many delegations drew attention to the serious problems being faced by the refugees in various countries around the world. They urged the world community to provide the necessary financial, political and humanitarian support to these refugees. They emphasized that refugees should have the opportunity to return to their homes.

83. Concern was expressed by several representatives about the large outflow of professional and skilled personnel from developing countries. This was viewed as an obstacle to the achievement of self-sustained socio-economic growth because of the resulting shortage of skilled manpower.

84. A phenomenon mentioned by many representatives was that of increasing urbanization. The number of large and very large cities had increased substantially in the past decade and was expected to increase still further in the future. These megapolises existed in many developing countries - Mexico City being the outstanding example - and the swelling population in these cities placed a great strain on the infrastructure and on essential services. The urban growth was attributable partly to internal migration, to the exodus from the countryside. Several delegations described measures instituted or envisaged to improve the quality of life for the rural population in their countries and so to discourage the movement to the towns. Other delegations referred to cross-border migratory flows that affected the demographic situation in the countries concerned.

85. One delegation noted that rural exodus and rapid urbanization, major problems in many developing countries, were sometimes encouraged by a growth model favouring the cities over the countryside. Price mechanisms in particular could sometimes result in the rural population absorbing a disproportionate share of the costs of the national development effort. Beneficial prices, access to land, water and agricultural credit, education and health services were necessary to stem the flow of population from the countryside. Decentralized industrialization and the creation of employment in small and medium-sized cities were also key elements in population distribution policies.

86. Commenting on the change in demographic structure caused by increased longevity, a number of representatives drew attention to the added strain which this change placed on the economies of their countries. Provision had to be made not only for the increase in the young population group, but also for the growing numbers of the elderly. It was pointed out that the situation was different in developed countries, where the older age group was increasing and the younger age group shrinking in size, from that in developing countries where both age groups were increasing in numbers, as mortality rates declined.

87. Several representatives noted that the aging of the population had become a matter of greater concern in the years since the Bucharest Conference, particularly in the developed and in some developing countries. They referred to policies applied in their countries intended to maintain the integration of older persons in the active life of the community.

88. Several delegations of developing countries mentioned action taken in their countries to improve the collection and publication of demographic data through censuses and surveys, and the analysis of their results. The information so obtained was a valuable and even indispensable tool for Governments in the framing of population policies and of development programmes. Some of the speakers said that technical and other assistance should continue to be provided by donor countries and intergovernmental bodies in co-operation with developing countries for the purpose of refining the statistical systems and capabilities of these countries.

89. Several delegations stated that serious insufficiency or in some cases the almost total lack of basic demographic data continued to impede a more complete integration of population into development planning in some developing countries. It was noted by many speakers that international co-operation in the form of both financial and material support and technical advisory services remained an important unsatisfied need. On the other hand, where gains had been made in data-gathering through censuses, improved vital registration or sample surveys, a favourable impact on policy formulation, implementation and evaluation was noted.

90. It was pointed out by a number of speakers that a serious barrier to the development of more useful and effective population research was the manner in which it was institutionalized within the various traditional social science disciplines. Better integration of population research as carried on in the different disciplines was needed and should receive the support of the international community. Furthermore, it was important to achieve stronger links between population research carried on in academic and scientific research institutions and policy-makers and technical and professional workers concerned with population in public institutions.

91. Several speakers emphasized the value of demographic analyses in the preparation and implementation of population policies and programmes. Reference was made also to the particular importance of population projections for a wide variety of purposes. Such forecasts, for example, were essential for effective social and economic planning and in the evaluation of the implications of current demographic trends.

92. A number of delegations considered that there was a need to continue the monitoring of population trends and policies at all levels in order to formulate and implement more effectively population plans and programmes. It was desirable that Governments should share experience in implementing population programmes and policies.

93. Several delegations stated that international technical co-operation in the area of population continued to receive high priority in their countries. Many developed countries that had provided support for population activities reported that they would continue or even expand such co-operation in bilateral and multilateral programmes. All such co-operation must take into account the particular needs, characteristics and values of the countries receiving assistance and must, above all, fully respect their national sovereignty. Such assistance must also be made as effective as possible, in the light of clearly identified needs and priorities. Some representatives stressed that the assistance granted by donor countries and organizations in the field of population activities should not be tied to any conditions, for population policies were within the internal competence of the receiving countries.

94. The representatives of a number of donor countries referred to the assistance granted by their Governments and by aid-giving governmental and non-governmental institutions in their countries to developing countries in the context of projects designed to improve the health and living conditions of the population of recipient countries. They stated that their countries were prepared to continue to provide such aid, or even to increase it, to countries wishing to receive it. They stated, furthermore, that their Governments and bodies in their countries would be prepared to offer the results of research into family planning to interested countries.

95. A number of speakers noted the need for a greater financial commitment to population activities at the national, regional and international levels. One delegation expressed the view that governments should consider allocating at least 1 per cent of their annual budgets for population programmes, to be used at national and international levels. Others suggested, in addition, a greater financial commitment to further research into new methods of fertility regulation and into the safety and effectiveness of existing methods.

96. It was stressed by several speakers that the effectiveness of technical co-operation made available through the various entities of the United Nations system concerned with population would be enhanced by better co-ordination of their activities.

97. A number of representatives paid a tribute to the efforts deployed by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities in assisting developing countries to formulate population policies and implement programmes. The Fund had contributed to the raising of the standards of living of certain population groups, and had efficiently co-ordinated the financing and execution of specific population programmes. The useful part played in such programmes by United Nations bodies and

specialized agencies was recognized by several speakers. They pointed out furthermore that, in relation to aggregate financial flows for development purposes, the funds devoted to population activities in the United Nations system and through official development assistance were modest, and had actually decreased somewhat in recent years. They urged that the flow of resources from the international community in support of such programmes should be increased, on both a multilateral and bilateral basis.

98. Similarly, a number of delegations expressed appreciation of the important role played by non-governmental and private organizations in designing and implementing population and family planning programmes and projects, particularly in developing countries, and refugee resettlement programmes in developed countries.

99. Statements were made on behalf of 16 non-governmental organizations in the context of the debate. Altogether 153 non-governmental organizations were represented at the Conference. (For the list of these organizations, see annex I below.)

100. Many delegations complimented the United Nations Secretariat on the high quality of the substantive preparations for the Conference. More generally, the value of continuing the good and useful work of the Secretariat on the monitoring and analysis of population trends and policies at the global and at the regional levels was noted.

Summary of the statement by the Secretary-General of the United Nations

101. The Secretary-General of the United Nations addressed the Conference at the 10th plenary meeting on 13 August 1984. He said that the World Population Plan of Action adopted at Bucharest in 1974 was an ambitious plan, commensurate with the seriousness and breadth of the population problem. The 1984 Conference provided a much-needed opportunity to take stock of progress made to give effect to the Bucharest Plan. He believed that significant progress had been made. Increased resources were being devoted to population programmes, both from domestic and international sources. Greater recognition was being given by Governments to the importance of dealing with demographic problems within a wider context of socio-economic development; and a notable phenomenon was the slowing down of population growth. He pointed out, however, that the world was nowhere near a solution to the population problem.

102. Many speakers at the Conference had emphasized that population policies needed to be considered as a constituent element of development policies and not as a substitute for them. Conversely, the rate of development was directly relevant to demographic phenomena. If development slowed or halted, as had been the case in a number of regions in the recent past, the successful implementation of farsighted and ambitious population policies in those regions was placed in jeopardy. It would be tragic, he said, if population policies, painstakingly developed over past years, which were beginning to yield results, were to be called into question because of the pressures on national administrations to make difficult choices in the context of current economic restraints.

103. He pointed out that the disparity in demographic growth between rich and poor countries added a geopolitical dimension to the question of world population. High population growth rates and rapid, unregulated urban expansion would continue to cause concern in the Latin American and Asian regions. Conversely, the drastic

decline in the birthrate in developed countries had resulted in extremely low or even negative rates of population growth, one of the consequences of which was the considerable aging of the populations, with attendant economic and social problems.

104. Proceeding, he referred more specifically to the problems generated by rapid population growth combined with slow economic growth in the African region. The growth of food output had not kept pace with population growth in Sub-Saharan Africa. Moreover, the technology, human skills, infrastructure and the resources needed to reverse the trend did not appear to be within the reach of the countries of the region. He had sought to mobilize the resources of the United Nations and of the international community to alleviate the situation. A lasting solution would have to include also a reduction in the rate of population growth, which was close to or exceeded 3 per cent per year in many countries of the African region.

105. The Secretary-General added that the Conference was taking place at a time when the world was witnessing acute political tensions and a severe escalation of expenditures on both nuclear and conventional armaments. Such a situation was not only dangerous in the extreme, but also a serious obstacle to development.

105. He said that the broad representation of Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations at the Conference clearly reflected the realization that demographic phenomena were not only of fundamental concern to each Member State but also of common interest to the world community as a whole. It was at the intersection of those concerns - national and international - that the United Nations system could and was obliged to play a useful role.

107. He reminded the Conference that ever since the establishment of the Population Commission in 1946 as a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations had emphasized the importance of the population question. Since the Bucharest Conference, the organizations of the United Nations system had redoubled their efforts to assist Member States in finding solutions to crucial population problems and in emphasizing the importance of demographic factors in international plans and strategies, including the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade.

108. The Secretary-General stated that the population programmes of the United Nations Secretariat included research into and analysis of various aspects of the population problem, including its relationship to other social and economic variables. The Organization also channelled technical assistance to developing countries for the purposes of gathering, processing and analysing data, preparing demographic studies and providing training for demographers, and promoting the integration of population factors into development planning. The United Nations Fund for Population Activities, in close collaboration with various organizations of the system, had so far provided assistance valued at over \$1 billion to population programmes in the form of expertise, equipment and material, training and support for institution building. He considered that these activities were directly related to the first objective of the United Nations - the preservation of peace - and that future political stability, like economic development, would depend heavily on the way in which population policies were applied.

109. In concluding, the Secretary-General stated that the population problem was not merely a matter of statistics. More significantly, it concerned human beings whose well-being must be based not only on adequate living conditions but also on respect for their inalienable human rights, including the right to decide on the

size of their families. In the years to come, the improvement of the status of women must be an important goal in itself since it was a determinant factor in dealing with population problems. It was essential to involve women on an equal basis with men in all phases of the socio-economic development process, including planning, policy making and decision-making. This necessarily involved equal access by women to education, training and employment.

110. The Secretary-General expressed his hope and conviction that the results of the Conference would guide and inspire efforts to deal with the challenge of an expanding population at the global level.

Summaries of statements by United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

111. The Assistant Secretary-General for Development Research and Policy Analysis of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat stated that the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action was an urgent task requiring the international community to overcome differences and act collectively in the interests of human well-being. The review and appraisal of the Plan of Action undertaken by the Secretariat (E/CONF.76/4) had revealed some major achievements and also some shortfalls in implementing the Plan of Action during the past decade. It was apparent that an objective and scientific evaluation of population trends, prospects and policies, carried out independently of any advocacy role, had proved effective in promoting international discussion of population issues and mobilizing international action. Such accurate and objective information was essential in order to know precisely what action would be needed. In this context he drew attention to the fact that the Secretariat had for almost 40 years been able to deal effectively with population questions, which had at times been controversial, without encroaching on national sovereignty or basic human rights. On the basis of the Secretariat's findings, Governments were called upon to make recommendations that would help to determine the quality of the lives of members of a growing human population, setting new priorities for action at the national, regional and global levels, and providing guidance on how best to achieve the desired goals in a cost-effective manner.

112. The Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) focused upon four reflections. First, the dichotomy between socio-economic development and family planning programmes cited at Bucharest was now widely recognized as false. Both were needed for effective population stabilization. Second, the objective of population activities could most appropriately be seen as an improvement in the well-being of individual human beings, rather than primarily in terms of demographic predictions or national economies. Third, if infant mortality was reduced, as it should be, in ways enabling families and individuals to take control over their lives, the result would be a major reduction in fertility as well. Fourth, there was now a real prospect for a child survival and development revolution through the introduction of such simple measures as growth monitoring, oral rehydration, breastfeeding, immunizations, food supplements for vulnerable mothers and children, female education, and, of course, family planning and child spacing, which UNICEF would vigorously support in the context of maternal and child health services when asked to do so by governments that had independently adopted a family planning policy.

113. The Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) noted that the World Population Plan of Action described itself as "an instrument of the international community for the promotion of economic development, quality of life,

human rights, and fundamental freedoms" - a prescription that would remain valid for the next decade and beyond. International strategies achieved objectives only by ensuring that comprehensive social and economic development produced an impact on the quality of life of the underprivileged through urgently needed structural, social and economic reforms. Moreover, the international cause-effect relationships between population dynamics in developing countries and the effects of world economic dislocation and world armaments expenditure needed to be understood. How effective could family planning promotion be with the small farmer who, denied credit for technology because of the pressures of international debt-servicing, needed more children to work the land? Acknowledging that considerable progress had been made in developing internal population policies, he called upon participants in the Conference to show the necessary political determination to deal with the broader international socio-economic issues.

114. The representative of the United Nations Environment Programme emphasized the interrelationship of people, resources, the environment and development, and the need to evolve and adopt integrated approaches to these questions. He drew attention to UNEP's state-of-the-environment report of 1984 entitled "Environment in the dialogue between and among developed and developing countries" and pointed to the urgency of appropriate national action and greater international co-operation for dealing with issues of population, environment and development.

115. The representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees recalled the High Commissioner's mandate to provide international protection for refugees and to seek durable solutions to refugee problems through voluntary repatriation, local integration or third-country resettlement. In view of the scale of today's refugee problem (there were more than 10 million refugees) particularly in developing countries, its resolution has become directly related to the economic and social development of affected countries of asylum, where often a heavy burden is placed on the socio-economic environment. Conversely, refugee problems have been aggravated by serious economic and social crises that contributed to tensions resulting in massive displacements of populations including the flight of refugees. He emphasized that solutions to refugee problems either through local integration or voluntary repatriation required that refugees and returnees be allowed to move rapidly into economically productive activities and that their basic human rights should be safeguarded. At the same time solutions must encourage the participation of refugees in the social and economic life of the host country and must take into account the needs of the host population.

116. The Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) noted that, whereas in 1974 few countries and territories had had population policies, today there were few without them. Whereas in 1974, few countries and territories had had population programmes and projects, today there were few without them. Whatever success UNFPA had achieved had been primarily due to the Government themselves, of both developing and developed countries. For its part, the Fund had forged strong links between developed and developing countries as regards population questions, wherever possible assisting each group to discover the problems, needs and possibilities of the other and to work towards a greater awareness and knowledge in this wide field. He pointed out that three fundamental operating principles had guided the UNFPA's work from the beginning - neutrality, flexibility and innovation. He added that, in accordance with the Fund's mandate from its Governing Council, from the Economic and Social Council, and from the General Assembly, the Fund did not advocate any specific policies or prescribe any particular course of action. These were entirely the prerogative of the countries

requesting assistance, and UNFPA's support of programmes reflected their needs and their priorities. He emphasized that all programmes funded by UNFPA were undertaken in accordance with the following principles: that respect for human life is basic to all human societies; that population policies should be consistent with internationally and nationally recognized human rights and individual freedoms; and that all couples and individuals have the basic right to decide freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children and to have the information, education and means to do so. He hoped that the Fund would have resources to continue its work on an increasing scale so as to contribute to the achievement ultimately of world stabilization and to the improvement in the quality of life for all.

117. The Secretary-General of the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women said that the 1985 World Conference was expected to evaluate the progress achieved and the obstacles encountered during the Decade and to adopt a programme of forward-looking strategies that would ensure that women could assume their rightful place in society on an equal basis with men. She was pleased to note that the draft recommendations for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action recognized that the improvement of the status of women was an important goal in itself in ensuring women's full participation with men in all aspects of decision-making regarding population and development issues affecting their families, communities and countries. She stressed that women should not only be regarded as agents for population policies or tools for family planning programmes but also as beneficiaries of the type of development that responded to their needs, values and aspirations. She drew attention to some other United Nations activities closely related to demographic issues, namely the observance of 1985 as International Youth Year, which aims to find appropriate measures to maximize the contribution of youth to development; the United Nations Congress for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders which will deal, among other things, with the impact of urbanization and migration on community structures and social control; the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons (1983-1992) which focuses on a vulnerable population group; and the International Plan of Action on Aging which stresses the need to deal with the impact of the aging population on development.

118. The representative of the International Labour Organisation said that the ILO's concerns with employment, human resources, women workers, migrant workers and child labour were closely intertwined with population issues. In particular, effective population policies were critical in achieving employment goals. ILO's activities central to population matters included the following: integrating demographic elements into human resources and broader development planning; creation of training and employment opportunities for women on equal terms with men and measuring the economic value of women's work; measuring and analysing rural-urban and other types of internal migration as an aid to policy formulation; protection of expatriate migrant workers and their families as well as of other migrant categories through international instruments, research and operational activities; and the integration of family welfare activities in the work-setting.

119. The representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization said that FAO had been concerned since its foundation in 1945, with the important question of the balance between food supply and population growth. At the present time, this concern was more acute than ever since, particularly in the continent of Africa, food production per person was not keeping pace with population growth. Since

there were indications that the rate of population growth in Africa might accelerate, the gap between production and demand might well widen further in the coming years. In this context, the findings of the recently completed study "Land resources for populations of the future", carried out by FAO with the assistance of UNFPA in 117 developing countries, indicated that sustained and vigorous efforts to improve food productivity would be required if populations were to be adequately fed. Moreover, the potentially explosive phenomenon of urbanization created problems of food production and changes in food habits and needs. Such imbalances between population and food supply endangered food security in all its aspects, not least with regard to the poorest sectors of society. It was no longer possible to ignore the basic lesson that for many countries the optimum solution was to restrain population growth while simultaneously increasing agriculture productivity. FAO would continue to work closely with UNFPA in this fundamental sector. It was not, of course, for FAO to say how a decline in population growth rates should be achieved, but FAO could not refrain from proclaiming that the decline was necessary nor from responding appropriately to requests from countries for support in achieving it.

120. The Director-General of the World Health Organization said that when one spoke of population, people appeared as mere statistics. But it was people who mattered; people who can make or break their own development. To achieve that development they needed healthy bodies, minds and attitudes. Some 1,000 million people were still trapped in poverty and underdevelopment. It was hardly surprising that people in developing countries should wish to act now. In 1977 WHO's Member States declared as the main social goal for the coming decades the attainment by the year 2000 of a level of health permitting all to lead socially and economically productive lives. They decided that primary health care was the key to attain that goal, adopted a strategy and were currently active in carrying it out. An essential feature of the strategy was care of families with particular emphasis on maternal and child health, including family planning, and the status of women. Family planning could lead to striking improvements in the health of mothers and children and indeed of the whole family. Attainment of health for all required that Government, bilateral agencies, the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations should join forces in co-operation efforts in line with well-defined national policies which placed health and well-being of people at the highest point of the development ladder.

121. The President of the World Bank said that in many developing countries development would be postponed indefinitely unless slower popular growth can be achieved soon, even before higher real incomes brought down fertility spontaneously. He added that one could not and must not bequeath to future generations a world in which the most spectacular growth was that in the numbers of people living in absolute poverty. There had to be a continuing effort to contain population growth if pervasive poverty was to be eased and development accelerated. The World Bank would join in this endeavour in three ways. In its economic dialogue with its member countries, the Bank would give increasing attention to the consequences of rapid population growth. In its lending, the Bank would support those aspects of development, especially improvement in the status of women, health and nutrition, which most influenced fertility rates. In its lending for the extension and improvement of family planning and health and nutrition services, the Bank planned to at least double its lending over the next few years. Since 1970, the Bank had committed about \$500 million for population projects and over \$100 million for health projects, many of which included family planning. The Bank's major focus in future would be on Africa and Asia, where population and

related health problems were the most dramatic. Over the coming five years, the Bank would finance more than 20 projects for population and health in Sub-Saharan Africa. It would also consider supporting international efforts in contraceptive research to make simple and safe techniques available. Currently, external assistance for population activities amounted to about \$500 million annually. The Bank's World Development Report 1984 had concluded that such assistance could usefully triple, or even quadruple, between now and the end of the century. This still would represent only a small fraction of official development aid. Donor and developing countries were encouraged to make the minimal adjustments to their budgets which would be needed to make reliable and safe family planning services available to most people in the developing world.

Chapter V

REPORTS OF THE SESSIONAL BODIES AND ACTION BY THE PLENARY

A. Report of the Main Committee

122. At its first plenary meeting, on 6 August 1984, the Conference established, under rule 45 of the rules of procedure, the Main Committee and allocated to it item 5. At the same meeting, the Conference elected by acclamation Dr. Frederick Sai (Ghana) as Presiding Officer of the Main Committee.

123. At its first meeting on 6 August, the Committee elected the following officers:

Deputy Presiding Officers: Mr. Luis King (Ecuador), Mr. Léon Tabah (France) and Mr. Józef Pajestka (Poland).

Rapporteur: Miss Mercedes B. Concepción (Philippines).

124. The Committee had before it the following documents:

- (a) Recommendations for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action: note by the Secretariat (E/CONF.76/5 and Corr.1 (Chinese only));
- (b) Recommendations of the regional commissions for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action at the regional level: report of the Secretary-General (E/CONF.76/6 and Corr.1 (Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish only)).

125. The Committee decided to concentrate its work on the formulation of the recommendations for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action, taking as the basis of its work the text prepared by the Preparatory Committee contained in document E/CONF.76/5.

126. The Committee considered document E/CONF.76/5 and amendments thereto (E/CONF.76/MC/L.6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 58, 59, 60, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72 and 73) proposed by a number of delegations in the course of its 14 meetings held from 6 to 13 August 1984.

127. At its 14th meeting held on 13 August 1984, the Committee adopted by 51 votes to 1, with no abstentions, the text of the recommendations for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action, contained in document E/CONF.76/L.3, annex, and submitted it for adoption to the Conference.

128. The following delegations formulated reservations: the United States of America to paragraph 11 of the preamble, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America to recommendation 3; Sweden to recommendation 18 (e); the United States of America to recommendation 36; and India and Mexico to recommendation 88.

Action in plenary

129. The report of the Main Committee (E/CONF.76/L.3), which was introduced by its Presiding Officer, was considered by the Conference at the 12th plenary meeting on 14 August 1984.

130. The representative of the United States of America proposed that the second sentence of recommendation 36 should be deleted.

131. In reply to a question by the representative of Kuwait, the Legal Officer stated that the recommendations submitted by the Main Committee were in the nature of draft texts and hence open to amendment.

132. The representative of the United States of America, speaking under rule 30 of the rules of procedure, moved that the Conference should decide on its competence to deal with recommendation 36.

133. The President put the motion to the vote. A vote by roll-call having been requested, the result of the vote was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Burma, Bhutan, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chile, Guatemala, Guyana, Holy See, Honduras, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Nepal, Paraguay, Peru, Republic of Korea, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, Suriname, Swaziland, Switzerland, Thailand, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uruguay, Zaire.

134. There being 78 votes in favour, 2 against, and 36 abstentions, the Conference decided that it had competence to deal with recommendation 36.

135. The representative of the United States reiterated his proposal that the second sentence of recommendation 36 should be deleted, on the grounds that the sentence purported to be a unilateral interpretation of article 49 of the Geneva Convention of 1949 relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, and out of place in the context of the recommendations.

136. The representative of Pakistan, speaking under rule 25 of the rules of procedure, moved the closure of the debate and, under rule 39, moved that recommendation 36 should form the subject of a separate vote.

137. The motion for the closure of debate was accepted by the Conference.

138. The President then invited the Conference to vote on the amendment proposed by the delegation of the United States of America, involving the deletion of the second sentence of recommendation 36.

139. The amendment was rejected by 77 votes to 2, with 34 abstentions.

140. The President invited the Conference to take a decision on recommendation 36 as a whole.

141. The representative of Israel, in a statement in explanation of his delegation's vote before the vote, said that his delegation had come to the Conference with an open mind and an open heart in an attempt to understand the critical issues on the agenda and with the desire to reach an understanding and a consensus.

142. Israel, though a small country and besieged by economic and survival issues since its establishment, had contributed towards the solution of the refugee problem after the Second World War, opened its gates not only to the refugees of the holocaust but also to hundreds of thousands of refugees from Arab countries, and provided them with housing, schooling and medical care. It was only regrettable that Israel's Arab neighbours had not treated the refugees in their countries in a similar manner.

143. The World Population Plan of Action recommended that population distribution policies should be integrated with economic and social policies. These policies could be promoted only in a climate of peace and co-operation and not in a situation where countries - Members of the United Nations - rejected the right of existence and independence of another country.

144. His delegation had been determined not only to contribute to the consideration of the critical issues debated but also to keep divisive political issues outside the debating room. Unfortunately, political considerations completely divorced from the subject of the Conference were the ulterior motive for introducing recommendation 34, and especially its last sentence, into the Preparatory Committee's text.

145. As he had explained in the Main Committee, Israel was acting in accordance with the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (1949), but saw no reason why a certain article was to be given prominence over the other articles of the Convention. Nevertheless, for the sake of consensus, his delegation had been prepared to accept the wording. However, the formula suggested for the latter part of the original recommendation 34, now recommendation 36, was an attempt to interpret article 49 of the Geneva Convention and to attribute, or rather add, to the provision a meaning that did not appear in the original article 49. What the Conference was witnessing was a new, rather revolutionary way of introducing a new system of international legislation and codification. A Conference whose declared purpose was to deal with problems of

population was taking upon itself the responsibility to decide what action was legal and what was illegal - a most dangerous precedent for all concerned with a safer world.

146. Any doubt as to who was the object of recommendation 36 had been dispelled by the amendment (E/CONF.76/MC/L.60) submitted on 8 August 1984 by a number of Arab States. No doubt the existing political differences between Israel and its Arab neighbours had to be discussed and debated, but the Conference was not the forum for such a discussion. The right venue was the negotiating table, and only after the Arab Governments had recognized the right of Israel to exist and were willing to negotiate peace with Israel would this become a reality. The politicization of the Conference conflicted with the interests of all concerned with the problems under consideration.

147. In conclusion, the representative of Israel said that recommendation 36 would not contribute one iota to the betterment of the quality of life or well-being of any family. The recommendation was merely an exercise in futile rhetoric initiated by those who wanted the existing conflict to be perpetuated. In the light of the considerations he had outlined, the delegation of Israel was unable to support recommendation 36.

148. The Conference proceeded to vote on recommendation 36, on which a roll-call vote was requested.

The result of the vote was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burma, Cameroon, Guatemala, Guyana, Holy See, Honduras, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Liberia, Malawi, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Switzerland, Thailand, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Zaire.

149. There being 87 votes in favour, 2 against, and 26 abstentions, recommendation 36 was adopted.

150. Statements in explanation of vote were made, after the vote, by the representatives of Japan, Switzerland, Chile, Netherlands, Jamaica, Denmark, Uruguay, Sri Lanka, Barbados, Republic of Korea, Guatemala, Antigua and Barbuda, Federal Republic of Germany, Saint Lucia, Ireland, Cameroon, Paraguay, Greece, United Kingdom, Honduras, Liberia, Italy and Suriname.

151. The representative of Japan stated that his delegation had abstained in the vote on recommendation 36. His delegation had no difficulty in accepting the substance of the recommendation; however it was not convinced that an element which provoked and had provoked a political controversy should be introduced into the discussion in the forum of the Conference. The delegation of Japan considered that the Conference should preferably have concentrated its attention on the subject of population.

152. The representative of Chile stated that his delegation had voted in favour of recommendation 36 because it understood the recommendation as being of a general character and not directed against any specific country. The Chilean delegation rejected the interested interpretations that had been given of the recommendation. It considered that in a specialized conference that was always aiming at consensus, even on very delicate subjects, it was inappropriate to introduce political issues, let alone references to individual cases.

153. The representative of Uruguay stated that his delegation had abstained in the vote on recommendation 36 not because it objected to the recommendation but because, in conformity with Uruguay's traditional position, it considered that it raised political - not strictly technical - issues. In the opinion of his delegation the Conference was not the right forum for dealing with matters extraneous to population problems.

154. The representative of the Republic of Korea stated that his delegation had abstained in the vote on recommendation 36 because it considered that all the recommendations of the Conference should be adopted not by a vote but by consensus.

155. The representative of Switzerland made a statement to the same effect.

156. The representative of Guatemala stated that his delegation had abstained in the vote because Guatemala was engaged in a democratic process and would not wish to spoil that process by being a party to divisive issues, above all at a time when efforts were being made to ensure peace in the Central American region. In addition, his delegation was under instructions to deal with technical matters and not to become involved in political issues.

157. The representative of Antigua and Barbuda stated that his delegation had abstained in the vote on recommendation 36 because it considered that the Conference should confine itself to technical issues and should not deal with extraneous issues of an explosive political nature. His delegation urged that politics should not be introduced into a forum like the Conference in the future. It considered that the Ministers of Foreign Affairs could deal ably with such issues in another forum.

158. The representative of the Federal Republic of Germany stated that his delegation supported the entire report of the Main Committee, including all the recommendations. Bearing in mind the discussions which had taken place in the Preparatory Committee, his delegation considered it appropriate that the final

text, as a whole, should be adopted by consensus, in order to promote the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action. His delegation was happy that in the course of the discussions at the Conference it had been possible to come to an agreement on a number of potentially divisive issues. However, it regretted that attempts to find a compromise on one issue - that covered by recommendation 36 - had not resulted in a consensus in which all delegations could share. His delegation had been able to support the text, as it accorded with the position it had taken together with other countries members of the European Community in the General Assembly of the United Nations. In general, his delegation felt that in a Conference dealing with the important problem of world population it would be better if political issues of a divisive and extraneous character could be avoided. The problems under discussion required the attention of the entire international community. The Conference's decisions should therefore reflect a spirit of universal co-operation, commanding the agreement of all nations.

159. The representatives of Ireland and Italy associated themselves with the statement by the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany.

160. The representative of Cameroon stated that his delegation had abstained in the vote on recommendation 36 not because it wished to minimize the problem involved, or, even less, to ignore the relevance of the recommendation, but for reasons of form, procedure and competence. As regards form, the recommendation straddled problems of internal and international migration, and hence its placing in the context of the whole set of recommendations ought to be reviewed. Secondly, his delegation considered that recommendation 36 ought to have been approved by consensus. Thirdly, his delegation had not received instructions to discuss the problem involved in the course of the Conference, which in its opinion was concerned with technical matters.

161. The representative of Liberia stated that his delegation had cast a negative vote in the Main Committee on the question whether the Conference was competent to debate recommendation 34 as proposed by the Preparatory Committee (now recommendation 36) because the trend of the discussion had deviated entirely from demographic matters and development strategies to highly complex political issues for which his delegation had no competence. For the same reasons his delegation had abstained in the vote on recommendation 36.

162. The President invited the Conference to take a decision on the recommendations proposed by the Main Committee, as a whole.

163. The recommendations were adopted by consensus and by acclamation. (For the text as adopted, see chapter I above.)

164. After the adoption of the recommendations, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, the Holy See and Sweden.

165. The representative of the United States said that the Conference should be the occasion for a constructive, practical reaffirmation of the shared commitment to peaceful co-operation. To a large extent, this expectation had been fulfilled, and a large degree of consensus had emerged. There was agreement on such important population matters as the necessity for viewing family programmes within a development framework and the unacceptability of government coercion in any form in connection with population programmes. He welcomed the Conference's affirmation that abortion was not to be considered or promoted as an acceptable element of population control programmes.

166. Commenting on that part of recommendation 3 which called for an increase of earnings from exports of commodities, he hoped that, under market conditions, returns to exporters would be enhanced. He questioned, however, the idea that countries should join in co-operative efforts to maintain prices at artificial levels. In his Government's view, the reduction of barriers to trade remained the best way to increase income. With reference to the call for increased international lending and official capital flows, he noted that the problem had both governmental and private dimensions. Governments could not be bound to a particular form or quantity of official assistance. Nor could Governments dictate the policies of private lending institutions. What all delegations could do was to promote, in their respective countries, conditions that would invite lending and create incentives for domestic and foreign investment in the form of loans and equity capital.

167. He noted that the recommendations contained numerous references to international conventions or agreements. Some of these commanded universal support, others did not. Yet the attempt was made to imply that the entire international community supported all these instruments, some of which were quite controversial. The United States reserved its position with respect to all the international agreements mentioned, in keeping with its acceptance or non-acceptance of them. In particular, he referred to the Charter on Economic Rights and Duties of States, and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

168. Proceeding, the United States representative said that international efforts in support of population programmes had been among the most successful examples of international co-operation. In the developing countries in the last 30 years, total fertility rates had fallen on average more than halfway toward a goal of population stability; related social indicators had improved, human life expectancy had dramatically increased, caloric intake per capita had improved, literacy rates had significantly increased, disease had diminished and health care improved. Per capita income had grown substantially. The absolute numbers of people had nevertheless increased, and their need was still very great. Some nations had not shared equally in these improvements and much remained to be done. The World Population Plan of Action had provided a solid foundation for co-operative contributions to this enormous human progress. The Conference had further strengthened and adapted that foundation - a heartening achievement. Unfortunately, these significant achievements had been overshadowed by successful efforts on the part of a number of countries to introduce extraneous and divisive political issues into the deliberations. Those efforts were prejudicial to the entire system of peaceful, non-political international co-operation.

169. The United States representative said that the founders of the United Nations, with the experience of the Second World War still fresh in their minds, had understood the tragically destructive potential of the dissensions and divisions persisting among the peoples and nations. In structuring the United Nations system, they had sought to shelter international efforts to promote progress from political contention. They had established a number of organizations and agencies from which political contention would be banished. In that way they had displayed an understanding not only of the care needed to preserve the fragile structures of co-operation, but of the contribution such co-operation could make to the foundations of peace. Those who truly understood the meaning of the ideal of the United Nations knew that, above all, its purpose was to preserve the hope for peace.

170. Those who sought to politicize the non-political fora of international co-operation were the enemies of this hope. Because it was hope that they cherished, even as they cherished the truth of human dignity and freedom, the Government and people of the United States were committed to resist the destruction of this hope. Because of this commitment, the United States opposed recommendations 5 and 34 contained in the text (E/CONF.76/5) submitted to the Conference by the Preparatory Committee. The sponsors of both these recommendations had violated the principles of the founders of the United Nations. They had refused to respect the distinction between fora suitable for the discussion of divisive political issues, and those, such as the Conference, where such discussion was not suitable. Those who sought most strenuously to divert the efforts of the Conference to an inappropriate discussion of disarmament had refused to sit down in good faith at the negotiating table to achieve real reductions in arms through verifiable arms reduction agreements. The peoples of the world, particularly those in developing countries, were unlikely to benefit if efforts to promote development, social progress and the alleviation of human suffering were held hostage to the divisive passions of an intransigent minority.

171. The United States delegation accordingly strongly protested against the shadow of divisiveness and confrontation that the actions of some nations had cast over the work of the Conference and over similar efforts throughout the United Nations system. It appealed to all nations represented, and to all people everywhere, committed to the original ideals of the United Nations to join the United States efforts to avert the eclipse of co-operation and hope which the cynical manipulation of some, and the misguided passions of others, were threatening to bring upon all.

172. The representative of the Holy See stated that his delegation believed that it had benefited from its participation in the Conference and hoped that it had made a contribution to the work of the Conference. None the less, the Holy see regretted that it could not participate in the consensus on the recommendations produced by the Conference. The discussions had produced an improvement of the World Population Plan of Action. The recommendations contained some valuable proposals with regard to development, the important role of the family, migration and aging. In the light of its understanding of the nature of the human person, the sacredness of life, marriage and sexuality, the Holy See could not, however, agree with or give approval to those sections that asserted for individuals, including unmarried adolescents, the prerogatives that belonged to married couples in regard to sexual intimacy and parenthood. Secondly, the recommendations endorsed and encouraged methods of family planning that the Catholic Church considered morally unacceptable. In fidelity to its own responsibilities, the Holy See could not endorse proposals that were contradictory to its belief and teaching.

173. The Holy See participated in the many activities of the United Nations in the hope of eliciting an ethical consensus on many of the issues before the United Nations bodies - a consensus arising from a universal concern for the dignity and rights of the human person, men and women, and many other human and societal values. At the same time, the Holy See must preserve coherence and consistency in its moral commitment and teaching.

174. Whereas Members of the United Nations often conditioned their approval of United Nations resolutions and declarations on the right of national sovereignty, such a conditional approval was not possible for the Holy See.

175. While agreeing with many of the positive conclusions reached, the Holy See regretted that it was unable to associate itself with the consensus.

176. The representative of Sweden stated that the Swedish delegation welcomed the adoption of the recommendations and was especially satisfied with the emphasis on the situation of women and on their role in development.

177. While fully associating her delegation with the adoption of the recommendations, the representative of Sweden wished to place on record its view that the recommendations in one important respect did not meet its expectations. Little consideration had been given during the Conference to the very serious problem of illegal abortions. Her delegation regretted that an amendment to delete the word "illegal" qualifying abortions had been adopted in recommendation 13(e). Reports showed that induced abortion was one of the most common methods of birth control in the world. Abortions were carried out in practically all societies, and high abortion rates existed both in developing and in industrialized countries. Abortions took place more or less irrespective of socio-economic conditions, medical facilities, official religion and - as a matter of fact - also of national abortion legislation. Abortion was often more widespread in countries where abortion and contraception were restricted than in countries where abortion was legal and contraceptives were freely available. Millions of women were seriously hurt - many even died - every year as a result of illegal abortions under unsafe medical conditions. The Conference had chosen not to recognize the plight of all these women and had thereby postponed an effective solution to this pressing problem. Prevention of unwanted pregnancies must always be a primary goal. Through family planning, it was possible to create a first line of defence against abortions. Hundreds of millions still, however, lacked access to safe forms of contraception. This was why illegal abortions in many countries constituted such a serious health hazard. In her opinion, all women should have access to legal and safe abortions.

178. In a note addressed to the President and delivered after the meeting, the representative of Saudi Arabia stated that, having been unable to attend all of the final meeting at which the recommendations and the final report of the Conference were adopted, the delegation of Saudi Arabia, while associating itself with the recommendations adopted by the Conference, wished to record that had it been present, it would have reserved its position with respect to paragraphs 14, 15 and 16 and recommendations 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of the text proposed by the Main Committee.

179. At the 12th (closing) plenary meeting on 14 August 1984, the draft text of a "Mexico City Declaration on Population and Development" (E/CONF.76/L.4) was submitted by the following States represented on the General Committee: Austria, Bangladesh, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, China, Cuba, France, Ghana, Hungary, India, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Pakistan, Peru, Senegal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Tunisia, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Republic of Tanzania, and Zambia.

180. The representative of Bangladesh proposed that the Conference should adopt the draft Declaration by acclamation. The proposal was seconded by the representative of the Netherlands, as Vice-President for co-ordination, and by the representatives of Brazil, India and Senegal and supported by the representatives of Hungary (on behalf of the socialist countries of Eastern Europe), Sweden (on behalf of the Western European and other countries), Bulgaria (on behalf of a number of socialist

countries); Zambia (on behalf of the African countries) and Paraguay (on behalf of the Latin American countries). The draft Declaration was adopted by acclamation. (For the text of the Declaration as adopted see chapter I above.)

181. The representative of the Holy See stated that although he did not agree entirely with the contents of the Declaration he had not wished to stand in the way of its adoption by acclamation.

182. The representatives of Bulgaria, speaking on behalf of the delegations of Afghanistan, Angola, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Bulgaria, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Viet Nam, Poland, Romania, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic stated that these delegations attached great importance to the Conference as a broad international forum for the consideration of important problems whose solution would promote the achievement of further progress in raising standards of living and towards a more just and rational process of world development. They considered, on the basis of the position of fundamental importance reflected also in the documents of the Conference that the determinants of demographic trends were socio-economic changes. Such changes were necessary for the purpose of freeing many developing countries from the social consequences of their colonial past and eliminating any remaining dependence on imperialist monopolies pursuing a neo-colonialist policy. The economic crisis of the capitalist economy, which most severely affected the developing countries, their enormous foreign debt, unequal terms of trade, rising interest rates and other political and economic actions taken by certain developed capitalist countries, were causing a deterioration in living conditions in the developing countries.

183. These delegations considered that national and international policies ensuring fairness and harmony in the global process of development constituted the main requirement for a positive change towards demographic trends that would promote well-balanced socio-economic development on both the global and the national levels. There was an important relationship, therefore, between the establishment of a New International Economic Order and population development.

184. In the opinion of these delegations, the prevention of nuclear war and the adoption of concrete measures for arms reduction and disarmament were an indispensable condition for the successful solution of the problems of development and population everywhere, including the developing countries. This idea was reflected in the Conference's recommendations concerning the fulfilment of the World Population Plan of Action. These delegations shared the deep concern felt by the vast majority of nations about the arms race pursued by aggressive forces, which diverted enormous material and intellectual resources to non-productive purposes, while much of the world's population suffered hunger and disease and remained deprived of basic education and medical care.

185. As the experience of the socialist countries showed, a decisive role in the acceleration of socio-economic development and the consolidation of economic independence was played by the State sector and planned economic management.

186. The solution of population problems would be facilitated by implementing demographic policy within the framework of a socio-economic policy specifically aimed at improving living and working conditions for all sections of the population. The shaping and implementation of demographic policy was the sovereign right of every State, acting independently, without any external pressure, through

measures taking account of specific conditions, receiving broad public support, observing humane principles and maintaining respect for fundamental human rights and human dignity. The nature and form of aid in carrying out population policies must be determined solely by the States interested in such aid and must not be tied to their acceptance of any prior conditions.

187. These delegations supported the progressive provisions of the World Population Plan of Action and the recommendations and Declaration of the Conference, whose implementation could be ensured only if the world's peoples lived in peace and security; they expressed confidence that the results of the Conference would bring about broader international co-operation.

B. Report of the Credentials Committee

188. At its first plenary meeting, on 6 August 1984, the Conference in accordance with rule 4 of its rules of procedure (E/CONF.76/2) appointed a Credentials Committee composed of the following States: China, Colombia, Indonesia, Jamaica, Mali, Portugal, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America.

189. The Credentials Committee held two meetings, the first on Thursday, 9 August, and the second on Friday, 10 August 1984.

190. At the first meeting on 9 August 1984, H.E. Mr. Sam Odaka (Uganda) was unanimously elected Presiding Officer.

191. At its second meeting on 10 August 1984 the Committee had before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population dated 9 August 1984 on the status of credentials of representatives of participants attending the Conference (E/CONF.76/CC/WP.1*). Additional information on credentials received by the Secretary-General of the Conference after the issuance of the memorandum was provided to the Committee by the Secretary of the Committee. On the basis of the information made available to it the Committee noted that as at 10 August 1984:

(a) Formal credentials issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, as provided for in rule 3 of the rules of procedure of the Conference, have been submitted for the representatives of the following 100 States participating in the Conference: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Holy See, Honduras, Hungary, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia;

(b) Credentials for the representatives of the following 11 States issued by their respective Head of State or Government or Minister for Foreign Affairs have been communicated to the Secretary-General of the Conference in the form of a note verbale or a cable: Argentina, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Indonesia, Niger, Norway, Romania, Senegal;

(c) The designation of the representatives of the following 16 States has been communicated to the Secretary-General of the Conference by means of a cable, letter, or a note verbale from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs or other Ministry concerned: Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Benin, Chad, Colombia, Congo, Ivory Coast, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, St. Lucia, Thailand, Yemen, Zimbabwe;

(d) The designation of the representatives of the following 19 States has been communicated to the Secretary-General of the Conference by means of a letter, note verbale or cable from their respective permanent representative to the United Nations or permanent missions in New York or their embassies in Mexico: Brazil, Bulgaria, Dominican Republic, Ghana, India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Italy, Lebanon, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Switzerland, Togo, United Kingdom, Uruguay;

(e) In respect of Namibia, represented by the United Nations Council for Namibia, the designation of its representative was communicated to the Secretary-General of the Conference by a letter from the President of the United Nations Council for Namibia.

192. Documents E/CONF.76/7, 8, 10, 11/Rev.1, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 relevant to the work of the Credentials Committee, addressed to the President of the Conference by a number of delegations were circulated to members of the Committee.

193. At the second meeting of the Committee, statements regarding credentials of representatives to the International Conference on Population were made by the representatives of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, China, United States and Indonesia.

194. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that the position of the delegations of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Bulgaria, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Nicaragua, Poland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and Viet Nam with regard to the question of participation in the Conference of the representatives of so-called Democratic Kampuchea had already been spelled out in detail in a communication circulated as a document of the Conference (E/CONF.76/11/Rev.1). He stated that those countries wished to stress once again that the People's Republic of Kampuchea was the sole Kampuchean State and that it should take its legitimate seat in the United Nations.

195. The representative of China objected to the statement of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and stated that in the view of the Chinese delegation the credentials of Democratic Kampuchea were valid. Democratic Kampuchea was a Member of the United Nations and the sole legal Government of Kampuchea was the Government of Democratic Kampuchea. That had been confirmed repeatedly by the General Assembly of the United Nations, and the International Conference on Population, as a United Nations Conference, should adhere to the relevant United Nations resolutions. The so-called "People's Republic of Kampuchea" is a puppet régime and

it has no qualifications whatsoever to represent the Kampuchean people. (The position of China is reflected in a communication addressed to the President of the Conference and circulated as a document of the Conference (E/CONF.76/8).)

196. The representative of the United States of America stated that the position of his delegation regarding Kampuchea was well known. The United States delegation continued to support the credentials of the representatives of Democratic Kampuchea on technical grounds. In the absence of a superior claimant the credentials of the representatives of Democratic Kampuchea which had been accepted repeatedly by the General Assembly should be accepted also by the Conference. He added that the Heng Samrin régime, having been installed by outside military force, did not have a superior claim, and the United States delegation therefore considered the challenge to the credentials of Democratic Kampuchea's representatives to be baseless.

197. The representative of Indonesia stated that his delegation and the delegations of other ASEAN member countries attending the Conference reiterated their full recognition of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea as the sole and legitimate Government of that country. The credentials of the representatives of Democratic Kampuchea were fully in accord with the rules of procedure of the Conference and their validity was beyond question. (The position of the ASEAN member countries attending the International Conference on Population is fully reflected in a communication addressed by their delegations to the President of the Conference and circulated as a document of the Conference (E/CONF.76/13).)

198. The Presiding Officer then proposed that, taking into account the statements made by members of the Committee which would be reflected in the Committee's report, the Committee adopt the following draft resolution:

"The Credentials Committee,

"Having examined the credentials of representatives to the International Conference on Population,

"Taking into account the various statements made by delegations during the debate,

"Accepts the credentials of representatives submitted in accordance with rule 3 of the rules of procedure of the Conference,

"Accepts as provisional credentials the other communications received and reported to the Committee on the understanding that credentials in due form as required under rule 3 of the rules of procedure would be promptly submitted to the Secretary-General of the Conference by the authorities concerned,

"Recommends to the Conference that it approve the report of the Credentials Committee."

The resolution was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

199. Subsequently, the Presiding Officer proposed that the Committee recommend to the Conference the adoption of a draft resolution (see below). The proposal was approved unanimously by the Committee.

200. The Credentials Committee recommended to the Conference the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"Credentials of representatives to the International Conference on Population"

"The International Conference on Population,

"Having examined the report of the Credentials Committee,

"Approves the report of the Credentials Committee."

201. The report of the Credentials Committee (E/CONF.76/17) was considered by the Conference at its 10th plenary meeting on 13 August 1984.

202. The representative of Cuba, commenting on the Committee's report in so far as it related to the credentials of the self-styled representative of Grenada, stated that in the opinion of the Government of Cuba a delegation of Grenada to a United Nations gathering could only be accredited after the application of the provisions of paragraphs 4 and 5 of General Assembly resolution 38/7 of 3 November 1983. Those paragraphs called for the immediate cessation of armed intervention in Grenada and for the immediate withdrawal of troops from Grenada, and for the organization of free and democratic elections in Grenada. The Cuban delegation challenged the validity of the credentials of the representative of Grenada, for they emanated from a government that was not lawfully constituted and that was subject to occupying forces.

203. The representative of Democratic Yemen, speaking on behalf of the delegations of Arab States, expressed a reservation concerning the credentials submitted by Israel.

204. The Conference took note of the report of the Credentials Committee and adopted the draft resolution proposed by the Committee. (For the text as adopted, see Chapter I above.)

Chapter VI

ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

A. Date and place of the Conference

205. The International Conference on Population was held at Mexico City from 6 to 14 August 1984 in conformity with General Assembly resolution 38/148 of 19 December 1983. During that period the Conference held 12 plenary meetings.

B. Pre-Conference consultations

206. Pre-Conference consultations open to all States invited to participate in the Conference were held at Mexico City on 5 August 1984 to consider a number of procedural and organizational matters. The pre-Conference consultations were conducted under the presidency of Mr. Gerónimo Martínez (Mexico) Chairman of the Preparatory Committee. The report on these consultations (A/CONF.76/L.1) was submitted to the Conference and was accepted as the basis for the organization of its work.

C. Attendance

207. The following 146 States were represented at the Conference:

Afghanistan	China	Guinea-Bissau
Albania	Colombia	Guyana
Algeria	Comoros	Haiti
Angola	Congo	Holy See
Antigua and Barbuda	Costa Rica	Honduras
Argentina	Cuba	Hungary
Australia	Cyprus	India
Austria	Czechoslovakia	Indonesia
Bahamas	Democratic Kampuchea	Iran, Islamic Republic of
Bangladesh	Democratic People's	Iraq
Barbados	Republic of Korea	Ireland
Belgium	Democratic Yemen	Israel
Belize	Denmark	Italy
Benin	Dominica	Ivory Coast
Bhutan	Dominican Republic	Jamaica
Bolivia	Ecuador	Japan
Botswana	Egypt	Jordan
Brazil	El Salvador	Kenya
Bulgaria	Ethiopia	Kuwait
Burkina Faso	Finland	Lebanon
Burma	France	Lesotho
Burundi	Gabon	Liberia
Byelorussian Soviet	Gambia	Madagascar
Socialist Republic	German Democratic Republic	Malawi
Cameroon	Germany, Federal	Malaysia
Canada	Republic of	Maldives
Cape Verde	Ghana	Mali
Central African	Greece	Malta
Republic	Grenada	Mauritania
Chad	Guatemala	Mauritius
Chile	Guinea	

Mexico	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Turkey
Morocco	Saint Lucia	Uganda
Mozambique	Samoa	Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic
Nepal	Sao Tome and Principe	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Netherlands	Saudi Arabia	United Arab Emirates
New Zealand	Senegal	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Nicaragua	Sierra Leone	United Republic of Tanzania
Niger	Somalia	United States of America
Nigeria	Spain	Uruguay
Norway	Sri Lanka	Venezuela
Pakistan	Sudan	Viet Nam
Panama	Suriname	Yemen
Papua New Guinea	Swaziland	Yugoslavia
Paraguay	Sweden	Zaire
Peru	Switzerland	Zambia
Philippines	Thailand	Zimbabwe
Poland	Togo	
Portugal	Tonga	
Republic of Korea	Trinidad and Tobago	
Romania	Tunisia	
Rwanda		
Saint Christopher and Nevis		

208. The United Nations Council for Namibia represented Namibia at the Conference.

209. The Palestine Liberation Organization attended the Conference in the capacity of observer.

210. The following national liberation movements were represented by observers: African National Congress (South Africa), Pan African Congress of Azania.

211. Members of the Secretariat of the following United Nations offices were present throughout or during part of the Conference:

Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic
Co-operation
Department of International Economic and Social Affairs
Department of Technical Co-operation for Development.

212. The secretariats of the following regional commissions were represented at the Conference:

Economic Commission for Europe
Economic Commission for Latin America
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Economic Commission for Africa
Economic Commission for Western Asia.

213. The following United Nations bodies and programmes were also represented:

United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)
United Nations Children's Fund
United Nations Development Programme
United Nations Environment Programme
United Nations Fund for Population Activities

United Nations Industrial Development Organization
United Nations University
World Food Programme
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
United Nations International Research Institute for the Advancement of Women.

214. Representatives of the following specialized agencies participated in the work of the Conference:

International Labour Organisation
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
World Health Organization
World Bank.

215. The following other intergovernmental bodies were represented at the Conference:

African Development Bank
Asian Development Bank
Caribbean Community Secretariat
Commission of the European Communities
Council for Mutual Economic Assistance
Council of Europe
Inter-American Development Bank
Intergovernmental Committee for Migration
League of Arab States
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
Organization of African Unity
Organization of American States
Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel.

D. Opening of the Conference and election of the President of the Conference

216. The Conference was declared open by the Secretary-General of the Conference.

217. At its first plenary meeting on 6 August 1984, the Conference, by acclamation, elected as its President H.E. Mr. Manuel Bartlett Diaz, Minister of the Interior and head of the delegation of Mexico.

218. In a statement after his election the President, after thanking the Conference for the honour done to him and to his country, said that Mexico upholds the principles of human brotherhood and equality of rights without distinction as to race, sex or origin. Mexico was, therefore, an appropriate setting for a Conference that was concerned essentially with the conditions of life of human beings.

219. Tracing the demographic evolution since 1974, he stressed that the history of population changes should not be reflected only in statistical data: social and economic phenomena should also be taken into account, as was stressed in the World Population Plan of Action. At the same time, the position of the individual woman and man was primordial. It was the task of the Conference to contribute, by its recommendations, to the betterment of the equality of life of these individuals and to the full development of their capabilities.

220. He stressed that while considerable progress had been achieved since 1974 in the realization of the objectives of the Plan of Action, a great many inequalities still remained as between countries and regions, and even within countries. He expressed the hope that the deliberations of the Conference would lead to a better understanding of the problems that remained and to their solution.

221. A message from the Council of Ministers of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics addressed to the participants in the Conference was read by the head of the delegation of the USSR.

E. Adoption of the rules of procedure

222. At the same meeting the Conference adopted the provisional rules of procedure as approved and recommended by the Economic and Social Council (E/CONF.76/2 and Corr.1).

F. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

223. Also at the same meeting the Conference adopted the provisional agenda recommended by the Preparatory Committee (E/CONF.76/1), as set out below:

1. Opening of the International Conference on Population, 1984.
2. Election of the President.
3. Organizational and procedural matters:
 - (a) Adoption of the rules of procedure;
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work;
 - (c) Election of officers other than the President;
 - (d) Credentials of representatives to the Conference:
 - (i) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
 - (ii) Report of the Credentials Committee.
4. Review and appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action.
5. Recommendations for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action.
6. Adoption of the report of the Conference.

224. The Conference decided that items 1 to 4 and 6 of the agenda would be dealt with in plenary, and item 5 by the Main Committee, which would submit its recommendations to the Conference.

G. Election of officers other than the President

225. At the same meeting the Conference furthermore elected by acclamation:

H.E. Mr. M. Shamsul Haq (Bangladesh)
Mr. Dirk van de Kaa (Netherlands)

as Vice-Presidents for co-ordination.

226. In addition it elected the following Vice-Presidents:

Austria	Italy	Spain
Brazil	Japan	Sri Lanka
Bulgaria	Malaysia	Sudan
Burundi	Pakistan	Sweden
Cameroon	Peru	Tunisia
China	St. Vincent and the	Union of Soviet Socialist
Cuba	Grenadines	Republics
France	Senegal	United Republic of Tanzania
India	Sierra Leone	Zambia
Iraq		

227. Mr. Andras Klinger (Hungary) was elected Rapporteur-General.

228. In addition the Conference elected Mr. Frederick Sai (Ghana) Presiding Officer of the Main Committee.

H. Credentials of representatives to the Conference: Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee

229. In conformity with rule 4 of the rules of procedure the Conference appointed China, Colombia, Indonesia, Jamaica, Mali, Portugal, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and United States of America members of the Credentials Committee.

I. Implications of the decisions of the Conference for the programme budget of the United Nations

230. At the 11th plenary meeting of the Conference, on 14 August 1984, before the consideration of the draft recommendations submitted by the Main Committee and of other draft resolutions or decisions, the Secretary of the Conference made a statement to the effect that any decisions of the Conference that had implications for the programme budget of the United Nations would be brought to the attention of the General Assembly by the Secretary-General at the time when the Assembly considered the report of the Conference.

Chapter VII

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE

231. The draft report of the Conference (E/CONF.76/L.2 and Add.1-4) was introduced by the Rapporteur-General, Mr. Andras Klinger (Hungary), at the 11th plenary meeting on 14 August 1984.

232. After a number of amendments and corrections had been proposed, which were agreed to by the Conference, the Conference approved the various chapters of the draft report, as amended.

233. At the 12th meeting, on 14 August 1984, the Conference adopted its report as a whole and authorized the Rapporteur-General to prepare the definitive text of the report in conformity with the practice of the United Nations and subject to appropriate editorial changes.

234. After the adoption of the report, the representative of Kenya submitted a draft resolution entitled "Expression of thanks to the people and Government of Mexico". The draft resolution was adopted by acclamation. (For the text as adopted see chapter I above.)

Closing statements

235. At the 12th (closing) plenary meeting, on 14 August 1984, closing statements were made by the Secretary-General of the Conference and by the President of the Conference.

236. The Secretary-General of the Conference said that the Conference confirmed in its recommendations that the principal objective of social, economic and human development, of which population goals and policies were an integral part, was to raise standards of living and to improve the quality of life. The Conference had stressed that in the application of population policies and programmes national sovereignty and individual freedom of choice had to be respected. The Declaration and recommendations adopted by the Conference stressed the demographic phenomena which continued, and would continue for some time, to be causes of concern and which called for action at national and international levels, in particular population growth, mortality and morbidity rates, migratory flows, maternal and child health, the age structure of the population in various regions, etc. The recommendations gave special emphasis to the status of women, to access to information about family planning, respect for human rights, and freedom from coercion in decisions regarding family size. The Conference had recognized the role of the United Nations system, and of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities in particular, in contributing to the execution of population programmes and had acknowledged the need to strengthen the Fund's ability to perform this function. He expressed the hope that another conference would be held in 1994 to evaluate the progress made by then towards the further and effective implementation of the World Population Plan of Action in conformity with the Conference's recommendations.

237. The President of the Conference said that the Conference had provided an opportunity for taking stock of the existing demographic situation and for envisaging the future. The action taken to give effect to its recommendations

might well have a bearing on the lives of millions of persons and on the life of nations. What had become evident during the Conference was the realization that for dealing with the world's demographic future it was indispensable to enlist the co-operation of all the members of the international community - governments, intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations.

238. On behalf of the Government of Mexico he said that the Government had been pleased to be able to contribute to the success of the Conference. He paid a tribute to the delegations, elected officers and the staff who had worked devotedly to make the Conference a memorable event, and thanked the Conference for the confidence it had placed in him in electing him to his office.

239. The President declared the International Conference on Population, 1984, closed.

Annex I

LIST OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
REPRESENTED AT THE CONFERENCE

Aeropuertos y Servicios Auxiliares
African Association of Education for Development
Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization
Airport Association Co-ordinating Council
All-India Women's Conference
All Pakistan Women's Association
Apoyo a Programas de Poblacion
Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics
Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development
Associacao Brasileira de Entidades de Planejamento Familiar
Associated Country Women of the World
Association for Population/Family Planning Libraries and Information Centers
Association "Laissez-Les-Vivre - S.O.S. Futures Meres"
Baha'i International Community
Canadian Task Force on Population
C.A.R.E.
Center for Development and Population Activities
Center for Population and Family Health
Centro de Estudios de Poblacion y Paternidad Responsable
Centro de Pesquisas de Assistencia Integrada a Mulher e a Crianca
Christian Medical Commission/World Council of Churches
Christian Peace Conference
Church World Service
Club of Life
Committee for International Co-operating on National Research in Demography
Comite Regional de Educacion Sexual Para America Latina y el Caribe
Couple to Couple League for Natural Family Planning
Development Policy Forum-German Foundation for International Development
East-West Population Institute
Evangelical Church in Germany
Experiment in International Living
Family Health International

Family of the Future Association
Family Planning Foundation
Family Planning International Assistance-Planned Parenthood Federation of America
Federación de Colegios de Arquitectos de la Republica Mexicana
Federación Mexicana de Asociaciones Privadas de Planificación Familiar
Ford Foundation
Friends World Committee for Consultation
Global Committee of Parliamentarians on Population and Development
Helen Keller International Inc.
Hewlett Foundation
Ibero-American Institute of Aeronautic Space Law and Commercial Aviation
Indian Society for Population Education
Institute of International Education
Inter-American Association for Public Budgeting
Inter-American Association of Broadcasters
Inter-American Parliamentary Group on Population and Development
Inter-American planning Society
Inter-Parliamentary Union
International Alliance of Women
International Association for Maternal and Neo-natal Health
International Association for Religious Freedom
International Association of Democratic Lawyers
International Association of French-Speaking Parliamentarians
International Association of Gerontology
International Association of Religious Freedom
International Baby Food Action Network
International Catholic Migration Commission
International Centre of Social Gerontology
International Center of Sociological Penal and Penitentiary Research and Studies
International Christian Youth Exchange
International Committee on the Management of Population Programmes
International Confederation of Free Trade Unions
International Confederation of Midwives
International Council of Nurses
International Council of Psychology
International Educational Development

International Federation for Family Life Promotion
International Federation of Beekeepers' Associations
International Federation of Clinical Chemistry
International Federation of Business and Professional Women
International Federation of Family Health Research
International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics
International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers
International Federation of Social Workers
International Federation of the Little Brothers of the Poor
International Federation of Women in Legal Careers
International Federation on Aging
International Home Economics Federation
International Hospital Federation
International League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
International Peace Research Association
International Planned Parenthood Federation
International Research Institute for Reproduction
International Secretariat of Catholic Technologists, Agriculturalists and Economists
International Senior Citizens Association, Inc.
International Social Science Council
International Social Security Association
International Statistical Institute
International Studies Association
International Union for the Scientific Study of Population
International Women's Democratic Federation
International Women's Health Coalition
Japanese Organization for International Cooperation in Family Planning
La Leche League International
Latin American Social Sciences Council
Liga Paraguaya de Derechos de la Mujer
Medical Women's International Association
Movement for a Better World
Muslim World League
National Audubon Society
National Religious Broadcasters
New Zealand Demographic Society

Opera Pia International for Active Aging
Organon International
OXFAM
Pathfinder Fund
Population Communication
Population Concern
Population Council
Population Information Programme
Population Institute
Population Crisis Committee
Population Resource Center
Program for the Introduction and Adaptation of Contraceptive Technology
Protect Life in all Nations
Rockefeller Foundation
Rotary International
Save the Children
Servas International
Sierra Club
Social Marketing International Association
Sociedade Civil Bemestar Familiar no Brasil
Society for International Development
Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child
Soroptimist International
Stichting Werkgroep Medische Ontwikkelingssamen
Sunsat Energy Council
Universities Field Staff International
"Vie Montante"
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
World Association for Dynamic Psychiatry
World Alliance of Reformed Churches
World Assembly of Youth
World Association of Former United Nations Internes and Fellows
World Association of Muslim Scholars
World Federation for Mental Health
World Federation of Democratic Youth

World Federation of Health Agencies for the Advancement of Voluntary Surgical
Contraception

World Federation of Methodist Women

World Federation of Teachers' Unions

World Federation of United Nations Associations

World Leisure and Recreation Association

World Muslim Congress

World Organization/Ovulation Methods/Billings

World Organization of the Scout Movement

World Peace Council

World Population Society

World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations

World University Service

World Young Women's Christian Association

Worldview International Foundation

Zonta International

Annex II

List of Documents

A. Basic Conference documentation

- | | |
|--|---|
| E/CONF.76/1 | Provisional agenda |
| E/CONF.76/2
and Corr.1 (French only) | Provisional rules of procedure |
| E/CONF.76/3 | Adoption of the agenda and organization of work:
Note by the Secretariat |
| E/CONF.76/4
and Corr.1 | Report of the Secretary-General on the review
and appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action |
| E/CONF.76/5 and Corr.1
(Chinese only) | Recommendations for the further implementation
of the World Population Plan of Action |
| E/CONF.76/6 and Corr.1
(Chinese, English,
French, Russian and
Spanish only) | Report of the Secretary-General on the
recommendations of the regional commissions for
the further implementation of the World
Population Plan of Action |
| E/CONF.76/7 | Letter dated 7 August 1984 from His Excellency
Mr. N. P. Jain, Ambassador of India to Mexico
addressed to the President of the Conference |
| E/CONF.76/8 | Letter dated 7 August 1984 from the Chairman of the
delegation of the People's Republic of China
addressed to the President of the Conference |
| E/CONF.76/9 | Letter dated 6 August 1984 from the Ambassador of
Jamaica on behalf of the CARICOM countries addressed
to the Secretary-General of the Conference |
| E/CONF.76/10 | Letter dated 7 August 1984 from the delegation of
Democratic Kampuchea addressed to the President of
the Conference |
| E/CONF.76/11/Rev.1 | Letter dated 8 August 1984 from the delegations of
the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic,
Bulgaria, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, the German
Democratic Republic, Hungary, Nicaragua, Poland, the
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Ukrainian
Soviet Socialist Republic and Viet Nam addressed to
the President of the Conference |
| E/CONF.76/12 | Letter dated 9 August 1984 from the delegation of
Democratic Kampuchea addressed to the President of
the Conference |

- E/CONF.76/13 Letter dated 9 August 1984 from the delegations of ASEAN member countries attending the International Conference on Population, addressed to the President of the Conference
- E/CONF.76/14 Letter dated 10 August 1984 from His Excellency Mr. N. P. Jain, Ambassador of India to Mexico addressed to the President of the Conference
- E/CONF.76/15 Letter dated 10 August 1984 from the delegations of Algeria, Yemen, Democratic Yemen, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Mauritania, Morocco, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia and the Palestine Liberation Organization, addressed to the President of the Conference
- E/CONF.76/16 Letter dated 10 August 1984 containing a statement by the delegations of Afghanistan, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Bulgaria, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Nicaragua, Poland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Sao Tome and Principe, Ethiopia, Angola, Mozambique and Viet Nam addressed to the President of the Conference
- E/CONF.76/17 Report of the Credentials Committee
- E/CONF.76/18 Letter dated 13 August 1984 from the Ambassador of Israel, Deputy Head of Israel's Delegation addressed to the President of the Conference
- E/CONF.76/L.1 Report of the pre-Conference consultations held at the Tlatelolco Centre, Mexico City on 5 August 1984
- E/CONF.76/L.2 and Add.1 to 4 Draft report of the International Conference on Population, 1984
- E/CONF.76/L.3 Report of the Main Committee
- E/CONF.76/L.4 Mexico City Declaration on Population and Development: draft text proposed by the 29 States represented on the General Committee
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.1 Paragraph 12: revised text based on consensus of discussions
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.2 Paragraph 13: revised text based on consensus of discussions
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.3 Paragraph 15: revised text based on consensus of discussions
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.4 Paragraph 17: revised text based on consensus of discussions

- E/CONF.76/MC/L.5 Paragraph 22: revised text based on consensus of discussions
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.6 Proposed amendment to paragraph 12: United States of America
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.7 Paragraph 28: proposed amendment by the delegation of Australia
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.8 Recommendation 8: proposed amendment by the delegation of Australia
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.9 Recommendation 16: proposed amendment by the delegation of Australia
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.10 Recommendation 20: proposed amendment by the delegation of Australia
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.11 Recommendation 22: proposed amendment by the delegation of Australia
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.12 Recommendation 23: proposed amendment by the delegation of Australia
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.13 Recommendation 25: proposed amendment by the delegation of Australia
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.14 Recommendation 27: proposed amendment by the delegation of Australia
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.15 Recommendation 29: proposed amendment by the delegation of Australia
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.16 New recommendation: proposed amendment by the delegation of Australia
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.17 Recommendation 35: proposed amendment by the delegation of Australia
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.18 Recommendation 53: proposed amendment by the delegation of Australia
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.19 Recommendation 60: proposed amendment by the delegation of Australia
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.20 Proposed new paragraph 11 bis: United States of America
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.21 Proposed amendments to paragraph 12: Belgium
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.22 Paragraph 18: revised text based on consensus of discussions
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.23 Paragraph 19: revised text based on consensus of discussions

E/CONF.76/MC/L.24 Paragraph 20: revised text based on consensus of discussions

E/CONF.76/MC/L.25 Proposed amendment to revised paragraph 12: Australia

E/CONF.76/MC/L.26 Proposed amendment to recommendation 9: Yugoslavia

E/CONF.76/MC/L.27 Proposed amendment to recommendation 6: Argentina, Costa Rica, Egypt and Yugoslavia

E/CONF.76/MC/L.28 Proposed amendment to recommendation 81: Sri Lanka and Sudan

E/CONF.76/MC/L.29 Paragraphs 7 and 10, recommendations 6, 7, 9, 11, 13, 16, 20, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30, 31, 63, 70 and 80: amendments proposed by the Netherlands

E/CONF.76/MC/L.30 Paragraph 11, recommendations 7, 14, 23, 31, 44, and 53: amendments proposed by the Holy See

E/CONF.76/MC/L.31 Proposed amendment to paragraph 24: Switzerland

E/CONF.76/MC/L.32 Proposed amendment to recommendation 13: Zimbabwe

E/CONF.76/MC/L.33 Proposed amendment to recommendation 3: Argentina, Egypt, Kenya, Poland and Yugoslavia

E/CONF.76/MC/L.34 Paragraph 24: revised text based on consensus of discussions

E/CONF.76/MC/L.35 Proposed amendment to recommendation 29: Argentina, Bangladesh, Norway and Yugoslavia

E/CONF.76/MC/L.36 Paragraph 14: revised text based on consensus of discussions

E/CONF.76/MC/L.37 Proposed amendments to recommendations 14, 80 and 85: Bangladesh

E/CONF.76/MC/L.38 Proposed amendments to recommendations 21 and 46: Portugal

E/CONF.76/MC/L.39 Proposed amendments to recommendation 74: Egypt, Japan, Malaysia, Norway and Yugoslavia

E/CONF.76/MC/L.40 Proposed amendments to recommendations 8, 19, 57, 59 and 82: Japan

E/CONF.76/MC/L.41 Proposed amendments to recommendations 10, 81 and 83: Colombia, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Nepal, Peru and Uganda

- E/CONF.76/MC/L.42 Proposed amendments to paragraph 18 and recommendations 4, 6, 9, 20, 22, 28, 40, 58, 68, and 77: Colombia
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.43 Proposed amendments to paragraph 3 and recommendations 16, 56 and 83: Canada
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.44 Proposed amendment to recommendation 81: China, Colombia, Honduras, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Nepal, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey and the United Republic of Tanzania
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.45 Proposed amendment to recommendation 3: Morocco
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.46 Proposed amendment to recommendation 3: Costa Rica
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.47 Proposed amendments to recommendations 1, 4, 19a, 19b, 19c, 20, 23, 25 and 30: Belgium
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.48 Proposed amendment to recommendation 3: Ecuador
- E/CONF.77/MC/L.49 Proposed amendment to paragraph 3 (c): Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.50 Proposed amendments to recommendations 2, 6, 7, 13, 16, 23, 25, 28, 29, 31, 33, 33A, 67, 70 and 78: Australia and Zimbabwe
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.51 Proposed amendments to paragraphs 2, 6, 10 (b), 10 (c), and recommendations 8, 20-28, 31, 32, 36, 56 and 67: Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.52 Proposed amendments to paragraph 2 and recommendations 3, 5, 8, 13, 15, 22, 24, 27, 28, 31, 34, 44 and 82: United States of America
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.53 Proposed amendment to paragraph 12: Argentina
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.54 Paragraph 25: revised text based on consensus of discussions
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.55 Paragraph 27: revised text based on consensus of discussions
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.56 Paragraph 26: revised text based on consensus of discussions
- E/CONF.76/MC/L.57 Paragraph 29: revised text based on consensus of discussions

E/CONF.76/MC/L.58	Proposed amendments to recommendations 6, 8, 20, 23 and 26 and new recommendation between 19 and 20: Italy
E/CONF.76/MC/L.59	Proposed amendment to recommendation 34: Lebanon
E/CONF.76/MC/L.60	Proposed amendment to recommendation 34: Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and Tunisia
E/CONF.76/MC/L.61	Paragraph 28: revised text based on consensus of discussions
E/CONF.76/MC/L.62	Paragraph 30: revised text based on consensus of discussions
E/CONF.76/MC/L.63	Paragraph 31: revised text based on consensus of discussions
E/CONF.76/MC/L.64	Paragraph 33: revised text based on consensus of discussions
E/CONF.76/MC/L.65	Paragraph 24: revised text based on consensus of discussions
E/CONF.76/MC/L.66	Paragraphs 15, 16, 17: revised text based on consensus of discussions
E/CONF.76/MC/L.67	Proposed new recommendation 33 (a): various delegations including Bangladesh, Ireland, Norway and Yugoslavia
E/CONF.76/MC/L.68	Proposed new recommendation 28 (a): Guatemala
E/CONF.76/MC/L.69	Proposed amendment to recommendation 79: India
E/CONF.76/MC/L.70	Proposed amendment to recommendation 85: Egypt
E/CONF.76/MC/L.71	New recommendation suggested by Australia to be inserted between recommendations 31 and 32
E/CONF.76/MC/L.72	Proposed amendment to recommendation 85: Bangladesh
E/CONF.76/MC/L.73	Proposed revised amendment to recommendation 3
E/CONF.76/INF/1	List of participants

B. Background documents

1. Documents issued before the Conference

E/CONF.76/BP/1	World Population Plan of Action: note by the Secretariat
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2. Papers submitted by non-governmental organizations

E/CONF.76/NGO/1	International Centre of Social Gerontology
E/CONF.76/NGO/2	The Population Council
E/CONF.76/NGO/3	International Planned Parenthood Federation
E/CONF.76/NGO/4	International Federation of Social Workers
E/CONF.76/NGO/5	Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Inc./Family Planning International Assistance
E/CONF.76/NGO/6	The Japanese Organization for International Co-operation in Family Planning
E/CONF.76/NGO/7	International Statistical Institute
E/CONF.76/NGO/8	Soroptimist International
E/CONF.76/NGO/9	World Federation of Public Health Associations
E/CONF.76/NGO/10	International Senior Citizens Association
E/CONF.76/NGO/11	International Association for Religious Freedom
E/CONF.76/NGO/12	International Union for the Scientific Study of Population
E/CONF.76/NGO/13	Inter-Parliamentary Union
E/CONF.76/NGO/14	Associated Country Women of the World
E/CONF.76/NGO/15	International Movement ATD Fourth World
E/CONF.76/NGO/16	Association for Population/Family Planning Libraries and Information Centers - International
E/CONF.76/NGO/17	World Federation for Voluntary Surgical Contraception
E/CONF.76/NGO/18	World Assembly of Youth
E/CONF.76/NGO/19	World Association of Former United Nations Internes and Fellows, Inc.
E/CONF.76/NGO/20	World Organization of the Ovulation Method (Billings)
E/CONF.76/NGO/21	Latin American Council for Social Sciences
E/CONF.76/NGO/22	International Research Institute for Reproduction
E/CONF.76/NGO/23	Indian Society for Population Education
E/CONF.76/NGO/24	Couple to Couple League

E/CONF.76/NGO.25	International Committee on Management of Population Programmes
E/CONF.76/NGO/26	International Federation for Family Health
E/CONF.76/NGO/27	Confederación Internacional de Organizaciones Sindicales Libres
E/CONF.76/NGO/28	Inter-American Parliamentary Group on Population and Development
E/CONF.76/NGO/29	Le Centre International de Recherches et d'Etudes Sociologiques, Pénales et Pénitentiaires
E/CONF.76/NGO/30	Club of Life
E/CONF.76/NGO/31	International Federation for Family Life Promotion
E/CONF.76/NGO/32	New Zealand Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child
E/CONF.76/NGO/33	The International Union for Family Organisations
E/CONF.76/NGO/34	"S.O.S. Future mothers - Let Them Live"
E/CONF.76/NGO/35	World population Society
E/CONF.76/NGO/36	Asociación Internacional de Juristas Demócratas
E/CONF.76/NGO/37	Sociedad Internacional para el Desarrollo, SID
E/CONF.76/NGO/38	International Federation for Home Economics
E/CONF.76/NGO/39	Protect Life in All Nations, Inc.
E/CONF.76/NGO/40	Sierra Club
E/CONF.76/NGO/41	Centro de Pesquisas de Assistência a Mulher e a Criança

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