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**POPULATION COMMISSION**  
**REPORT ON THE TWENTY-THIRD SESSION**

(19-28 February 1985)

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1985**

**SUPPLEMENT No. 5**



**UNITED NATIONS**

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**NOTE**

**Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.**

E/1985/25  
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Chapter I

MATTERS CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND  
SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION

A. Draft resolutions

1. The Population Commission recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I

Population structure

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the recommendations of the United Nations World Population Conference, in particular those contained in the World Population Plan of Action, especially paragraphs 63, 64 and 66 thereof, 1/ where emphasis is laid on the need to take fully into account the implications of changing proportions of youth, working-age groups and the aged, which affect a growing number of developed and developing countries,

Recalling also the recommendations of the International Conference on Population, in particular recommendations 57 and 58, 2/ in which the Conference called for an intensification of efforts in the execution of specific programmes related to youth and requested that further efforts should be made to analyse the issue of aging, particularly its implications for overall development,

Noting the findings of the studies undertaken in preparation for the World Assembly on Aging,

Affirming the need to implement the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities to be undertaken prior to and during the International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace, 3/

Affirming also the need to implement the International Plan of Action on Aging, 4/

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

2/ Report of the International Conference on Population, Mexico City, 6-14 August 1984 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.XIII.8 and corrigenda), chap. I, sect. B.

3/ A/36/215, annex, sect. IV, decision 1 (I).

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

Bearing in mind the deliberations of the Population Commission at its twenty-third session on the implications of the recommendations of the International Conference on Population, 1984,

Taking note of General Assembly resolution 39/228 of 18 December 1984, by which the Assembly reaffirmed the need to pay attention to specific problems of population structure,

1. Urges all Governments, when formulating their social and economic policies, plans and programmes, to take fully into account the existing and anticipated demographic structures of their populations, paying particular attention to their relation to the following:

- (a) The number of students and the need for teachers and schools, in connection with ongoing and future technological change;
- (b) The changing organization and role of the family, particularly families made up of young people;
- (c) The formation of new household and housing needs;
- (d) The changing patterns of consumption and savings;
- (e) The needs of youth for productive employment opportunities;
- (f) The needs of the elderly for social and economic security, and their potential contribution to development;

2. Calls upon the Secretary-General, in supporting the activities of Governments in these efforts, to consider fully the relevant aspects of changing age structures and in this respect:

- (a) To continue the work of assessing current and future population structures in both developed and developing countries, paying particular attention to the increase in the proportions of youth and the aged in those populations;
- (b) To continue and strengthen efforts to study the implications of changing population structure for social and economic development, for family and household structure, and for social services, medical care and other related fields;
- (c) To continue and strengthen efforts to monitor and analyse policies to address specific requirements arising from changing population structure, especially for youth and the aged;
- (d) To report to the Population Commission, on a timely basis, the findings of studies on these issues, as well as estimates and projections on the youth and the aged populations, and to make that information available to Governments, non-governmental organizations and others concerned.

Implications of the recommendations of the International  
Conference on Population, 1984

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 39/228 of 18 December 1984,

Having examined at its first regular session of 1985 the implications of the recommendations for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action made by the International Conference on Population, 5/ in order to provide overall policy guidelines within the United Nations system on population questions,

Recognizing the important role of international co-operation in the implementation of the recommendations,

Having considered the recommendations on the role of international co-operation, in particular recommendation 83, 6/ in which the Conference referred to the leading role of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities in population matters and urged that the Fund should be strengthened further, so as to ensure the more effective delivery of population assistance, taking into account the growing need in this field,

Having considered, further, recommendation 88 6/ on the review and appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action and the monitoring of population trends and policies and of multilateral population programmes of the United Nations system,

1. Reaffirms the role of the Population Commission as the principal intergovernmental body to arrange for studies and advise the Council on:

- (a) The size and structure of populations and the changes therein;
- (b) The interplay of demographic factors and economic and social factors;
- (c) Policies designed to influence the size and structure of populations and the changes therein;
- (d) Any other demographic questions on which either the principal or the subsidiary organs of the United Nations or the specialized agencies may seek advice;

2. Welcomes the information provided by the representative of the Secretary-General on the plans for carrying out the task entrusted to him in paragraph 13 of General Assembly resolution 39/228;

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5/ Report of the International Conference on Population, Mexico City, 6-14 August 1984 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.XIII.8 and corrigenda), chap. I, sect. B.

6/ Ibid., para. 37.



3. Requests the Secretary-General, in carrying out this task, to take into account the views expressed by the Population Commission on the need for:

(a) Assessing the performance, achievements and effectiveness of the work of the United Nations system relating to research on demographic developments, formulation of population policies and provision of financial support and technical assistance for population activities;

(b) Consistency in policy guidelines of different organizations within the United Nations system, taking into account the distinctive role of each body;

(c) Improved communication, co-operation and co-ordination in population matters between the different organizations;

(d) Delivering population assistance to countries which request it, with efficiency and effectiveness;

4. Invites the Secretary-General further, in carrying out this task, to avail himself of the advice of members of the Population Commission, the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and, as appropriate, related non-governmental organizations and experts in population and other relevant matters;

5. Recommends, in view of the growing commitment of the developing countries, increased efforts by the international community to mobilize resources, as called for in recommendations 79 6/ and 82 6/ of the International Conference on Population, for meeting the increasing need of the developing countries for assistance for population activities;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council, through the Population Commission and, as appropriate, the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, reports on the substantive and technical aspects of the monitoring of population trends and policies, and of multilateral population assistance, and an overview of population activities within the United Nations system;

7. Invites the Population Commission, at its twenty-fourth session, to review those reports and to transmit its views thereon to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1987.

### Draft resolution III

#### Work programme in the field of population

##### The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 3344 (XXIX) and 3345 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, concerning the recommendations of the United Nations World Population Conference and the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/28 of 6 May 1981 on the strengthening of actions concerned with the fulfilment of the World Population Plan of Action,

Stressing the supportive role of the work programme of the United Nations system in the field of population in the attainment of the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade 7/ and the pursuit of goals of economic co-operation,

Having reviewed the preamble, the section on peace, security and population, and the sections containing the recommendations for action and for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action adopted by the International Conference on Population, 8/ at which it was reaffirmed that the principles and objectives of the World Population Plan of Action remained fully valid and which placed emphasis on a number of issues in the field of population that will continue to be included in the work programme, as appropriate,

Bearing in mind the Mexico City Declaration on Population and Development, 9/

Reaffirming the role of the Population Commission in advising the Council on population questions,

Taking note of the report of the Population Commission on its twenty-third session and the views expressed therein on the progress of work and the work programme in the field of population,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the progress made in the implementation of the programme of work for the biennium 1984-1985 and the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989;

2. Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To continue vigorously the work of monitoring world population trends and policies and the work necessary for the review and appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action;

(b) To strengthen and draw together the work on interrelationships between the role and status of women and population, following the guidelines of the recommendations of the International Conference on Population;

(c) To continue the work programme in mortality analysis, with special emphasis on age patterns, sex differentials and the relationship of mortality to other demographic and non-demographic processes;

(d) To continue the work programme in the areas of urbanization and internal and international migration, with special emphasis on the role of

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7/ General Assembly resolution 35/56, annex.

8/ Report of the International Conference on Population, Mexico City, 6-14 August 1984 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.XIII.8 and corrigenda), chap. I, sect. B.

9/ Ibid., chap. I, sect. A.

urban structures and their relationship to the development process; on the variety of population mobility; and on the demographic consequences of international migration for both sending and receiving countries;

(e) To continue the work programme in fertility and family planning, with special emphasis on the assessment of the impact of the family planning programme, key factors affecting fertility such as contraceptive use and marriage patterns, and adolescent fertility;

(f) To continue to prepare estimates of the size of population and demographic indicators, such as fertility, mortality and migration trends, and to prepare projections for all countries and areas of the world, by age and sex and by urban, rural and city population, including changes in population structures, families and households;

(g) To continue work in the area of population policies, with special emphasis on the Sixth Population Policy Inquiry among Governments, the population policy data bank, and research on the formulation, implementation and evaluation of all aspects of population policies;

(h) To continue research in the area of socio-economic development and population with emphasis on the demographic consequences of major development projects; the socio-economic consequences of the aging of populations; successful experiences in the integration of demographic factors into development planning; and improving the analysis of interactions between population, resources, environment and development;

(i) To continue the development of the international Population Information Network (POPIN);

(j) To continue technical co-operation activities in the field of population, fully utilizing the available interdisciplinary capacity of the United Nations, in three main fields:

- (i) Training in demography and population matters, emphasizing in particular an interdisciplinary approach;
- (ii) Evaluation and analysis of basic population and demographic data, using computer programmes for demographic analysis;
- (iii) Population policy and development planning, in particular through the strengthening of appropriate national institutional mechanisms;

(k) To continue to undertake analysis and evaluation of experience gained in implementing technical co-operation activities in the field of population and to continue publishing the results thereof;

3. Re-emphasizes the importance of maintaining the effectiveness and efficiency of the global population programme and of continuing to strengthen co-ordination and collaboration among the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, the regional commissions, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and organizations of the United Nations system in the planning and execution of their population programmes, as well as the need for organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen collaboration and co-ordination with other appropriate intergovernmental and national organizations.

Status and role of women and population

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering that the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace is scheduled to be held from 15 to 24 July 1985 at Nairobi,

Recalling that the International Conference on Population, in its recommendations for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action, 10/ identified the role and status of women as an area of priority action in the field of population,

Recalling also that the Mexico City Declaration on Population and Development 11/ emphasized the fact that the improvement of the status of women and the enhancement of their role were important goals in themselves and that the achievement of those goals would influence family life and size in a positive way,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 39/228 of 18 December 1984, in which the Assembly, inter alia, reaffirmed the importance attached to the formulation and implementation of concrete policies which would enhance the status and role of women in the area of population policies and programmes,

1. Urges all Governments participating in the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, to incorporate fully into the forward-looking strategies of implementation for the advancement of women to the year 2000 those aspects of the Mexico City Declaration on Population and Development and the recommendations for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action which relate to the status and role of women in the context of population;

2. Requests the Secretary-General, in the framework of the ongoing monitoring, review and appraisal of progress made towards the implementation of the recommendations of the World Population Plan of Action, to focus periodically on those recommendations which make special reference to the relation between the role and status of women and population, and to report thereon to the Economic and Social Council, through the Population Commission.

B. Draft decision

2. The Population Commission also recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

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10/ Report of the International Conference on Population, Mexico City, 6-14 August 1984 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.XIII.8 and corrigenda), chap. I, sect. B.

11/ Ibid., chap. I, sect. A.

Provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-fourth  
session of the Population Commission

The Economic and Social Council approves the provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-fourth session of the Population Commission set out below.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE TWENTY-FOURTH  
SESSION OF THE POPULATION COMMISSION

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Action by the United Nations to implement the recommendations of the World Population Conference, 1974: monitoring of population trends and policies and review and appraisal of progress towards the implementation of the World Population Plan of Action.

Documentation

Concise report of the Secretary-General on monitoring of population trends and policies (Council decision 87 (LVIII) of 6 May 1975)

Note by the Secretary-General on the preparations for the third review and appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action

4. Programme of work in the field of population for the biennium 1988-1989 and implementation of the programme budget for 1986-1987.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on the proposed programme in the field of population for the biennium 1988-1989

Report of the Secretary-General on progress of work in the field of population for 1986-1987

5. Provisional agenda for the twenty-fifth session of the Commission.
6. Adoption of the report of the Commission.

## Chapter II

### OPENING STATEMENTS

#### A. Statement by the Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs

3. The Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs, addressing the Commission in 1985, the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations, noted that the achievements of the United Nations in the field of population had been significant. Under the guidance and supervision of the Population Commission, over the years the work of the United Nations in population had evolved to meet the changing needs of countries and the international community for population information, research and policy analysis; moreover, that work had been characterized by its scientific objectivity, global perspective and policy relevance.

4. Reviewing the steps that had led to the World Population Plan of Action, adopted at the United Nations World Population Conference, held at Bucharest from 19 to 30 August 1974, and the recommendations of the International Conference on Population held at Mexico City from 6 to 14 August 1984, the Under-Secretary-General invited the Commission to deliberate and reflect upon three basic questions that would have practical implications for research and policy analysis in social and economic matters: (a) how best to achieve a balance between continuity and innovation in the work of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs on population; (b) how best to balance action that was more narrowly specialized within population with action that required a broader perspective for fully integrating population with a wide range of social and economic issues; (c) how best to balance, in the area of technical co-operation in population matters, action involving a transfer of resources from richer to poorer countries with the direct action taken by Governments or organizations without any significant transfer of resources.

5. He added that for 40 years the United Nations Secretariat had dealt with population questions, which had at times been controversial, without infringing on national sovereignty or basic human rights; that under the guidance of the Population Commission the work of the Secretariat had achieved a high degree of credibility and effectiveness without having taken an advocacy role. He expressed his confidence that the Commission would bear that historical role in mind as it deliberated on the future work programme in population.

#### B. Statement by the Under-Secretary-General for Technical Co-operation for Development

6. The Under-Secretary-General for Technical Co-operation for Development stated that one of the significant contributions of the International Conference on Population had been to clarify further the context in which population-related activities could be carried out within the framework of economic and social development. Its first recommendation, which called for an integrated approach to the formulation of international development strategies, taking into account the interrelationships between population, resources, environment and development, had particular relevance for the various programmes of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development to help develop national capabilities and build self-

reliance in the developing countries in those fields. The Department welcomed the emphasis placed by the Conference on the need to institutionalize the integration of population planning in the development process, a continuing goal of the Department's programme. The Department was examining the implications of the recommendations of the Conference in order to make the necessary adjustments in its own programme where required.

7. Turning to the Department's ongoing activities, the Under-Secretary-General drew the Commission's attention to the close linkages established among the various components of the programme which had enabled it to contribute to a more effective development process. The one hundred or so population projects currently executed by the Department in the three major areas of training of demographers and other population experts, data collection and analysis, and assistance in the formulation of population policies and development planning were mutually reinforcing.

8. The Under-Secretary-General expressed the Department's deep appreciation to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) for enabling the Department to respond to requests for technical assistance and congratulated the Executive Director of UNFPA on the success of the Conference. In conclusion, he stated that the Department was prepared to execute an interdisciplinary and integrated programme in co-operation with the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs.

C. Statement by the Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population

9. The Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population and Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities reported on the Conference, which was generally agreed to have been very successful. The Conference had achieved an overall consensus and adopted 88 recommendations. It had also adopted, by acclamation, the Mexico City Declaration on Population and Development, which summarized and synthesized the recommendations. The recommendations and the Declaration reaffirmed the validity of three basic principles of the World Population Plan of Action: the integrated nature of population and development; national sovereignty in policy and programme formulation; and individual freedom of choice regarding the number of children. Those principles would underlie all the activities undertaken as a follow-up to the Conference.

10. The Secretary-General of the Conference noted that the recommendations of the Conference highlighted the following:

(a) The need for immediate action regarding population growth, migration problems and high mortality and morbidity;

(b) New mortality targets;

(c) The need for Governments to make universally available information, education and the means to help couples and individuals to achieve the number of children they desire, consistent with human rights, without coercion on the one hand or deprivation on the other; abortion was not to be promoted as a method of family planning, and natural family planning was to be included among all medically approved and appropriate methods of family planning;

- (d) Maternal and child health services within a primary health care system;
- (e) Full access for women to education, training and employment;
- (f) Integrated urban and rural development strategies;
- (g) Changes in age, family and household structures;
- (h) The need for population-related data to be utilized in research and analysis in the policy and planning process;
- (i) Self-reliance in the management of population programmes;
- (j) The importance of non-governmental organizations;
- (k) The need for operational programmes and for increasing resources.

11. Acknowledging the importance of the United Nations system for the successful execution of population programmes, and of strengthening the ability of UNFPA to respond to needs in that field, he said he intended to present his ideas and suggestions to the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation in the near future. He reported that the Mexico City Declaration and the recommendations of the Conference had been endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 39/228. Various organizations of the United Nations system were now examining the implications of the Conference for their own programmes. The institutional implications of the Conference would be discussed among the heads of those organizations and units concerned under the aegis of the Director-General. In conclusion, the Secretary-General of the Conference expressed the hope that another international population conference would be convened, perhaps in 1994, to review the experience gained in implementing the decisions made at Mexico City and to chart the course of action to be taken in the years ahead.

#### D. Statement by the Director of the Population Division

12. In his opening statement, the Director of the Population Division said that the success of the International Conference on Population had resulted from its having been organized following two major guidelines proposed by the Commission: that the principles and objectives of the World Population Plan of Action were still valid and that the Conference should discuss selected issues of the highest priority. Prominence had been given to the interrelationships between population, resources, environment and development. The development of population policies had received greater emphasis, and the role of community involvement had been a leitmotiv of the Conference. The role and status of women had also received greater emphasis, the issue being separated from questions of human reproduction in order to stress its relation to all aspects of population. Particular emphasis had been given to demographic structures, changes in age distribution, household composition and the family. The question of mortality and morbidity and human reproduction had been discussed in detail. The issue of fertility regulation was considered still to be at the core of population policies. The Conference also considered problems of circular migration, rural to rural migration, rural development and the need to evaluate population redistribution policies; specific reference was made to the issue of migrant workers, undocumented migrants and refugees. He drew attention to the recommendations on research, data collection and analysis, and management of programmes.



13. The Director reported that the Ad Hoc Task Force on the International Conference on Population of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) had met just prior to the session of the Commission; the results of that meeting were of a preliminary nature, since few governing bodies of the organizations of the United Nations system had yet had the opportunity to review the results of the Conference.

14. He emphasized that the activities of the Division continued to aim at providing information that was accurate, impartial and objective for those making decisions. Research findings were disseminated to Governments and to the public in general through the Division's publication programme and the Population Information Network (POPIN).

### Chapter III

#### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION, 1984: FOLLOW-UP ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY THE UNITED NATIONS

15. The Commission considered item 3 of its agenda at its 402nd to 409th, 414th and 415th meetings, from 19 to 22 and on 25 and 28 February 1985. It had before it the report of the International Conference on Population, 1984 (E/CONF.76/19 and Corr.1 and 3) and the report of the Secretary-General on the implications of the recommendations of the Conference for the work programme on population (E/CN.9/1985/2).

16. The International Conference on Population, which was held at Mexico City from 6 to 14 August 1984, was seen by all as a productive conference in which broad consensus was reached on the means required for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action. Gratitude was expressed to the Government of Mexico, which spared no efforts as host to the Conference, to the Secretary-General of the Conference and to all members of the Secretariat and UNFPA who worked tirelessly to ensure its success. The adoption of the Mexico City Declaration on Population and Development marked the beginning of a period of accelerated effort in the field of population. The discussions at Mexico City had led to a deeper understanding of population phenomena and the identification of areas where new approaches were needed. The recommendations adopted by the Conference were accepted by all as a suitable basis for the formulation of more specific guidelines for action at the national and international levels.

#### A. Consideration of the recommendations of the Conference

17. In the general discussion of the recommendations of the Conference, certain themes were highlighted. These included the continuing seriousness of population problems in general and, in particular, of high population growth rates, the interrelationships between population and development, the role and status of women, human rights, the rights of individuals and couples to decide freely the number of their children, national sovereignty, the need to improve standards of living and to reduce morbidity and mortality, and the independent role of population policies and family planning programmes in the achievement of national population goals. While a global perspective on population problems was considered essential, the diversity of population experiences was also emphasized. It was noted that national population policies must be sufficiently flexible to take account of changing norms and values within society but must always be mindful of ethical concerns. The continuing importance of peace, security, disarmament and co-operation, which are indispensable for the achievement of humane population policies and economic and social development, was highlighted. The implications of demographic change for population distribution and structure were also noted.

18. The view was universally shared that Governments must now be urged to implement the Mexico City Declaration and the recommendations of the Conference within their own national contexts. In doing so, it was emphasized, population policies should be designed with full regard for human rights and freedoms. Moreover, for effective action at the national level, increased financial commitment on the part of the international community was viewed as essential.

19. With respect to general guidelines for countries on implementing the

recommendations, a number of specific strategies were mentioned. The sharing of experiences among developing countries would contribute to the design of effective population policies as well as to increasing awareness of population problems at the regional and international levels and among non-governmental organizations. Sound economic policies were seen as essential to development, including the solution to population problems in the longer term. Some delegations considered that the formulation of population policies at subnational and community levels could also be an effective strategy in some contexts. It was generally agreed that particular attention must be given to women's role and status in the context of population through concrete government action, so that women could be effectively and fully integrated into all aspects of development.

20. Concern was expressed about demographic data collection and research in a period of economic stringency. It was suggested that more emphasis should be placed on research into socio-economic determinants of fertility and mortality, on the development of practical methodologies for the evaluation of the effectiveness of family planning programmes and on the assessment of the demographic impact of major development projects. Some delegations reaffirmed the importance of issues raised by the Conference in the section of the recommendations entitled "Peace, security and population", and in that connection considered that those issues should be included in ongoing and future work on population and development and on factors affecting patterns of reproduction, or in other relevant programmes. Research efforts should be directed towards studying the interrelationships between population, resources, environment and development. It was suggested that the donor community should make the necessary resources available to meet needs for demographic data and analysis and that donor agencies and non-governmental organizations should work together to develop efficient funding mechanisms.

21. It was recommended that international co-operation in population and development should take into account specific regional needs. Moreover, in technical assistance higher priority should be given to developing countries with very high population growth rates.

22. Certain delegations considered that insufficient attention had been given in the reports prepared by the Secretariat to the difficult social, economic, political and military situation existing in the world today and its consequences for any effort to deal with population problems.

B. Implications of the recommendations of the Conference  
for the work programme on population

1. Department of International Economic and Social Affairs

23. The Commission was informed of the implications of the recommendations of the Conference for the work programme of the Population Division of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs (see E/CN.9/1985/2, paras. 17-30). It was noted that the recommendations were so comprehensive and so extensive that to follow them up fully would require work extending beyond the forthcoming biennium.

24. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the range of topics proposed reflected the spirit and dynamism of the recommendations of the Conference. The Commission was informed that, to the extent possible, the major themes that had emerged at the Conference would be fully integrated into the entire range of population variables rather than treated as separate topics. Although that might

risk some diffusion of effort, a point on which several representatives expressed concern, it was felt that the integration of new and emerging topics across the full range of demographic variables would underline their importance and maximize the impact of the research. The example of work on the role and status of women in the context of population was considered; it was observed that the proposal to study the position of women in relation to mortality and internal and international migration, as well as to fertility, with which it had primarily been identified in the past, reflected the manner in which the issue had been dealt with by the Conference.

25. The Commission was informed and noted with satisfaction that, in the area of mortality, attention had been or would be given, inter alia, to investigating the social and economic correlates of early age mortality, the effect of limitation of family size on infant and child mortality, the effect of possible future patterns of mortality decline among the elderly on their age and sex structures, and sex differentials in mortality. One representative suggested that perinatal mortality might be included as an additional area of research and was informed that the World Health Organization (WHO) had recently completed a major research activity on the topic.

26. In the area of urbanization and internal migration, the Commission was informed that emphasis would be placed on the study of urban structures and the various forms of territorial mobility. The Commission stressed the important role of internal migration and urbanization in the development process and was pleased to note that attention would be given to the different types of migration and their characteristics. The Commission suggested that a further topic for consideration might be the impact of internal migration on local labour markets and that, in studying internal migration and urbanization, there should be close co-operation with the countries concerned.

27. Regarding international migration, the Commission took note of the continuation of work on the development of methods to estimate migration and stressed the need to study separately the consequences of different types of migration flows, especially from a demographic perspective - for example, the effect of migration on fertility. The Commission remarked that the importance of international migration was growing and that its impact was felt by the families concerned and also by the regions and communities where the migrants originated.

28. The Commission noted with satisfaction the continued attention given to the preparation and dissemination of estimates and projections, and endorsed plans to make them more readily accessible and more broadly useful to planners and policy-makers. Several representatives made specific recommendations regarding possible changes in the assumptions underlying future sets of projections, including the use of varying sets of urbanization trends and an increase in the maximum life expectancy currently used to levels that might be achieved through major biomedical breakthroughs. Some delegations considered that there had not been enough co-ordination in the preparation of different demographic projections and suggested that the population projections should be prepared in five-year intervals. Other delegations pointed out, however, that in view of often rapid demographic change, the Commission at previous sessions had expressed a preference for two-year intervals for the projections.

29. In the area of population policy, the Commission was informed and noted with satisfaction that increased emphasis would be given to research on management and evaluation of population policies. The Commission was pleased to note that more

systematic research would be undertaken on the integration of policies concerned with the status of women within population policies. The Commission also noted with satisfaction that overall research in the area of policy analysis would be strengthened in order to promote continuing awareness of population issues and policy responses at the international level and to adapt the recommendations of the Conference for operational use by Governments.

30. The Commission was informed that work planned in the area of factors affecting reproduction would be broadened to include a regular focus on factors such as contraceptive use and marriage, and would include greater emphasis on fertility patterns by age, in particular the reproductive behaviour of adolescents. New studies of family planning programme performance based on country experiences were planned, with the aim of identifying the critical factors that determined programme success. Work would also be undertaken to improve methodologies for the assessment of programme impact, making fuller use of existing programme statistics and survey data; recommendations would also be made on the use of special data collection methods. Research on the status of women would deal with the effect of gender inequality on all aspects of reproductive behaviour, including patterns of marriage, breast-feeding and fertility regulation. The Commission stressed the desirability of studying programme impact and the unmet need for family planning, including the development of improved ways to assess unmet needs. Representatives also underlined the importance of studying changes in family structures and the impact of those changes on fertility patterns.

31. The Commission stressed the importance of research to promote the integrated consideration of population, resources, environment and development and urged that increased emphasis should be given to work in that area on the topics of agriculture and rural development. It was stressed that methodologies should be developed for assessing the demographic impact of development strategies, plans and programmes. The Commission noted with approval that increased attention would be given to the socio-economic consequences of the aging of populations. The urgent need for preparing manuals on and for documenting experiences with techniques for integrating population factors into the planning process was stressed. In that regard, the Commission emphasized the need for improved simulation models incorporating population development interrelations and urged that research in that area should be restored to the programme of work.

32. The Commission was informed that, as recommended by the Conference, the monitoring of population trends and policies would continue to be undertaken by the Secretary-General. In order to strengthen that activity, a modified format would be initiated to make the reports as timely and directly usable as possible.

33. The Commission noted with satisfaction the continuation of activities to publish and disseminate the results of the Division's research, as well as those envisaged by POPIN. The Commission was informed that POPIN included at present a network of some 100 research and information centres, about 60 of which were located in developing countries. Some representatives suggested that POPIN should maintain a balance between the amount of attention given to demographic information and that given to information related to population policies. The Commission's views on the matter would be communicated to the POPIN Advisory Committee.

34. At the invitation of the Commission, a representative of the Statistical Office described those elements of its work that were closely related to the areas of concern to the Population Commission. Reference was made to reports prepared for the Statistical Commission that might also be of interest to the Population

Commission: the reports of the Secretary-General on the future direction of work on social indicators (E/CN.3/1985/3), progress in the development of social indicators and the integration of social, demographic and related statistics (E/CN.3/1985/11), the World Population and Housing Census Programme, 1985-1994, (E/CN.3/1985/12), the National Household Survey Capability Programme, (E/CN.3/1985/14), the special problems of the statistically least developed countries, (E/CN.3/1985/16) and the overall review of the statistical work of the international organizations for the period 1982 to mid-1984 (E/CN.3/1985/18) and a note by the Secretary-General on the proposed work programme of the Statistical Office for 1986-1987 and related information (E/CN.3/1985/CRP.1).

35. Four areas of work were specifically noted. The first was the improvement of statistics and indicators on the situation of women, which had two aspects: assisting users in making better use of existing data and data sources, and providing guidance in the improvement of concepts and methods currently used. To those ends two studies had already been published: Compiling Social Indicators on the Situation of Women 12/ and Improving Concepts and Methods for Statistics and Indicators on the Situation of Women. 13/ The second area of endeavour related to the integration of demographic, social and related economic statistics. National and international work in that area was being pursued along several lines: (a) common concepts and classifications; (b) integrated data collection efforts; (c) integrated data bases; (d) integrated statistical publications; and (e) attention to the data needed on special population groups. The third area of work concerned the National Household Survey Capability Programme; many of the surveys conducted by participating countries had dealt with demographic topics. The fourth area concerned the efforts of the Statistical Office and the Statistical Commission to improve statistics on international migration. The Commission strongly emphasized the need for continued improvements in basic demographic data and expressed appreciation for the valuable work of the Statistical Office in that regard.

36. The Commission, while recognizing that data collection was beyond the purview of the Population Division, pointed out that the ability of the Division to carry out its work depended upon the continued improvement of basic demographic data. In addition to the ongoing need for timely and accurate statistics on vital events and on migration, there was need for better and more comparable data on family structure as well as for statistics that would better reflect the economic contribution of women.

37. The Commission was informed, and noted with satisfaction, that the areas suggested for additional research had no additional financial implications, since much of the research proposed for the biennium 1986-1987 would replace programme elements that would be completed during the biennium 1984-1985. However, the Commission was informed that the Secretariat was exploring the possibility of conducting additional research on the status of women in the context of population through the redeployment of resources within the Secretariat. Finally, the Commission was pleased to note that efforts had been made to take into account the research activities of other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

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12/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.XVII.2.

13/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.XVII.3.

## 2. Department of Technical Co-operation for Development

38. The Commission took note of the discussion of the implications of the recommendations of the Conference for the work programme of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (see E/CN.9/1985/2, paras. 31-42). In that connection, many representatives emphasized the importance of the programme of technical co-operation for development proposed for implementation by the Department as a follow-up to the Conference. Reference was made in particular to the need for action-oriented training related to programmes and policies for demographers, planners and programme managers; the strengthening of institutional mechanisms, such as population units, for the integration of population and development in national planning; the strengthening of activities in demographic data analysis and activities for ensuring the availability of basic information to monitor population change through population censuses, civil registration and sample surveys; the strengthening of programmes of an interdisciplinary nature in population and development, particularly at the national level; and the strengthening of technical co-operation activities among developing countries.

39. The Commission recognized that the main thrust of the programme carried out by the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development was to help the developing countries achieve national self-sufficiency in all areas related to population training, demographic analysis and population policy development and planning, in terms of (a) producing sufficient numbers of trained personnel to carry out those activities at the national level and (b) establishing and strengthening the national structures and mechanisms designed to carry out the activities at the national level. Given the complexity of achieving that goal, which required interdisciplinary input, the Commission recognized that specialized international expertise would be required for some time to come.

40. There was a broadly expressed view that resources currently available for technical co-operation in population were insufficient to meet growing needs. That was due to an increased demand for aid; many representatives pointed out that the experience of the past 10 years had clearly demonstrated that technical co-operation in population was being used effectively and efficiently.

41. It was pointed out that although most of the resources needed by developing countries were met by the countries themselves, increased international technical co-operation was essential if the recommendations of the Conference were to be successfully implemented.

42. The Commission also called for the identification of particularly successful programmes and of the reasons for their success. Lessons drawn from such experiences would be of value in designing new programmes, keeping in view the local situations.

43. The Commission took note of the Department's readiness to accommodate whatever activities the Commission might recommend in the light of the results of the Conference including areas of newer concern, provided that the required resources were made available to it.

## 3. Other concerned bodies of the United Nations system

44. The representative of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities reported that the Fund had provided support for over 3,000 projects in over 140

countries, amounting to over \$1.1 billion in assistance. UNFPA had become the world's largest source of multilateral assistance in population. In 1984, it had funded 91.5 per cent of the population activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, with the exception of the World Bank. The International Conference on Population had emphasized that the aims and purposes of UNFPA had not changed and had highlighted the urgent need for it to expand its programme, given the growing demands and the diverse needs of countries. UNFPA would continue to support activities designed to reduce maternal and infant mortality, strengthen basic data collection and analysis and incorporate population considerations in development planning. In order to improve effectiveness and strengthen national capacities, great emphasis would be placed on training and research at the country level, management and evaluation, and community involvement in the design and implementation of projects.

45. The representative of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) reported on the review held of ECE population activities after the International Conference on Population and the regional preparatory meeting for the Conference held at Sofia from 6 to 12 October 1983. In its discussion of the results of that meeting, ECE had, in 1984, identified three areas for regional activity: assessment and monitoring of population trends, prospects and policies; research on population problems, especially in areas relevant to the demographic aspects of economic and social planning and population policies; and exchange of information on population trends, problems and policies. Proposals for future work, taking into account the results of the Conference, were to be submitted to ECE in April 1985.

46. The representative of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) reported that the ESCAP programme of work in population was composed of three subprogrammes. The first subprogramme included an inter-country study on the formulation and implementation of integrated population policies and programmes for development. In that connection, ESCAP undertook a regular programme on population estimates and also conducted training courses and advisory missions on population projections. The second subprogramme included the provision of assistance to countries in developing and implementing family planning policies and programmes and in improving their managerial capabilities. The third subprogramme included the provision of information support through the establishment of a regional population information centre and data bank. ESCAP would continue to collect and organize population-related data and would provide technical assistance to countries in developing their national computerized systems on population information and data analysis.

47. The representative of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) informed the Commission that ECLAC population activities were allocated among subprogrammes dealing with demographic statistics and estimates of population trends, population and development, training, demographic documentation and data processing, and publications, and he gave details of three subprogrammes. The subprogramme on demographic statistics provided for the supply of information to Governments on population trends, including fertility, mortality and migration. The subprogramme on demographic documentation facilitated the exchange of technical documentation among various institutes. The subprogramme on demographic publications provided for the dissemination of information. He also stated that there were certain recommendations of the Conference that would require changes to the work programme in the areas of population and development planning, mortality and fertility differentials, migration and the status of women. As far as the question of aging was concerned, some changes might have to be made to the subprogramme in order to deal more effectively with the issue.



48. The representative of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) stressed that the prevailing emergency situation in the region was related to population issues. The Governments of Africa had become increasingly aware of the issue of population and had clearly stated their positions at the regional conference held at Arusha from 9 to 13 January 1984 and at the International Conference on Population. ECA would incorporate the recommendations of those conferences in its work programme to the extent possible, given the limited resources. Infant mortality, mortality and fertility studies would be carried out. Population estimates and projections and training at the two regional centres would continue to be undertaken. The collection and dissemination of information would be expanded through the Population Information Network Africa, which was a component of the international POPIN. Advisory services on data analysis, population policies and institution-building would be made available to the member States.

49. The representative of the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) indicated that the ECWA programme of work in population might encompass the main implications of the recommendations of the Conference. The ECWA population programme comprised four subprogrammes. The first, on demographic data collection and analysis, was aimed at drawing a comprehensive picture of the current and future population situation. The second, on population and development policy, provided for assistance to the countries of the region in formulating population policies and integrating population in the process of development planning. The third subprogramme, on population education and information, dealt with the dissemination of population data and the results of population research. The fourth subprogramme, on employment and manpower, dealt mainly with the international migration of workers in the region. ECWA also provided to the member States ad hoc advisory services in the areas of population data collection and demographic analysis.

50. The representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) stated that, within the context of the recommendations of the Conference relating to food, agriculture and rural development, FAO had made a systematic assessment of its current population activities and the future direction of its population programme. The aim of the programme was to integrate population in a broader range of work and to assist member countries in implementing the recommendations of the Conference. He indicated that FAO would continue to be vitally concerned with the balance between food production and population growth and related issues. FAO activities would include the development of methodologies for the integration of population factors in agricultural development planning and the training of planners in that area, and the provision of advisory services to countries in the areas of population education and communication.

51. In November 1984, the Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) had endorsed the recommendations of the Conference and had instructed the Director-General further to develop population activities within the framework of those recommendations and within the ILO spheres of competence. The representative of ILO stated that ILO would effect the recommendations of the Conference in three areas. First, the issue of population would be integrated in development planning and policy through the development of practical operational methodologies, the provision of training in population and development and the undertaking of country technical co-operation projects. Secondly, the operational implications of previous policy research on migration, demographic change and the role of women and poverty would be developed. Studies were also planned on approaches to the question of population that would go beyond family planning. Finally, population education and family welfare services would involve trade unions, employers'

organizations and co-operatives more intensively, increasing attention being paid to the needs of women.

52. The representative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) stated that the overall purpose of the population programme of UNESCO was to improve knowledge and increase awareness of the causes and consequences of population change, their interrelationships with other aspects of social, cultural and environmental change, and their implications for human rights and the quality of life. Accordingly, UNESCO was dealing with the relationships among population, environment and technical progress, the effects of internal and international migratory movements on agrarian structures and human settlements, the management of urban systems as ecosystems, and the status and role of women. Expected topics of future activity included (a) the interrelationships between population, resources, environment and development; (b) migration, population distribution and urbanization; (c) the social consequences of changing age structures; (d) the status of women, family structures and population change; and (e) population education and communication.

53. The representative of the World Health Organization stated that the recommendations of the International Conference on Population had implications for WHO mandates, programmes and approaches to health development. The Global Strategy for Health for All by the Year 2000, adopted by the World Health Assembly and endorsed by the General Assembly (resolution 36/43), constituted the main instrument for WHO action. All of the activities of WHO were related to mortality and morbidity and thus to the health aspects of population. More directly related to population were the programme of maternal and child health, including family planning, and the special programme of research, development and research training in human reproduction. The results of the Conference had been reported to the Executive Board of WHO in January 1985. The Board would, in turn, report to the World Health Assembly in May 1985.

#### 4. Non-governmental organizations

54. The representative of the International Statistical Institute described the important contribution made by the Institute's recently completed World Fertility Survey. The Survey had provided reliable information on fertility and family planning practices, as well as nuptiality, infant and child mortality, breast-feeding practices and socio-economic characteristics. The Institute was now co-operating with the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) in distributing Survey data sets to research organizations and scientists. It had established a research centre for consultation on the improvement of data bases for development planning and policy formulation, and was prepared to respond to recommendation 66 of the Conference, in which it urged Governments to carry out periodical sample surveys of fertility, family planning, the health of mothers and children, mortality and migration.

55. The representative of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population reported on the Union's activities, with particular emphasis on those relating to the recommendations of the International Conference on Population. He mentioned the long history of close association and co-operation between IUSSP and the United Nations in activities such as the organization of scientific conferences and meetings, the preparation of demographic publications and the conduct of training and research projects. He also noted three important meetings that would take place in the near future: the twentieth General Conference of IUSSP in 1985,

a meeting on aid and co-operation in the field of population and development, and a training workshop for demographers in the third world, with particular emphasis on Africa.

56. The representative of the Committee for International Co-operation in National Research in Demography (CICRED) described ongoing activities in relation to some recommendations of the Conference. Four topics were the subject of work co-ordinated by CICRED: differential mortality by socio-economic status in industrial countries; the determinants of international migration and their consequences for the development of the third world; the integration of demographic variables in development planning; and the demographic and socio-economic aspects of the aging of populations. CICRED had continued to collaborate with the Population Division in the activities of POPIN. The POPIN Thesaurus: Population Multilingual Thesaurus had been published in English, French and Spanish. A Portuguese version developed by the Fundação Sistema Estadual de Análise de Dados (SEADE) at São Paulo was about to be published and negotiations were continuing on the issuance of the Arabic and Chinese versions. CICRED had continued to publish in English and French the Review of Population Reviews.

### C. Institutional implications of the recommendations of the Conference

57. The Director of the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, speaking on behalf of the Director-General, informed the Commission that work in regard to the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Conference requested by the General Assembly (resolution 39/228, para. 13) had just commenced within the Secretariat. He assured the Commission that its views would be carefully studied and taken fully into account in preparing the report, and that the Secretariat would find ways and means of maintaining contact and holding consultations with the Commission in the course of the finalization of the report that would be submitted to the General Assembly in 1986, through the Economic and Social Council.

58. The Commission welcomed the statement of the Director of the Office of the Director-General to the effect that contact would be maintained with the Commission in the course of the finalization of the report.

59. The Commission agreed on the need for more information on population activities carried out by the United Nations bodies concerned. Several suggestions were made as to the best way of providing the information. Some delegations suggested that the Population Division could be asked to prepare a report to the Commission on the activities in the field of population of the various organizations within the United Nations system. Such a report would allow the Commission to make recommendations for the work programmes of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development in the context of those related activities. Another suggestion was that another institutional mechanism, such as an ACC sub-committee on population, could prepare a report on population work within the United Nations system. The view was expressed that the draft report on the implications of the recommendations of the Conference which had been prepared by the ACC Ad Hoc Task Force on the Conference, and which had been circulated to the members of the Commission for information, provided a useful indication of the kind of report that could be submitted to the Commission at future sessions. Several delegations pointed out, however, that they were not in a position to comment on the usefulness

of such an arrangement because the draft report had not been circulated in all the official languages of the United Nations. In general, the Commission felt that a regular continuing mechanism rather than an ad hoc one was needed.

60. In addition to the suggestion concerning the mechanism through which such a comprehensive report might be prepared, it was suggested that such a report could usefully be submitted through the Commission to both the Economic and Social Council and the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

61. The Commission felt strongly that the population activities of the various bodies of the United Nations system needed to be better co-ordinated. In that connection, some delegations also suggested that the ACC Sub-Committee on Population could be re-established. It was pointed out by one delegation that, if the United Nations Fund for Population Activities provided the chairmanship, a re-established ACC Sub-Committee on Population could bring about the necessary co-ordination and also strengthen the role of the Fund. Another delegation expressed the view that the report of the Secretary-General on recommendations 83 and 88 of the Conference should include an analysis of how the various United Nations bodies collaborate in the field of population and recommendations on how to improve co-ordination among those bodies, aimed, inter alia, at the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action.

62. Concerning recommendation 83, the Commission felt there was a need to strengthen the United Nations Fund for Population Activities. While several views were expressed regarding the ways in which that could be achieved, inter alia, through strengthening the Fund internally and through its closer co-operation with other bodies in the United Nations system, most delegations stressed the importance of increasing the level of funding to the UNFPA for its assistance to developing countries in the field of population. In that context, the Commission recognized the importance of implementing all of the recommendations of the Conference on the role of international co-operation (recommendations 79-87). In particular, the Commission emphasized the need for vigorous action for the implementation of recommendations 79 and 82, wherein donor countries were urged to increase their contributions to meet the growing needs of developing countries in the area of population activities. The Commission noted with satisfaction that some countries were willing to increase their level of population assistance.

63. In the course of the discussion it was noted that, while the Governing Council of UNDP provided the guidelines regarding the work of UNFPA, the latter could be strengthened by a clear conceptualization of the activities it might undertake or support in relation to such comparatively new issues as urbanization, migration, aging and the status of women, and by acquiring the expertise necessary for the formulation of programmatic research and evaluation tasks.

64. In that connection, many delegations expressed the view that no changes should be made in the existing mandates of the United Nations organizations and agencies involved in population activities. It was felt that the report of the Secretary-General to be prepared in accordance with Assembly resolution 39/228 would address itself to the issues involved and could help appropriate decisions by concerned bodies. While mentioning the importance of strengthening UNFPA, many delegations also referred to the important role of the Population Division in population research and of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development in the field of population.

65. Some delegations expressed the opinion that the Secretary-General, in undertaking his study of the implications of recommendation 83, should consult experts outside the United Nations with broad knowledge of the United Nations system. In that regard, although some delegations expressed the view that the Secretary-General should convene a group of such experts to study the effectiveness of current institutional arrangements and to recommend needed changes, others expressed the view that such an approach would not be necessary. It was also stressed that no new funds should be used for undertaking that study.

66. With regard to recommendation 88, it was observed that the Population Division had a very good record of objectivity and comprehensiveness in the monitoring of population trends and policies which should not be compromised in any future arrangements. Two delegations indicated, in a joint statement, the hope that the Secretary-General, in preparing his report to the General Assembly, would more clearly define the role of the UNFPA in the monitoring of population trends and policies. Several delegations expressed concern about the text of recommendation 88, noting that it was not entirely clear what the monitoring of multilateral population programmes would entail, and recalled the reservations expressed by two Governments at Mexico City to the effect that it was not for the Secretary-General to monitor population programmes, as that was exclusively the prerogative of Governments.

67. One delegation suggested that a multilateral population programme might usefully be considered to be one for which a body of the United Nations system or a specialized agency provided funds, expertise or co-ordination. Some delegations felt that the monitoring of multilateral population programmes should be co-ordinated with the ongoing monitoring of trends and policies. The view was expressed that the United Nations Fund for Population Activities was well qualified to undertake monitoring of such programmes. It was pointed out by the Assistant Executive Director of UNFPA that the Fund already monitored all projects for which it provided financial support, carried out country programme reviews and periodically conducted in-depth evaluations. Projects funded by UNFPA account for over 90 per cent of all multilateral projects in the field of population carried out by the United Nations system, apart from the World Bank. Finally, it was stated that it was not within the mandate of the Population Commission to review the monitoring of population programmes.

#### D. Consideration of draft proposals

##### 1. Population structure

68. At the 415th meeting, on 28 February, the representative of Costa Rica, on behalf also of Bolivia, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.9/1985/L.5) entitled "Population structure" and orally revised it as follows:

(a) At the end of operative paragraph 1 (a), the words "in connection with ongoing and future technological change" were inserted;

(b) At the end of operative paragraph 1 (b), the words "particularly families made up of young people" were inserted;

(c) At the end of operative paragraph 2 (b), the words "and for social services, medical care and other related fields" were inserted.

69. At the same meeting, the representative of Japan suggested the deletion of operative paragraph 2 (e), which read as follows:

"(e) To carry out these activities using existing resources to the fullest extent possible and seeking any additional resources that may be required from extrabudgetary sources".

70. Also at the same meeting, the Commission was informed that the draft resolution had no financial or administrative implications.

71. The observer for Bangladesh suggested a reformulation of operative paragraph 2 (d), in which the words "through the Population Commission, to the Economic and Social Council," were replaced by the words "to the Population Commission".

72. After statements by the representatives of Japan, Costa Rica and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the observer for Bangladesh, as well as the Secretary of the Commission, the Commission adopted draft resolution E/CN.9/1985/L.5, as orally revised and amended (see chap. I, draft resolution I).

## 2. Implications of the recommendations of the International Conference on Population, 1984

73. At the 414th meeting, on 28 February, the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Victor Hugo Morgan (Costa Rica), introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.9/1985/L.6) entitled "Implications of the recommendations of the International Conference on Population, 1984", which he submitted as a result of informal consultations.

74. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Vice-Chairman.

75. At the 415th meeting, also on 28 February, the Commission was informed that the draft resolution had no financial or administrative implications.

76. At the same meeting, the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics suggested an amendment to operative paragraph 6, whereby the words "a consolidated report on the substantive and technical aspects of the monitoring of population trends and policies and of multilateral population programmes, and a report giving an overview of population activities within the United Nations system" were replaced by the words "reports on the substantive and technical aspects of the monitoring of population trends and policies, and of multilateral population assistance, and an overview of population activities within the United Nations system".

77. After statements by the representatives of Costa Rica, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Netherlands and France, and the observer for Bangladesh, 14/ the Commission adopted draft

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14/ One delegation expressed a reservation concerning operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution to the effect that, in its view, the text did not cover the complete mandate of the Commission. An observer delegation expressed a reservation on operative paragraph 6 regarding the use of the word "assistance"; in that delegation's view, the word "programmes" should have remained.

resolution E/CN.9/1985/L.6, as orally amended. The draft resolution read as follows:

"Implications of the recommendations of the International Conference on Population, 1984

"The Population Commission,

"Having considered the report of the International Conference on Population, 1984, containing the recommendations for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action,

"Recalling General Assembly resolution 39/228 of 18 December 1984, in which the Assembly, inter alia, invited the Population Commission to review, within its area of competence, the recommendations of the Conference and their implications for the activities of the United Nations system, and to transmit its views to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1985,

"Recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

[For the text, see chap. I, draft resolution II.]

## Chapter IV

### ACTION BY THE UNITED NATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE, 1974: MONITORING OF POPULATION TRENDS AND POLICIES

78. The Commission considered item 4 of its agenda at its 402nd to 410th meetings, from 19 to 25 February 1985. It had before it an addendum (E/CN.9/1984/2/Add.1) to the concise report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring of population trends and policies (E/CN.9/1984/2 and Corr.1) which had been before it at the twenty-second session.

79. During the discussion of the report, the continuing seriousness of the population situation when viewed in a global context was stressed. A renewed awareness of the magnitude of the population problems facing the world was clearly revealed in the section on recent demographic trends. Although global population growth rates might have declined slightly, the continuing high rates of growth in a significant number of developing countries were highlighted. The existence of a substantial need for family planning services was also emphasized as a significant finding in the report, with important implications for action at both the national and international levels.

80. Acknowledging that there had only been a short period of time between the preparation of documents for the International Conference on Population and the preparation of the concise report on monitoring, the Commission expressed its satisfaction with the report. It was noted, however, that in interpreting population trends, great care should be given to distinguishing between developments based on actual trends and those based largely on assumptions and projections. The Commission discussed the plan proposed by the Population Division to select special topics for each monitoring report, since new information on all areas of population trends and policies did not usually become available every two years. One delegation, however, mentioned that any new format should permit the publication of new population developments in as timely a manner as possible.

81. Several delegations, noting the importance of urbanization and internal migration in many countries, urged the Population Division to give priority to those areas in its work programme, in order to enhance knowledge in those fields, which had not kept up with other work in the field of population, and with the aim of developing concrete policy measures that could be implemented by Governments. One delegation offered to collaborate with the Division on those issues. Mortality was another area identified by the Commission as being of great importance. Specifically mentioned were estimation of mortality levels and trends in high-mortality countries, and causes and consequences of the renewed mortality decline in some countries. The Division would take note of those suggestions, within the constraints of existing resources, in its future work programme.

82. While acknowledging the importance of those topics, one delegation pointed out that, given the small decrease in the rate of population growth in many developing countries, the study of rapid population growth should remain a priority item.

83. Some delegations noted the problems associated with statistics on international migration and refugees. Some delegations pointed out that the figures presented in paragraph 31 of the report reflected estimates provided by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and did not take into account the views of the countries of origin of refugees.



84. Some delegations also noted that in view of the attention given by the International Conference on Population to the interrelation between population and socio-economic factors, the monitoring of population trends should maintain a careful balance between the effects of socio-economic factors on population growth and the influence of population growth on socio-economic development. Those delegations also emphasized the need for more research on population policy, to assist Governments in sharing their experience in that area.

## Chapter V

### PROGRAMME OF WORK IN THE FIELD OF POPULATION FOR THE BIENNIUM 1986-1987 AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR 1984-1985

#### A. Progress of work in the field of population in 1984

85. The Commission considered item 5 of its agenda at its 410th to 413th meetings, from 25 to 27 February 1985. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the progress of work of the Secretariat in the field of population, 1984 (E/CN.9/1985/3 and Add.1);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on the programme of work in the field of population for the biennium 1986-1987 (E/CN.9/1985/4 and Add.1);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General on the proposed programme of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs for the biennium 1986-1987 in the analysis of world population (E/CN.9/1985/CRP.1);

(d) Note by the Secretary-General on the proposed programme of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development for the biennium 1986-1987 in technical co-operation in population (E/CN.9/1985/CRP.2/Rev.1).

86. The Commission was informed that, because of the postponement of its twenty-second session by one year, only one year had elapsed since the most recent review of the progress of work in the field of population. Thus, the discussion on the progress of work covered only the activities carried out in 1984.

#### 1. World demographic analysis

87. In the area of mortality, the Commission was pleased to learn that several studies had been completed in 1984. In particular, the papers of the United Nations/WHO Working Group on Data Bases for Measurement of Levels, Trends and Differentials in Mortality had been published 15/ and the report on five country case studies was in press (Determinants of Mortality Change and Differentials in Developing Countries). 16/ The Commission was notified that an edited set of papers entitled Consequences of Mortality Trends and Differentials 16/ was in the process of publication and that a paper on models for projecting age patterns of mortality had been completed and was scheduled to appear in a forthcoming issue of the Population Bulletin of the United Nations.

88. The Commission noted that a comparative study on socio-economic differentials in child mortality was being completed. The Commission was informed that all the reports mentioned above were the result of a project carried out by the Population Division of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs in

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15/ Data Bases for Mortality Measurement (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.XIII.3).

16/ To be issued as a United Nations publication.

co-operation with WHO and with the financial assistance of UNFPA. Considerable progress had been made in carrying out a study on sex differentials in mortality in both developed and developing countries, as well as in estimating life tables for high-mortality countries.

89. The Commission noted the initiation of a new project aimed at studying the effects of birth spacing and family size limitation on infant and child mortality, with the financial aid of UNFPA. Lastly, the Commission was pleased to note that the preparation of a software computer package for mini and main-frame computers for the estimation of mortality was nearing completion and that tests of its use in developing countries had already started.

90. The Commission expressed satisfaction with the publication of Estimates and Projections of Urban, Rural and City Populations, 1950-2025: The 1982 Assessment (ST/ESA/SER.R/58), which contained a detailed regional analysis of the projection results, as well as of the methods used to derive such projections. The Commission was also pleased to learn that work on the analysis of urbanization and urban structure continued. As part of that work, the Population Division had contributed a paper entitled "Urbanization, urban population growth and urban structure" to the Conference organized by the World Social Prospects Study Association at Geneva from 5 to 9 November 1984, on the theme "The urban explosion: chaos or mastery?".

91. In the area of internal migration, the Commission was informed of the publication of a report entitled Migration, Population Growth and Employment in Metropolitan Areas in Selected Developing Countries (ST/ESA/SER.R/57) and of the initiation of a comparative analysis of internal migration patterns in relation to development in six developing countries.

92. The Commission was pleased to note that, in the area of age structure, a study on the socio-demographic characteristics of children and youth was nearing completion.

93. The Commission took note of the continuation of activities to maintain and expand the data base on international migration. In addition, the Commission noted that the development of a methodology to estimate international migration continued. A paper entitled "The estimation of lifetime emigration from data on residence of children" had been completed and would be published in the Population Bulletin of the United Nations.

94. Lastly, the Commission was informed that, on the occasion of the Expert Group Meeting on International Migration in Asia and the Pacific, held at Manila in 1984, the Population Division had contributed a background paper entitled "Levels and trends of international migration in the countries of the ESCAP region", prepared as part of a general study of the levels, trends and characteristics of international migration flows in the world as a whole.

## 2. Demographic projections

95. The Commission was informed of the progress of work of the 1984 round of global population estimates and projections and was pleased to learn that the results would be ready for dissemination in the second quarter of 1985. The Commission stressed the importance of that part of the programme of work and the need for timely publication of the results.

96. The Commission welcomed the continued collaboration between the United Nations Secretariat and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) on a project to prepare estimates and projections of infant and child mortality for all countries and areas of the world, to be completed by the end of 1985. The Commission stressed the value of such specialized projects.

97. It was recommended that in presenting demographic projections the diversity of trends in population growth should be indicated. In particular, the trends regarding groups of countries with high fertility should be presented separately.

98. The Commission was also informed that a new set of estimates and projections of urban, rural and city populations was being prepared and was expected to be completed in the second half of 1985.

99. The Commission regretted that the work programme on the global estimation of households, originally proposed for the 1984-1985 programme budget, had had to be deleted for lack of resources.

100. The Commission was informed of the thirteenth session of the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Working Group on Demographic Estimates and Projections, which had been held in New York in October 1984. It emphasized the importance of co-ordination among specialized agencies responsible for the different sets of projections and expressed regret that there had been no notable progress in 1984 in the publication of the world comprehensive demographic projections. However, the Commission was notified that new sets of urban and rural projections, labour force projections and agricultural population projections would be prepared after the 1984 revision of population projections by age and sex had been completed, and the world comprehensive demographic projections could then be issued. Unfortunately no new educational projections were expected.

101. Some representatives expressed interest in the assumption and methods used to project fertility and mortality. Below replacement, fertility was assumed to return gradually to the replacement level. The highest expectation of life at birth that could be reached was currently assumed to be 82.5 years (for females). The cohort-component method was utilized in the projections, using the best possible available data.

102. The Commission's attention was drawn to the study being carried out on the accuracy of demographic estimates and projections, a subject emphasized by the Commission at its twenty-second session. A report was expected in early 1986.

### 3. Population policies

103. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the work programme of the Population Division relating to population policy had monitored the rapid and dramatic changes occurring in that field and had contributed to a better understanding of population policy formulation, implementation and evaluation.

104. The Commission was informed that there were six primary activities in the area of population policies. The first concerned comparative studies of national experience in population policy. During 1984, reports had been produced on the population distribution policies of five major cities: Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Madras and Mexico City.

105. Another major activity was the work on the Fifth Population Inquiry among Governments. The Commission was pleased to learn that during 1984 a number of additional questionnaires had been received, bringing to 121 the number of countries that had responded to the Fifth Inquiry.

106. The Commission was also informed that, during the previous year, work on the Population Policy Compendium, which was a joint project with UNFPA, had continued, with 10 compendium reports being issued, as was specified in the work programme. The Commission noted that population policy briefs had been issued as working papers annually for all developing countries and in alternate years for developed countries.

107. The Commission was pleased to be informed that the population policy data bank had been strengthened during the previous year. The data bank would be further strengthened in 1985 with additional acquisitions and with the use of micro-computers.

108. The final activity, which was listed under the subprogramme on demographic projections but which was currently being carried out under the subprogramme on population policies, was a project started in 1984 on demographic target setting in population policy formulation.

#### 4. Population and development

109. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the proceedings of the Expert Group on Population, Resources, Environment and Development, organized as part of the preparations for the International Conference on Population, had been published. 17/

110. The Commission was informed of the progress made towards completion of the project on socio-economic development and fertility decline. The background studies for Colombia, Costa Rica, Sri Lanka and Turkey had been submitted for publication and work had begun on a comparative analysis in order to identify those findings that had general applicability. In that regard it was noted with satisfaction that the study involved national institutions, and it was suggested that, wherever possible, the same should be done in future in order to enhance national as well as international expertise.

111. The attention of the Commission was drawn to the preparation of a manual on integrating population variables into development planning. It was noted with approval that computer programs had been developed to prepare illustrative examples of the manual's techniques and that a draft of the passages of the manual that dealt with overall planning would be available as a working paper. The Commission, noting that work had begun on the part of the manual dealing with sectoral planning, urged that it be completed as expeditiously as possible.

112. The Commission noted with satisfaction that work had begun to establish a computerized data base for publishing, on a regular basis, tables which contained

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17/ Population, Resources, Environment and Development: Proceedings of the Expert Group on Population, Resources, Environment and Development, Geneva, 25-29 April 1983 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.XIII.12).

both demographic and development variables. It was suggested that the data base should include information on resources and the environment. In that regard, the Commission drew attention to alternative technologies which might lead to significant future increases in the availability of food.

#### 5. Monitoring and review and appraisal

113. An addendum to the 1984 concise report on the monitoring of population trends and policies (E/CN.9/1984/2/Add.1) was before the Commission under agenda item 4. Such reports were prepared pursuant to the recommendation in the World Population Plan of Action, which had been confirmed by the Mexico City Conference. The addendum had been requested by the Commission in view of the short time span since the last monitoring exercise. The Commission commended the high quality of the monitoring reports prepared by the United Nations and emphasized the usefulness of the concise report to the wide range of readers in the countries concerned.

#### 6. Factors affecting patterns of reproduction

114. The Commission expressed particular satisfaction with the progress of work on the comparative analysis of the World Fertility Survey data. The Commission was informed that the Minimum Research Programme had been completed and a perspective on the findings from the first stage of the research had been contained in a recent article in the Population Bulletin of the United Nations. The major publication planned for the final phase of the analysis would be completed in 1985 and would be in two parts: (a) a global perspective on fertility and its major determinants and (b) regional perspectives prepared by the regional commissions. Two further reports, one of which related to the employment and fertility of women, would be published by the end of 1985. A study on the relationship between infant mortality and fertility would be submitted for publication by the end of 1985.

115. The Commission was informed that the United Nations Working Group on Comparative Analysis of World Fertility Survey Data, at its sixth meeting in October 1984, had discussed plans for the publication on World Fertility Survey data referred to above, and preliminary drafts of many of the chapters. The Group had recommended that a suitable framework should be found for continuing its co-ordinating activities and that the Population Division should continue to provide a focal point within the United Nations system for the comparative work on fertility survey data.

116. The Commission was particularly pleased to note that the first global review of the levels and trends in contraceptive use and the types of methods utilized had been available at the International Conference on Population. The Commission recommended that periodic reviews of those topics should be undertaken in the future.

117. The Commission was informed that work in the area of programme and policy impact assessment had been continued in two ways. First, a project designed to enhance the effectiveness of family planning programmes had been completed, with two final studies soon to be published: (a) an addendum to Manual IX: The Methodology of Measuring the Impact of Family Planning Programmes on Fertility

(ST/ESA/SER.A/66), 18/ presenting new evaluation methodologies, and (b) the report of the United Nations Expert Group Meeting on Methods of Measuring the Impact of Family Planning Programmes on Fertility, including a final set of case studies. The second area of policy impact evaluation had involved the experience of the low-fertility countries that had designed social and economic measures to affect fertility trends. A first case study based on the Hungarian experience had been published in the Population Bulletin of the United Nations, No. 17.

118. Culture and family planning acceptance had been the last major topic of work during 1984. Preliminary work on the topic was discussed in an article in the Population Bulletin of the United Nations, No. 17. While the Commission expressed strong support for the continuation of such work in the form of country case studies, it was noted that the lack of extrabudgetary funds had precluded further work on the topic during the current biennium.

#### 7. Dissemination of population information

119. The Commission noted with satisfaction the different activities carried out in 1984 by the international Population Information Network, through the POPIN Co-ordinating Unit of the Population Division, particularly the success of the POPIN Reference Centre established at Mexico City during the International Conference on Population, the publication twice yearly of the POPIN Bulletin, the preparation and publication of technical manuals on computerization of population documentation storage and retrieval systems and on selecting a classification scheme for a population information centre, and the completion, in close collaboration with the Committee for International Co-operation in National Research in Demography, of the expanded second edition of the Population Multilingual Thesaurus under its new title, POPIN Thesaurus: Population Multilingual Thesaurus. The Commission also noted that the activities of POPIN were carried out jointly with UNFPA and with the co-operation of the POPIN membership of some 100 institutions, the majority in developing countries.

120. The Commission congratulated the Secretariat for its continued publication of the Population Bulletin of the United Nations and the Population Newsletter, both of which had been a useful source of information in the population field.

#### 8. Technical co-operation

121. The Commission reviewed the report of the Secretary-General on technical co-operation activities in population of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development during 1983/84 (E/CN.9/1985/3/Add.1). It noted that the thrust of the programme was to assist in strengthening national capabilities for attaining self-reliance through training in demography and population; in evaluation and analysis of basic population and demographic data; and in population policy planning and development planning.

122. The Commission noted with satisfaction that interregional training in population and development had been strengthened in the programmes of the Cairo Demographic Centre and of the United Nations/USSR programme at Moscow. Further,

although the United Nations-Romania Demographic Centre (CEDOR) had closed in June 1984, it had been commended by both its governing bodies. The Commission welcomed the efforts of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development to ensure the continuation elsewhere of the programme initiated at CEDOR.

123. The Commission also noted with satisfaction that the Department had prepared a revised edition of its handlist of universities teaching demography, together with a companion volume giving the content of the programmes offered by those institutions.

124. Another development of particular interest had been the seminars and workshops for data producers and users on the utilization of results of census analyses for development planning. The Commission also noted that the Department had provided assistance to Governments for the development and utilization of computer software for demographic evaluation. The Commission was also pleased to note that technical co-operation activities in population and development had been concentrated on the strengthening of national capabilities for research on the interaction of demographic, social and economic factors.

125. The Commission noted in particular that the Department had been able to provide its technical co-operation within an integrated interdisciplinary approach, through its specialists in demography, statistics, computer technology, economics, the social sciences, planning and rural development.

## 9. Demographic statistics

126. An account of the discussion of work in the area of demographic statistics, which at previous sessions of the Commission was presented in the context of the discussion of the progress of work in the field of population, is given in chapter III of the present report (paras. 34-36).

### B. Programme of work for the biennium 1986-1987

127. The Commission was informed that the programme of work for the biennium 1986-1987 had been prepared immediately after the International Conference on Population. It would be the first biennial programme of work in which the recommendations of the Conference could be implemented.

128. The Commission was also informed that during the reporting period the Population Division's main activities continued to be concentrated in three main areas:

(a) The substantive analysis of levels, trends and policies in population and its various components, as well as its interrelationship with social and economic factors - the major area of work of the Division;

(b) Methodological studies intended to improve measurement techniques and provide technical information and guidelines for action for member Governments, universities and research institutions in the population field;

(c) Information and dissemination of information, including the development of an international Population Information Network.



129. Several delegations expressed strong disagreement with the description of programme elements 1.1 (Internal migration and development),

4.1 (Assessments of the interrelationship between demographic variables and economic and social factors) and 6.6 (Interrelationships between social and economic policy measures and fertility) as "lowest priority" in document E/CN.9/1985/CRP.1 and repeatedly mentioned the urgency of raising the priority of work for those elements. In that context, several delegations said they considered that the assignment of priorities should be a function of the Commission. Some members expressed the view that allocation of priorities could become more meaningful if it were possible to indicate the approximate number of man months allocated for each programme element. The Commission was informed by a representative of the Secretariat that information on administrative and financial aspects would not be provided; some delegations were of the opinion that it was inappropriate for the Commission to discuss such matters.

#### 1. World demographic analysis

130. The Commission noted the continuation of the projects on sex differentials in mortality and on estimation of life tables for high-mortality countries, both due to be completed during the biennium 1986-1987. The Commission noted with satisfaction the considerable progress in the development of computer software for mortality measurement. The first publication is expected during the biennium 1986-1987.

131. The Commission was informed of new projects in the area of mortality and endorsed with satisfaction studies of the impact of family size limitation and birth spacing on child mortality; trends in child mortality differentials in developing countries; potential effects of mortality reduction programmes on mortality structure and implications for other demographic and development processes; and consequences of alternate patterns of mortality change (with emphasis on more developed countries) among older adults and the elderly for age and sex compositions.

132. The Commission was informed that the project on comparative patterns of internal migration in six developing countries would be completed during 1986 and endorsed, with satisfaction, the scheduled initiation of two projects on internal migration and urbanization: one on demographic components of urban structure and the other on patterns of urban structure, including their relationship to the development process.

133. The Commission, noting that the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population was preparing manuals on the methods of estimation and analysis of internal migration, endorsed the deletion of similar items from the Population Division's work programme.

134. In the area of international migration, the Commission noted the progress made in the establishment of a computerized data base and the plans to produce reports based on its contents. The Commission was also pleased to hear of plans for a new publication on estimates of recent changes in the flows of main migrant types.

## 2. Demographic projections

135. The Commission supported the continuation of the subprogramme on demographic estimates and projections for the biennium 1986-1987. It was expected that the 1986 revision of the global estimates and projections of population by country and the global estimates and projections of urban, rural and city populations would be completed in 1987.

136. The Commission was pleased to note that the Secretariat would begin the preparation of a manual on methods of sub-national population projection in the biennium 1986-1987, in pursuance of the suggestion made by the Commission at its twenty-second session. It supported the convening of an expert group meeting in 1986 to discuss the contents of the manual. The work is expected to be completed in the biennium 1988-1989.

137. The Commission endorsed the Secretariat's plan to undertake a study during the biennium 1986-1987 of the number, size and structure of households and families. The Commission was informed that the preparation of projections of families and households would proceed in 1987 or later on the basis of that study.

138. Some delegations were of the opinion that the two-year cycle of revision of population projections was too frequent considering the limited resources of the Secretariat and suggested that the five-year cycle previously used could be resumed. The Commission was informed that the two-year cycle was now a part of the programme for the period of the medium-term plan, but that a change in the cycle might be considered by the Commission at its twenty-fourth session.

139. Some delegations stated that the existence of different sets of projections, prepared by various international bodies, might have created some confusion for Governments; one representative suggested that the Population Division was in the best position to prepare projections for all countries and areas.

140. The Commission inquired about the preparation of long-range projections; some delegations felt they were important for understanding the dynamics of population growth and structure changes in the distant future. Several representatives felt that long-range projections should not be carried out too frequently since repeated revision of those projections would have little practical value. The Commission was informed that the long-range projections would not be a priority item of the work programme, but would be carried out only when resources were available.

## 3. Population policies

141. The Commission was informed of plans for the Sixth Population Policy Inquiry among Governments. The questionnaire is scheduled to be sent out in 1986, replies should be received throughout 1987, and the report prepared during 1988. The Commission asked whether appropriate activities leading up to the Inquiry were being undertaken to obtain a larger number of responses, and was informed that considerable attention was being given to a somewhat simplified questionnaire that would deal with new areas of population policy but would ensure comparability with earlier inquiries and elicit the maximum number of responses.

142. The Commission noted with satisfaction that work on the population policy data bank would continue. It inquired whether steps were being taken to make the data bank available to a larger number of researchers and was informed that efforts

would be made to put the most relevant material into computer-usable form to facilitate wider distribution.

143. The Commission noted with approval that work on the population policy compendiums would continue, with 20 reports - mostly related to African countries - to be issued during the biennium.

144. The Commission was informed about the comparative study of new population policy issues at the global level proposed by the International Conference on Population.

145. The Commission was also informed of the project on policy formulation, implementation and evaluation, which aimed at producing 12 concise studies on selected issues arising from the experience of various countries with population policy formulation and implementation.

146. The Commission noted the continuation of the extrabudgetary project on demographic target setting and policy formulation mentioned earlier (para. 108). The Commission was informed that during 1985 additional countries would be visited in order to collect information on demographic targets and policy formulation.

#### 4. Population and development

147. In the light of the recommendation of the International Conference on Population that special emphasis should be given to research on the integration of population processes with socio-economic development, the Commission noted with approval the proposed programme of work for the biennium 1986-1987 in the field of population and development.

148. The Commission, noting that large development projects often have important demographic impacts, stressed the importance of a study designed to provide planners with a methodology to assist them in designing projects which would have more desirable demographic impacts. The Commission also suggested rigorous testing of such a methodology before it was disseminated to planners.

149. Recognizing that the aging of populations would also become an issue of relevance to developing countries, the Commission attached great importance to the study of the economic and social consequences of the aging of populations in order to assist in planning and policy formulation. The Commission suggested that such studies should include considerations of changing age structure in the labour force and in rural populations.

150. Stressing the importance of sharing national experiences in integrating population factors into the planning process, the Commission urged that work should be pursued to document successful national experiences of integration. It suggested that particular attention should be given to institutional arrangements as well as to the techniques and data employed in the integration process.

151. Recognizing the need for more fully elaborated frameworks for studying the interrelationships between population, resources, environment and development, the Commission noted with approval the continuation of work to develop a framework along the lines of the Social Accounting Matrix, including the preparation of relevant computer programmes. The Commission also noted with approval that an expert group meeting would be organized to review methodologies for integrating those four factors.

152. Some delegations urged that issues relating to peace and security and population and their demographic consequences should be included in the programme of work on population and development. One delegation objected to the suggestion on the grounds that the Population Commission was not a proper forum for the consideration of such issues, nor was it appropriate for the Commission to assign to the United Nations Secretariat activities related to those matters. That delegation also pointed out that no recommendation for action on those issues had been made by the International Conference on Population. Some other delegations expressed similar views.

#### 5. Monitoring and review and appraisal

153. The Commission recommended that the monitoring of population trends and policies should continue to be undertaken, with high priority, since it provided a wealth of information on the global demographic situation and development.

154. One delegation, while commenting on the priority designation accorded to the subprogramme on monitoring, expressed concern that no other programme element on research has been designated high priority.

#### 6. Factors affecting patterns of reproduction

155. The Commission expressed strong support for continued work in the area of reproduction and the family, noting with approval that, in accordance with the themes stressed in the recommendations of the International Conference on Population, the programme gave increased emphasis to (a) the role and status of women; (b) further studies on assessment of the impact of family planning programmes; and (c) global studies of fertility patterns and their principal determinants. The Commission emphasized the importance of maintaining throughout the work programme in that area a sensitivity to the importance of cultural and religious values as they related to reproductive behaviour. Some delegations suggested that the psychological consequences of insecurity and fear of war should be considered among the analyses of fertility determinants; some other delegations objected on the ground that those issues should be dealt with in other forums. The value of a cohort perspective in all demographic analysis in the area was also noted because of its potential for explaining the dynamics of change and yielding conclusions relevant to policy considerations.

156. The Commission expressed strong support for the study of women's status as it related to reproductive behaviour and recommended that studies on the status of women should be covered in other areas of the work programme.

157. The Commission strongly endorsed the proposed study of nuptiality, which would stress trends in the timing and extent of first marriage. Some representatives expressed the hope that future work in the area could include attention to the separation of spouses, because of its effects on children, and work on the special problems facing newly formed families.

158. The Commission was pleased to note that a second assessment of global levels and trends in contraceptive use was planned for the biennium. The importance of considering cultural factors was noted. It was also viewed as important that the side-effects of methods of contraception should be studied, as they influenced their use.

159. Strong support was voiced for the planned study of adolescent fertility. It was stated that a second round of the World Fertility Survey would be highly useful to many developing countries in the implementation of their population policies. With respect to the global study on the age patterns of fertility, the Committee recommended that both a cohort and period approach should be taken, giving special attention to both the age at first marriage and the age at birth of first child.

160. Regarding the programme of work on the interrelationships between social and economic policy measures and fertility, satisfaction was expressed with the outcome of a first case study based on the Hungarian experience. The Commission recommended that work in that area should be given due importance and that similar studies should be undertaken in other developed, particularly Western European, countries.

#### 7. Dissemination of population information

161. The Commission noted the importance of disseminating information to create greater awareness of population matters. Noting the important role of POPIN in the dissemination of population information and in the promotion of easier access to such information, the Commission recommended that the Secretariat should continue the development of the Network, subject to availability of resources, in addition to the Population Division's regular programme of publication and dissemination of its research studies and activities that included the Population Bulletin of the United Nations and the Population Newsletter.

162. One delegation inquired about the certainty of further funding to assure the continuity of the POPIN project, which was viewed as a successful and promising activity. He was informed that a proposal for extrabudgetary funding for 1985 had been submitted late in 1984, but that a decision on the matter had been deferred.

#### 8. Technical co-operation

163. The Commission considered the proposed programme of work on the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development in the field of population for the biennium 1986-1987 (E/CN.9/1985/CRP.2/Rev.1), which was an elaboration of the activities to be carried out during that biennium as originally stipulated in more general terms in the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989. The activities covered included (a) support for technical co-operation projects in three main fields covering training, national research on population dynamics, and national population programmes and offices; and (b) analysis and evaluation of technical co-operation activities in population.

164. The Commission expressed support of the Department's programme. It strongly urged that additional resources be made available to meet the large number of country requests for assistance.

165. The Commission expressed the wish to receive, in future, information on training curricula and on the distribution of United Nations fellowships by country of origin and sex. It also stressed the need for expansion of training activities in the light of the recommendations of the International Conference on Population.

## C. Consideration of draft proposals

### 1. Work programme in the field of population

166. At the 414th meeting, on 28 February, the Rapporteur of the Commission, Ms. Anita Melin (Sweden), introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.9/1985/L.7) entitled "Work programme in the field of population", which she submitted as a result of informal consultations.

167. At the same meeting, the Commission was informed that the draft resolution had no financial or administrative implications.

168. The representative of Colombia made a statement in which he suggested the following amendments:

(a) The addition of the words "and population projections and for a broad dissemination and use of the results thereof" at the end of operative paragraph 2 (j) (ii);

(b) The insertion of the word "national" before the words "institutional mechanisms" in operative paragraph 2 (j) (iii).

169. The representative of Bolivia made a statement in which he suggested an amendment to operative paragraph 2 (j) (i), whereby the words "an interdisciplinary approach" would be replaced by the words "the link between population and development".

170. After statements by the representatives of the Netherlands, France, Colombia, Bolivia, Brazil, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, China, the United States of America, Costa Rica and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the Secretary of the Commission, the Commission adopted draft resolution E/CN.9/1985/L.7 with the amendment set out in paragraph 168 (b) above (see chap. I, draft resolution III).

### 2. Status and role of women and population

171. At the 414th meeting, on 28 February, the representative of Mexico, on behalf also of China, Mauritius, Mexico, the Netherlands and Sweden, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.9/1985/L.8) entitled "Status and role of women and population" and orally revised it by replacing operative paragraph 2, which read:

#### "2. Requests the Secretary-General:

"(a) To seek ways and means to strengthen studies on the interrelationship between the role and status of women and demographic trends and policies following the guidelines of the recommendations of the International Conference on Population, 1984;

"(b) To monitor, review and appraise progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of the International Conference on Population, 1984, with respect to the role and status of women in the field of population;

"(c) To report periodically to the Economic and Social Council, through the Population Commission, the findings of studies on those issues."

by the following:

"2. Requests the Secretary-General, in the framework of the ongoing monitoring, review and appraisal of progress made towards the implementation of the recommendations of the World Population Plan of Action, to focus periodically on those recommendations which make special reference to the relation between the role and status of women and population, and to report thereon to the Economic and Social Council, through the Population Commission."

Subsequently, Bangladesh and Bulgaria joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

172. At the same meeting, the Commission was informed that the draft resolution had no financial or administrative implications.

173. After statements by the representatives of France, Brazil, the Netherlands and China, and the Secretary of the Commission, the Commission adopted draft resolution E/CN.9/1985/L.8, as orally revised (see chap. I, draft resolution IV).

## Chapter VI

### PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

174. At its 413th and 414th meetings, on 27 and 28 February, the Commission considered a draft provisional agenda for its twenty-fourth session, together with the list of requested documentation (E/CN.9/1985/L.2), submitted by the Secretary-General in compliance with paragraph 3 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1894 (LVII).
175. At its 414th meeting, the Commission approved the draft provisional agenda for the twenty-fourth session, as contained in document E/CN.9/1985/L.2. For the text of the provisional agenda, see chapter I, draft decision.



## Chapter VII

### ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON ITS TWENTY-THIRD SESSION

176. The Commission considered its draft report to the Economic and Social Council (E/CN.9/1985/L.4 and Add.1-8) at its 414th and 415th meetings, on 28 February. At the same meetings, it adopted the report, as a whole, as amended.

## Chapter VIII

### ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

#### A. Opening and duration of the session

177. The Population Commission held its twenty-third session at United Nations Headquarters from 19 to 28 February 1985. The Commission held 15 meetings (401st to 415th).

178. The session was opened by the Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs.

#### B. Attendance

179. All States members of the Commission were represented at the session. Observers for States Members and non-members of the United Nations, representatives of United Nations bodies, specialized agencies, and intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations also attended the session. A complete list is given in annex I to the present report.

#### C. Election of officers

180. At its 401st and 402nd meetings, on 19 February, the Commission elected by acclamation the following officers:

Chairman: R. P. Kapoor (India)

Vice-Chairmen: Vladimir Kalaydjiev (Bulgaria)  
Victor Hugo Morgan (Costa Rica)  
A. A. Kadejo (Nigeria)

Rapporteur: Anita Melin (Sweden)

#### D. Agenda

181. At its 402nd meeting, on 19 February, the Commission considered and adopted the provisional agenda for the session (E/CN.9/1985/1), submitted in accordance with rule 5 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council. The agenda was as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. International Conference on Population, 1984: follow-up action to be taken by the United Nations:
  - (a) Consideration of the recommendations of the International Conference on Population;
  - (b) Implications of the recommendations of the International Conference on Population for the work programme on population.
4. Action by the United Nations to implement the recommendations of the World Population Conference, 1974: monitoring of population trends and policies.
5. Programme of work in the field of population for the biennium 1986-1987 and implementation of the programme budget for 1984-1985.
6. Provisional agenda for the twenty-fourth session of the Commission.
7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its twenty-third session.

182. At the same meeting, the Commission approved the organization of work for the session (E/CN.9/1985/L.1), as orally amended.

Annex I

ATTENDANCE

Members

Bolivia: José Baldivia

Brazil: Sergio M. Thompson-Flores, Roberto Jaguaribe\*

Bulgaria: Vladimir Kalaydjiev

Cameroon: Nkwelle Ekaney

China: Wu Jieping, Wang Xiangying,\* Yen Jiande\*

Colombia: Jairo Arias, Policarpo Arce,\* Ivan Marulanda\*

Costa Rica: Victor Hugo Morgan

Egypt: Mokhtar Hallouda, Ali Rahmy,\* Magda Shahin\*

France: Jean Bourgeois-Pichat, Alain Perez,\* Jean-Claude Faure, Nicole Courson

Germany, Federal Republic of: Hermann Schubnell, Wilhelm Suden\*

India: N. Krishnan, R. P. Kapoor,\* P. M. S. Malik,\* R. S. Rathore\*

Japan: Yoichi Okazaki, Takanori Kitamura\*

Malaysia: Ramli Othman, Abdullah Faiz Zain\*

Mauritius: J. C. Mohith

Mexico: Gerónimo Martínez García, Alfonso Sandoval Arriaga,\* Diana Vidarte,\*  
Miguel Ruiz Cabanas\*

Netherlands: D. J. van de Kaa, J. C. van den Brekel,\* E. J. N. Brouwers,\*  
S. M. Pieters Kwiers\*

Nigeria: A. A. Kadejo, E. E. Onobu,\* K. I. Gafai\*

Sudan: A. M. El Hassan, Osman M. O. Dirar\*

Sweden: Krister Kumlin, Anita Melin,\* Hans Olsson\*

Thailand: Peerathep Roongshivin, Suthee Na-Lumpang\*

Togo: Gouraima Nouridine

Turkey: Tandoğan Tokgöz, Adnan Basaga\*

Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic: Irina Vladimirovna Khainatskaya,  
Igor Mefodieievich Turyanskiy,\*  
Boris Nikolayevich Goudima\*

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: A. A. Isupov, O. G. Pavlov,\* L. M. Kapitsa,  
A. Y. Bugrov

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: J. H. Thompson,  
P. J. Hilton\*

\* Alternate.

United States of America: Vincent P. Barabba, Alan L. Keyes,\* Samuel Baum,\*  
Carl Hemmer, Donald B. Johnson, Sanny Oveson,  
Harold S. Fleming

Zambia: P. A. Siwo, J. P. Banda,\* J. M. S. Lichilana, E. M. C. Kazembe

States Members of the United Nations represented by observers

Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Cuba, Democratic Yemen, Dominican Republic,  
Finland, Norway, Pakistan, Rwanda, Yugoslavia

Non-member States represented by observers

Holy See, Republic of Korea

United Nations bodies

Economic Commission for Europe, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the  
Pacific, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Economic  
Commission for Africa, Economic Commission for Western Asia, United Nations Centre  
for Human Settlements (Habitat), United Nations Fund for Population Activities

Specialized agencies

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

Intergovernmental agencies

Europe Economic Community

Non-governmental organizations

Category I: International Planned Parenthood Federation

Category II: Bahá'í International Community, International Statistical  
Institute, International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, World Union  
of Catholic Women's Organizations

Roster: Committee for International Co-operation in National Research in  
Demography, International Committee on the Management of Population Programmes,  
Population Institute

Annex II

## LIST OF DOCUMENTS

<u>Document number</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
E/CN.9/1984/2/Add.1	4	Addendum to the concise report on monitoring of population trends and policies: report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.9/1985/1	2	Annotated provisional agenda
E/CN.9/1985/2	3 (b)	Implications of the recommendations of the Conference for the work programme on population: report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.9/1985/3	5	Progress of work of the Secretariat in the field of population, 1984 - Department of International Economic and Social Affairs: report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.9/1985/3/Add.1	5	Technical co-operation activities in population of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development: report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.9/1985/4	5	Programme of work of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs in the field of population for the biennium 1986-1987: note by the Secretary-General
E/CN.9/1985/4/Add.1	5	Programme of work of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development in the field of population for the biennium 1986-1987: note by the Secretary-General
E/CN.9/1985/CRP.1	5	Proposed programme of work for the biennium 1986-1987 - Analysis of world population (Department of International Economic and Social Affairs): note by the Secretary-General
E/CN.9/1985/CRP.2/Rev.1	5	Proposed programme of work for the biennium 1986-1987 - Technical co-operation in population (Department of Technical Co-operation for Development): note by the Secretary-General
E/CN.9/1985/L.1	2	Organization of the work of the session: note by the Secretariat

<u>Document number</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>	<u>Title or description</u>
E/CN.9/1985/L.2	6	Note by the Secretariat
E/CN.9/1985/L.3	2	State of preparedness of documentation for the session: note by the Secretariat
E/CN.9/1985/L.4 and Add.1-8	7	Draft report of the Commission on its twenty-third session
E/CN.9/1985/L.5	3	Bolivia and Costa Rica: draft resolution
E/CN.9/1985/L.6	3	Vice-Chairman of the Commission: draft resolution
E/CN.9/1985/L.7	5	Rapporteur of the Commission: draft resolution
E/CN.9/1985/L.8	5	Bangladesh, Bulgaria, China, Mauritius, Mexico, Netherlands and Sweden: draft resolution
E/CONF.76/19 and Corr.1 and 3 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.XIII.8)	3	<u>Report of the International Conference on Population, 1984</u>

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