



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.9/1994/5
15 March 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

POPULATION COMMISSION
Twenty-seventh session
28-31 March 1994
Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

FOLLOW-UP TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON POPULATION, 1984

Activities of the United Nations system in the field of population

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

The present report has been prepared in response to Economic and Social Council resolutions 1985/4, 1986/7 and 1987/72, in which the Council requested the Secretary-General to prepare periodic overviews of population activities within the United Nations system. The present report is the fourth in the series; the first report was prepared in 1987 (E/1987/4); the second in 1989 (E/1989/11); and the third in 1991 (E/CN.9/1991/7).

The present report provides an overview of the main activities in the field of population carried out by the various units and organizations of the United Nations system during the period 1991-1992. It consists of two chapters. The first chapter describes the major changes in the institutional and legislative framework, the organizational structure and the coordination mechanisms of the units and organizations working in the field of population; it also provides information on the human and financial resources for population activities in the United Nations system. The second chapter contains an overview of the main activities in the field of population being carried out by the organizations during the period under consideration. The overview contains a selected number of examples of the work being done by the organizations and includes some of the topics covered by the World Population Plan of Action.

* E/CN.9/1994/1.

CONTENTS

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
INTRODUCTION	1 - 4	3
I. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK, RESOURCES AND COORDINATION OF POPULATION ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM	5 - 22	4
A. Policies, mandates and long-range objectives	5	4
B. Organizational structure	6 - 10	4
C. Planning, programming and budgeting	11 - 14	5
D. Resources	15 - 19	6
E. Coordination	20 - 22	12
II. OVERVIEW OF MAIN ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF POPULATION .	23 - 59	13
A. Socio-economic development, the environment and population	27 - 31	14
B. The role and status of women	32 - 36	15
C. Development of population policies	37 - 39	17
D. Population goals and policies	40 - 53	17
E. Promotion of knowledge and policy	54 - 59	20

INTRODUCTION

1. The World Population Plan of Action, adopted by the World Population Conference 1/ (Bucharest, 1974), assigned various responsibilities to the United Nations system in the implementation of the Plan. This was reaffirmed by the International Conference on Population 2/ (Mexico City, 1984). As a follow-up to the Mexico City Conference, periodic overviews of population activities within the United Nations system in relation to the implementation of the World Population Plan of Action were requested by the Economic and Social Council in its resolutions 1985/5, 1986/7 and 1987/72. The first of such reports was prepared in 1987 (E/1987/4), the second in 1989 (E/1989/11) and the third in 1991 (E/CN.9/1991/7). This document is the fourth and, like the previous reports, was prepared by the Population Division of the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis, as the substantive secretariat of the Population Commission.

2. The present report focuses on the substantive activities of the various entities within the United Nations system and summarizes the major changes that have taken place over the past several years. The report consists of two chapters: chapter I covers changes in institutional framework and legislation, in organizational structure and resources, and in the mechanisms for the coordination of population activities within the system; chapter II presents an overview of the main activities in the field of population.

3. The information used in preparing the present report comes mainly from an inquiry sent to the various organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system. The inquiries were sent out in late 1992, in the expectation that the results of the survey would be presented to the Population Commission at its twenty-seventh session, which was then scheduled to be held in August 1993. Consistent with the biennial cycle of work of the Population Commission, the survey focused on data for the biennium 1990-1991. However, in view of the postponement of the twenty-seventh session of the Commission to 1994, and in order to present the most recent information, some sections of this report cover, to the extent possible, the biennium 1992-1993 as well.

4. It is worth mentioning that in relation to the previous reports, several units, bodies and organizations had difficulties in providing accurate and prompt information on their population activities. The fact that some organizations were affected by the recent process of restructuring of the social and economic sectors of the Secretariat may explain the difficulties encountered in providing the information requested. It is also possible that some of the organizations are experiencing a certain kind of "survey fatigue" as a reaction to increased demands made on them to respond to questionnaires.

I. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK, RESOURCES AND COORDINATION
OF POPULATION ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS
SYSTEM

A. Policies, mandates and long-range objectives

5. At the global level, the World Population Plan of Action, adopted by the Bucharest Conference in 1974, and the recommendations for its further implementation, adopted by the Mexico City Conference in 1984, constitute the principal legislative instruments that govern the population activities of the United Nations system. At the regional and sectoral levels, there are other important legislative instruments, as mentioned in the overview reports prepared in 1987 (E/1987/4, para. 5) and in 1989 (E/1989/11, paras. 3-4). During the biennium 1990-1991 there have been no major changes in the policies or mandates of the organizations of the system in relation to population. Nevertheless, some of the organizations mentioned certain reorientations in their programmes of work.

B. Organizational structure

6. There were a number of small but noteworthy changes in the organizational structure and setting of population activities within the United Nations Secretariat. As part of the second phase of the restructuring of the United Nations Secretariat, initiated by the Secretary-General in his note of 3 December 1992 to the General Assembly (A/47/753), particularly in the economic and social sectors, three new departments were established in New York in February 1993. One is the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis which has absorbed some of the responsibilities of the former Department for International Economic and Social Affairs and the former Department of Technical Cooperation for Development. It acts as the focal point for economic and social information and policy analysis and provides substantive support to pertinent intergovernmental machinery, including the Population Commission and the Statistical Commission. Those functions include data collection, basis research, policy analysis and dissemination and the execution of technical cooperation activities in the areas of population and statistics.

7. Within the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), two major organizational changes took place which have affected its approach to population activities. First was the decentralization to the field of the responsibility for allocation of funding for population activities. UNFPA country directors of field offices can now make discretionary individual disbursements of as much as 50 per cent of the total approved country programme budget, up to US\$ 500,000. The second organizational change is the creation of a system of technical support services (TSS) in which technical assistance to population projects is provided by country support teams (CST) located in eight subregions of the developing world - namely: for the Arab States, in Amman, Jordan; for East Africa, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; for Southern Africa, in Harare, Zimbabwe; for West Africa, in Dakar, Senegal; for South Asia, in Kathmandu, Nepal; for South-east Asia, in Bangkok, Thailand; for the Pacific, in Suva, Fiji; and for Latin America and the Caribbean, in Santiago, Chile. TSS headquarters specialist teams are also being formed at certain United Nations specialized agencies, such as the International

/...

Labour Organization (ILO); Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); and the World Health Organization (WHO), as well as the United Nations Secretariat in New York. The new system replaces the previous system of regional advisers.

8. Organizational changes that have strengthened the coordination of population activities within UNESCO, included an intersectoral and inter-agency cooperation project on research, education and communication in the field of population; and the refocusing of population activities within the social sciences sector, with emphasis on social and economic organization of disadvantaged urban communities and urban rehabilitation; changing structures and functions of the family; integration of international migrants in host countries; and women as active agents of change.

9. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), in its 1992 session, revised the conference structure of the Commission by establishing three thematic committees (Regional Economic Cooperation; Environment and Sustainable Development; and Poverty Alleviation through Economic Growth and Social Development), two other committees (Statistics; Transport and Communication) and two special bodies (least developed and land-locked developing countries; and Pacific Island developing countries). Following the restructuring, ESCAP is now revising its programme of work and priorities to introduce a multisectoral orientation. The revised programmes of activities in the field of population will now be implemented as provided in the terms of reference of the new substructure of the Commission.

10. In order to strengthen WHO's activities in family planning and population, the Family Planning and Population (FPP) Unit, which will help integrate population issues into other WHO programmes at different levels of the organization, was created. In 1990 the Adolescent Health Programme, which focuses particularly on the reproductive health of adolescents, was officially created. WHO has also established a special Commission on Environment and Health whose report contributed significantly to the preparation of the health sectors of Agenda 21 at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. 3/

C. Planning, programming and budgeting

11. An important development in relation to planning, programming and budgeting in the Secretariat was the revision of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 as a result of the second phase of the restructuring of the United Nations Secretariat. The translation into budgetary and programmatic terms of that phase of the restructuring involved the creation of new departments, as mentioned above, and the redeployment of posts and redistribution of resources among various sections of the programme budget for the remaining part of the biennium 1992-1993. For example, technical cooperation activities in population which used to be carried out by the former Department of Technical Cooperation for Development, have been absorbed by the new Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis.

/...

12. In accordance with directives of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNFPA has placed greater emphasis on the maternal and child health and family planning (MCH/FP) and information, education and communication (IEC) components of its range of population activities. These two components comprise 70 per cent of total UNFPA financial support, and as a result, intercountry programmes and some regional projects will account for a smaller share of the available resources.

13. The population programmes of the regional commissions experienced a reduction in programmable resources and overhead income as a result of reductions in UNDP/UNFPA regional project funds and their support costs successors arrangement. In the case of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), those reductions had a significant effect on ECLAC/UNDP/UNFPA joint programmes. As part of the Third Regional Programme (1986-1991) an average of nine major individual projects per year were designed and executed by ECLAC, with an average yearly delivery of about US\$ 1.8 million, whereas as part of the ongoing Fourth Regional Programme (1992-1996), ECLAC is executing five projects, with an estimated yearly delivery of US\$ 850,000. For 1992, ECLAC's total extrabudgetary regional population programme fell by more than 50 per cent; a further major reduction is expected in 1993 and beyond.

14. WHO reports a 10 per cent increase in the regular budget over 1990-1991 for activities concerned with maternal and child health, adolescent reproductive health and research on human reproduction. The World Bank reported total expenditures amounting to US\$ 520 million for the biennium 1988-1989.

D. Resources

15. Every two years the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) prepares figures on total expenditures of all organizations, by organization and sector. The estimated expenditures for the biennium 1992-1993 are shown in table 1 but do not include those corresponding to the World Bank. Expenditures for individual activities are included under one heading only, according to the primary objective they serve; if there is an activity that serves more than one purpose, it appears under its principal objective. Thus, in certain fields which have an intersectoral character, as is the case in the field of population, the ACC classification does not show the totality of the activities accomplished. However, although the ACC classification has the advantage of allowing an easy comparison of population vis-à-vis the other 19 sectors, it excludes important components that reflect items in the Plan of Action.

16. Population is one of the 20 sectors in the ACC classification for the biennium 1992-1993 and it includes four subsectors under the following headings: population policies and dynamics; data collection and analysis; family planning; and population education and communication.

17. In table 1, expenditures are reported under one heading only, and when one organization finances activities that are executed by another organization, the related expenditures appear under the executing organization. In 1992-1993, the total amount of resources available to the population sector was US\$ 537.6 million, representing 2.7 per cent of the total resources of the United Nations system.

18. The World Population Plan of Action embraces activities that have a primary objective which is conceptually related to the field of population but that are not classified as such in the ACC classification because their primary purpose, according to that classification, is different (for example, actions affecting morbidity and mortality appear in the health sector, and studies on population distribution are classified under human settlements); in other instances, there are activities with a primary purpose in one particular area but with real or potential impact in other population variables (for example, the role and status of women, environmental issues, and nutrition).

19. Information from the organizations of the system on the sources of their funds for population activities for 1992 is given in table 2. It shows the amount of financial resources from UNFPA, the regular budget and other sources. UNESCO reported that 100 per cent of its funds for 1992 came from UNFPA; for that same year, more than 90 per cent of the relevant funds of FAO and the ILO came from UNFPA. On the other hand, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) received 76 per cent of its funds for population activities from the regular budget.

Table 1. Estimated expenditures of the United Nations system by organization and by sector, 1992-1993, all sources of funds a/
(Millions of United States dollars)

Sector	United Nations b/	UNICEF	UNDP c/	UNFPA c/	UNRWA	WFP	ILO	FAO	UNESCO	ICAO	WHO	UPU	ITU	WMO	IMO	WIPO	UNIDO	IAEA	Total
I. Policy-making organs d/	169.5		3.0		46.6		18.9	14.3	34.0	2.2	32.7		4.7	4.1	2.4	1.3	3.7	18.4	355.8
II. Programmes of activity																			
010 Political affairs	583.8		7.0				3.0											176.8	770.6
020 General development issues	693.0	48.0	658.1				15.1	38.6	36.9								59.2	1 548.9	
030 General statistics	161.5	11.0	11.1				15.5	68.3	11.6		6.6						6.2	291.8	
040 Natural resources	119.6		174.5			242.0		164.7	47.3					22.1			24.5	12.4	807.1
050 Energy	62.3		48.0					3.3									14.8	34.5	162.9
060 Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	34.7		294.5			342.0		908.0										55.3	1 634.5
070 Industry	49.9		147.7				4.0	24.8									314.2	14.5	555.1
080 Transport	47.1		135.1			39.0	3.2			181.3				74.8			1.8	482.3	
090 Communications	152.1	7.0	21.2					37.2	76.5				46.6	252.3			5.0	597.9	
100 Trade and development	459.9		58.2				3.0	28.6								34.1		583.8	
110 Population	70.9	8.0	1.7	323.4			20.5	1.6	34.6		76.9							537.6	
120 Human settlements	106.3	4.0	101.1			28.0			2.0								14.4	255.8	
130 Health		1 106.0	141.5			209.0	4.8	47.4			1 193.9						12.0	91.2	2 805.8
140 Education		251.0	73.0			286.0	1.3		215.8									837.1	
150 Employment			42.3				497.2					9.8					12.7	6.9	568.9
160 Humanitarian assistance and disaster management	2 518.6	248.0	84.4		601.3	1 850.0		56.5	1.0		40.6							5 399.7	
170 Social development	358.8	124.0	88.5	10.0			84.7	56.0	18.2		7.2						3.1	750.5	
180 Culture			6.7						82.9								8.2		97.8
190 Science and technology	35.3		81.4					19.2	93.3		3.9			118.3			96.0	23.8	589.2
200 Environment	370.8	3.0	55.5				4.5	88.4	8.7						5.1		2.7		538.7
Total	5 994.1	1 810.0	2 234.5	333.4	647.9	3 006.0	675.7	1 556.9	662.1	183.5	1 371.6	46.6	257.0	144.5	82.3	139.6	491.3	534.8	20 171.8

Source: "Programmes and resources of the United Nations system for the biennium 1992-1993: report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination" (E/1993/84), pp. 6, 9 and 10.

(Footnotes on following page)

/ . . .

(Footnotes to table 1)

a/ Activities funded by reporting organizations and executed by other reporting organizations are included in the figures for the executing organizations, to avoid double counting.

b/ Figures cover resources of the United Nations other than those made available outside its regular budget for peace-keeping operations (see below). The figures thus include data for, inter alia, UNCTAD, UNEP, UNITAR, UNU, the regional commissions, UNCHS, UNHCR and UNDCP. The total resources of ITC, whose regular budget is financed to the extent of 50 per cent by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), are also included.

The estimated cost of peace-keeping operations carried out under the United Nations regular budget is included in the table. For peace-keeping operations outside the United Nations regular budget, only annual estimates are available, given the nature of these operations. The estimated cost of such operations in 1992, which is not included in the table, was \$1.7 million. This figure includes estimates based on the pro-rating of amounts approved for the latest mandate period in those cases where the mandate expired before 31 December 1992. Also included is the estimated cost in 1992 of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), financed entirely through voluntary contributions.

c/ UNDP and UNFPA, as funding organizations, provide resources for development. Expenditures are effected through other organizations, directly by UNDP or UNFPA, or through other agents.

d/ Figures represent the costs to the organizations concerned (including costs of management and support functions, as appropriate) of bodies responsible for general organization policy. For organizations affiliated with the United Nations, a large part of such costs is met by the United Nations. To the extent that this is the case, the costs are included in the amount reported by the United Nations.

/...

Table 2. Expenditures on population activities for organizations of the United Nations system, by source of funds a/

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Organization	Regular budget	Extrabudgetary, 1992		Total
		UNFPA <u>b/</u>	Other	
DESIPA <u>c/</u>	4 814 <u>d/</u>	19 661	7 906 <u>e/</u>	32 381
ECE	307	690	-	997
ESCAP	648	2 129	-	2 777
ECLAC	768	2 685	1 305 <u>e/</u>	4 757 <u>f/</u>
ECA	1 785 <u>g/</u>	3 629	-	5 414
ESCWA	751	239	-	990
UNDP	1 504	1 251	-	2 755
UNFPA	-	133 336	-	133 336
UNICEF	4 446 <u>h/</u>	2 336	-	6 802
ILO	1 000	9 568	-	10 568
FAO	50	3 503	196 <u>i/</u>	3 749
UNESCO	..	9 342	..	9 342 <u>j/</u>
WHO	2 696	15 754	20 658 <u>k/</u>	39 108
World Bank	354 000	-	-	354 000
Total (United Nations system)	372 769	204 123	30 065	606 976

Source: E/CN.9/1994/6.

(Footnotes on following page)

/...

(Footnotes to table 2)

a/ Except where indicated, all figures for 1992 were provided by the organizations concerned in response to a UNFPA questionnaire for the Global Population Assistance Report. Two dots (..) indicate that data are not available; a hyphen (-) indicates that data are not applicable.

b/ Includes regular funds, trust funds and funds for technical support services (TSS) and administrative and operations services (AOS).

c/ The Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis (DESIPA) of the United Nations Secretariat has absorbed some of the functions of the former Department of International Economic and Social Affairs and the former Department of Technical Cooperation for Development.

d/ Includes \$442,000 for temporary assistance in support of the International Conference on Population and development.

e/ Represents trust funds received from donor countries and funds received from agencies other than UNFPA.

f/ Figure does not add up to grand total due to rounding.

g/ Estimated expenditures.

h/ UNICEF reports \$48,704 million in 1992 for "support activities". Examples of such activities include breast-feeding programmes and immunization programmes.

i/ Represents trust funds received from donor countries.

j/ A completed questionnaire was not received from UNESCO. Statistics are provided by UNFPA.

k/ Represents trust funds received from donor countries, funds received from other agencies than UNFPA (which may or may not be included elsewhere), trust funds received from development banks and non-governmental organizations.

/...

E. Coordination

20. The Joint Consultative Group (JCGP), comprising five operational funds and programmes of the United Nations (UNDP, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), World Food Programme (WFP) and UNFPA) is an ongoing effort to enhance cooperation and coordination among the major international providers of development assistance. JCGP has encouraged cooperation between agencies at both the central and field levels on specific topics of overlapping interest, such as child survival and development and population and family planning, and has become actively involved in programme harmonization, women in development, structural adjustment, training of personnel, programme collaboration in Africa and the sharing of common premises and services.

21. At the request of the Secretary-General, ACC established, in 1991, an inter-agency ad hoc task force for the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development in order to ensure coordination and collaboration. A steering committee composed of heads of concerned departments in the United Nations and UNFPA was also established to ensure overall coordination for the preparation of the Conference within the United Nations; a working group at the interdepartmental level has been meeting regularly since 1991.

22. The organizations of the system reported that they participate in several coordination mechanisms. Among them are:

(a) The ad hoc inter-agency meeting for the International Year of the Family;

(b) The inter-agency task force for socio-cultural studies;

(c) The inter-agency working group on demographic estimates and projections;

(d) Ad hoc inter-agency meetings on ageing;

(e) The inter-agency task force for successor arrangement for agency support costs.

In addition, the executive heads of UNDP, WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA, in a joint letter issued to all staff of the four organizations called on field representatives to ensure better coordination in the area of maternal and child health and family planning. A WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA coordination committee on MCH/FP meets twice a year and is responsible for joint statements on adolescent health, breast-feeding, the prevention of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection and acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), family planning/MCH and other coordination activities, including exhibits, posters and country collaboration.

/...

II. OVERVIEW OF MAIN ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF POPULATION

23. The topics of the World Population Plan of Action, as set out in the recommendations for action adopted by the Mexico City Conference, can be conceived as a matrix composed of two dimensions. The first dimension embraces the substantive components of the Plan: socio-economic development, the environment and population; the role and status of women; development of population policies; and population goals and policies (population growth, morbidity and mortality, reproduction and the family, population distribution and internal migration, international migration and population structure). It should be noted that the categories of the first dimension are not necessarily mutually exclusive; in fact, some activities could refer to more than one category, as is the case, for example, of studies on the status of women and fertility. Furthermore, analysis of "growth" is intrinsically linked to the analysis of "structure". For practical purposes, activities that cover more than one category are reported under the most prominent of the categories. The second dimension would include the elements of the fifth topic of the Mexico City recommendations: the promotion of knowledge and policy (data collection and analysis, research, management, training, information, education and communication). Those two dimensions have been labelled "population sectors" and "functions in the field of population", respectively. The clustering of the topics of the Plan of Action into those two broad groups takes into account the components that can be grouped along those two distinct dimensions; in fact each one of the "functions" could refer specifically to any of the "population sectors" (e.g., research on internal migration or dissemination of information on mortality risks).

24. The organizations of the system were invited to provide a short summary of the activities they had carried out during the biennium 1990-1991 in each of the categories of the Plan of Action. In the sections below some of the activities reported on under various population "sectors" and "functions" are summarized. Selected specific activities that took place in 1990-1991 predominate, but wherever possible, activities undertaken in 1992-1993 are mentioned as well.

25. All of the organizations of the United Nations system participated in the preparatory work for the International Conference on Population and Development. Six expert group meetings were organized. The scientific papers resulting from those meetings covered the following major themes: population and development; population and the environment; population policies and programmes; population and women; family planning and health; population growth and demographic structure; and population distribution and migration. In addition, five regional population conferences were held: the Fourth Asian and Pacific Population Conference (Denpasar, Indonesia, 1992) was organized by ESCAP in cooperation with UNFPA; the Third African Population Conference (Dakar, Senegal) was organized by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and UNFPA; the European Population Conference (Geneva) was organized by the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), in cooperation with the Council for Europe and UNFPA; the Arab Population Conference (Amman, Jordan) was organized by ESCWA; and the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Conference on Population and Development (Mexico City) was organized by ECLAC and co-sponsored by UNFPA.

/...

26. As a follow-up to the regional conferences, several subregional conferences and meetings were held: the meeting of the Maghreb countries (Tunis, 1993); the South Pacific Ministerial Meeting on Population and Sustainable Development (Port Villa, Vanuatu, 1993); the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Ministerial Conference on Women and Family Health (Kathmandu, Nepal, 1993); the Andean Meeting on Population and Development (Lima, Peru, 1993); and the Caribbean Meeting of Experts for a Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development (Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 1993).

A. Socio-economic development, the environment and population

27. A major activity in the area of socio-economic development, the environment and population during 1990-1991 was the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). A large number of units, bodies and organizations of the United Nations system participated in the Conference and its preparatory process and provided important contributions for the drafting of the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21. 3/

28. Within the Secretariat, the Population Division published the third module of the manual on techniques for preparing projections of household and other income, household consumption and savings and government consumption and investment. 4/ The methods presented in the three modules of the manual were also made available in the microcomputer software PDPM/PC 1.0 with accompanying user's guide. 5/ Three reports documenting experiences in integrating population and development planning in three countries (India, 6/ Thailand 7/ and Turkey 8/) were published. In addition, work on the project on assessing the demographic consequences of major development projects was completed.

29. In the regional commissions, a general topic of research in this area was the social and economic implications of regional population trends. The work of ESCAP for the biennium 1990-1991 included a project on the consequences of population change in Asia. The project, covering Bangladesh, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand, had as its objectives increasing the understanding of planners and policy makers regarding the relationship between population and development and enhancing their capability for identifying specific and appropriate strategies to be included in integrated plans and policies. The Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE) at ECLAC contributed to the substantive framework of ECLAC, the Latin American and the Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) and CELADE, relative to changing productive patterns with equity, which was presented and adopted by countries of the region at the twenty-third session of ECLAC in April 1992. CELADE also reported efforts to enhance the "usability" of existing population and development models, the most important of which was the design, refinement and adaptation of a long-range planning model (LRPM). A microcomputer Spanish version of the model was developed and, in order to facilitate its use, a manual with detailed instruction on the use of the eight modules on specific sectors was produced. At ECA a manual for the integration of population variables into the development plans for African countries was prepared.

30. The programmes of work of other units of the Secretariat, of other bodies and programmes of the Organization and of the specialized agencies included the

/...

relationship between population and development as a component of broader development issues. UNFPA, in its effort to seek operational and institutional means of integrating population into development, convened a round-table meeting with ESCAP in November 1993. Several innovative ways of better putting into operation the integration of population into the development strategies of the 1990s and beyond were suggested by the participants. In 1991 and 1992, UNFPA-funded policy analysis and special forums, organized at the interregional level, by the United Nations, FAO, ILO, the Population Council and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), focused on the relationship between socio-economic development and population variables; population ageing; population and rural development; the demographic consequences of development projects; and the integration of population factors into development planning. UNFPA made special arrangements to participate in the World Bank's programme on the social dimensions of adjustment. The aim of the programme was to emphasize the importance of integrating the population dimension into structural adjustment programmes at the country level. At WFP, a large number of rural development projects were aimed specifically at protecting the environment or rehabilitating land degraded by natural conditions, poor cultivation practices or demographic pressure. The United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) conducted a study on the increasing feminization of poverty, environmental degradation and the unsatisfactory development of certain developing countries. A video on women, environment and sustainable development has been produced by INSTRAW.

31. WHO reported on activities of the Independent Commission on Environment and Health, which prepared reports on topics such as health, environment and development; water, energy and industry; and human settlements and urbanization. Other efforts by WHO in the area of health and development included an international conference in Accra, Ghana, on the health dimensions of economic reform, the mobilization of resources for health and development for the benefit of the least developed countries, and activities in relation to AIDS and its social and economic impact. At the World Bank, projects on population, health and social development were being increasingly integrated. Instead of free-standing family planning and population policy projects, recent interventions strove to integrate family planning, health, education and nutrition in multisectoral social development projects. Similar connections are being made with Safe Motherhood interventions.

B. The role and status of women

32. Until the most recent restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the Secretariat, the focal unit for activities concerning the role and status of women was the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Office at Vienna. Its functions were absorbed by the new Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development. Nevertheless, during the period 1990-1991, the Centre was in charge of analysing the rights and status of women, monitoring the progress made in integrating women into the process of development and reviewing and appraising the progress made towards achieving the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women and the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women. Preparatory work is

/...

being undertaken for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, scheduled for 1995.

33. The Statistical Division of the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy analysis prepared special databases of indicators related to the situation of women. The United Nations Microcomputer Women's Indicators and Statistics Data Base (WISTAT) was developed with support from UNFPA. The Population Division completed three case-studies (India, 9/ Mexico 10/ and Pakistan 11/) that analyse the relationship between the status of women and fertility in specified socio-cultural settings. The Division also undertook a study on the demographic profile of the living arrangements of women and their children in developing countries.

34. Special emphasis was given to incorporating work on the role and status of women into the population programmes of the regional commissions and the programme of work of organs and programmes of the various entities of the United Nations. Activities concerning the improvement of the socio-economic condition of women were undertaken by ECLAC in cooperation with different public and private organizations from different countries (e.g., Chile, Costa Rica and Panama). A meeting on family, women and demographic dynamics was organized by UNICEF, UNESCO, the Latin American and the Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (at ECLAC in Santiago, Chile), FAO and the Regional Employment Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean at which 14 countries reported on the situation of the family in their respective countries. In addition, ECLAC, in cooperation with INSTRAW, organized a workshop for producers and users of statistics on women.

35. Among the organization of the United Nations, WFP reports that training and employment were the primary areas of activity and that WFP food was used to promote enrolment and the attendance of girls in primary, secondary and technical schools. It is estimated that over one half of the resources allocated to the WFP development projects in 1990-1991 were for support of activities aimed at women. INSTRAW programmes dealt with the role and status of women, one of which focused on statistics and indicators on women. INSTRAW promoted research and training activities aimed at addressing the long-standing problem of women's invisibility in statistical systems. During the biennium, a report on improving concepts and methods for statistics and indicators on the situation of elderly women was produced. The report is to be expanded to include living arrangements of elderly women, migration and households, widowhood, educational facilities and programmes for elderly women, economic participation, and existing economic and social support for elderly women.

36. UNESCO was involved in the preparation of studies on the family and women in Asia and the Pacific, migrant women in metropolises and a pilot project to integrate marginalized women. WHO set up focal points for women, health and development in the regional offices and in a number of countries that participated in WHO activities related to the role and status of women. WHO also organized technical and regional meetings on women's leadership in health and development and technical discussions on the role of women in health and development during the World Health Assembly in 1992.

/...

C. Development of population policies

37. Within the Secretariat, the Population Division carries out the biennial monitoring of national policies, maintains a population policy data bank and conducts research and analysis in that area. Since 1990, the Population Division has prepared two databases on population policy issues: one on the world's 100 largest agglomerations; and the other, a population policy database. In addition, a project on the status of women and population policies is under way; two studies that are part of the project, on nuptiality and abortion policies, have been completed.

38. In relation to the preparatory activities for the International Conference on Population and Development, the regional commissions convened regional population conferences and meetings. Those conferences and meetings reviewed experiences during the preceding decade and adopted plans, programmes or recommendations for the next decade. Those regional instruments are intended to provide guidelines for the formulation of national population and development policies.

39. Virtually all of the regional commissions supported some activities related to the analysis of governmental actions affecting population variables and, with the exception of ECE, all of the commissions provided assistance to their member States in the formulation of their population policies. ECLAC organized several meetings and seminars on population policies and was concerned with the interrelations of population policies and other social policies, particularly within the context of decentralization of policy decisions. ESCAP provided regional advisory services in support to countries in developing and implementing population policies and programmes.

D. Population goals and policies

Population growth

40. The work done in this area is usually part of other activities, such as population projections, population and development and population policies, or is carried out through consideration of the components of population growth (fertility, mortality and migration). The Population Division published the 1992 revision of its biennial series of global population estimates and projections; a magnetic tape and IBM-PC compatible diskettes were issued. The Division also published long-range population projections to the year 2150 for regions and major areas.

41. In the regional commissions, ECLAC focused on developing, executing and teaching methodologies for national population estimates and projections and efforts were made to improve the existing procedures, develop tools to facilitate work and extend those activities to smaller geographical levels.

Morbidity and mortality

42. Within the Secretariat, the Population Division completed a study on levels and trends in child mortality since the 1960s. The work done in that area

/...

within the regional commissions included comparative research analyses and assistance to countries in the collection and analysis of their data. In many cases, research in mortality was an ingredient of other population activities, such as estimations and projections, or was linked to research on other demographic variables. ECLAC carried out a number of studies, mainly in Central America and the Caribbean, on childhood mortality, with emphasis on the risk factors of childhood and maternal mortality and the changes in the epidemiological profile of the population. At ECA, studies were conducted on mortality patterns, trends, differentials and life-table analysis. Guidelines for evaluating relationships between infant and childhood mortality and socio-economic factors were formulated.

43. Among the organizations of the United Nations system, WHO was the most active in the field. During the biennium 1990-1991, WHO developed multicentre operational research studies for improving safe-motherhood, including training packages in essential obstetrics to strengthen the first referral level. Guidelines in the training of traditional birth attendants (TBA) were prepared in order to ensure safe delivery practices by TBA and improve family planning services. WHO continued its efforts to reduce morbidity and mortality from parasitic infections, childhood infectious diseases and diarrhoeal diseases and placed a greater emphasis on maternal morbidity and mortality through a variety of activities.

44. The most prominent of UNICEF's activities during 1990-1991 was the first World Summit for Children. A commitment was made at the Summit to try to end child deaths and child malnutrition by the year 2000 and to provide basic protection for the normal physical and mental development of all the world's children. That overall goal was broken down into more than 20 specific targets listed in the Plan of Action agreed upon by the 159 countries represented at the Summit. The World Food Programme provided assistance for vulnerable groups when it undertook projects using food aid to encourage greater and more regular attendance of mothers and young children at health centres. At the end of 1991, projects in that sector accounted for 13 per cent of ongoing WFP development activities. The majority of the projects involved specific targeting of pregnant and lactating women.

Reproduction and the family

45. The work of the Secretariat in that area centred on research and analysis. The Population Division undertook studies on the effects that changes in reproductive behaviour had on child survival, a cross-national comparative study on women's education and fertility behaviour, patterns of fertility in low-fertility settings and patterns of contraceptive use.

46. Among the regional commissions, in order to improve family planning programme design and implementation at the grass-roots level, ESCAP started a study on the interaction between clients and grass-roots workers. A study on the accessibility of contraceptive methods was also undertaken. ECLAC carried out 11 case-studies in selected official and MCH/FP non-governmental organizations on management information systems (MIS). Evaluation reports will be prepared for each country, with suggestions for MIS improvement. ECA's work in the area of reproduction and the family included a statistical compendium on

/...

contraceptive prevalence and practice and projects on the relative roles of MCH care and family planning programmes, proximate determinants and socio-economic correlates influencing fertility and guidelines for improving delivery and evaluation of population and family planning programmes.

47. Among the specialized agencies, the WHO Adolescent Health Programme carried out a range of activities at the country and regional levels to contribute to the general understanding of young people's sexual and reproductive behaviour and to involve young people in the planning of services that responded to their specific needs. Efforts to develop and strengthen partnership with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations continued. In addition, the Research Programme in Human Reproduction continued its efforts in the advancement of contraceptive technologies and in social and behavioural research related to human reproduction. Joint efforts between WHO headquarters and its regional offices were made to strengthen the management of family planning services through the production and dissemination of contraception management guidelines and management training at district level.

Population distribution and internal migration

48. In addition to the studies on agglomerations mentioned above, the Population Division completed a set of global estimates and projections of urban and rural populations, including large urban agglomerations. In addition, a manual for preparing migration data for subnational population projections 12/ and a working paper on urban and rural populations by sex and age were completed. 13/ The Population Division prepared brief overviews of policy issues in the world's largest agglomerations. More in-depth research on the formulation, implementation and evaluation of population policies and plans were undertaken in a series of studies on mega-cities. An expert group meeting on the feminization of internal migration was convened in 1991, and the proceedings of that meeting were published. 14/

49. In 1992, ESCAP conducted a seminar on migration and urbanization: interrelationships with socio-economic development and evolving policy issues. A project on small-town and rural human resources development to reduce migration to large cities was begun. The purpose was to make recommendations on policies that achieved balanced population distribution among rural areas, towns and cities, and develop suitable employment opportunities. In addition, ESCAP carried out a project which investigated the problems of rapid growth of urbanization, particularly the growth of mega-cities in the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam. Based on the findings of the country studies, a regional comparative study will be undertaken to identify the relationships between migration, urbanization and socio-economic structure and to derive policy and programme guidelines to decelerate immigration to mega-cities and improve condition of the urban migrants. ECLAC conducted studies on the trends in the spatial distribution of the population, urbanization and internal migration for 11 countries.

50. WFP provided support for resettlement programmes (over \$11 million for 1990-1991) and assistance to prolonged refugee operations and displaced persons (\$897.4 million for 1990-1991). The United Nations University (UNU), taking as its focus housing for the urban populations that will increase rapidly in the

/...

next few decades, undertook a set of specific activities within its project on alternative rural/urban configurations. The project was aimed at defining critical policy-relevant research, creating appropriate linkages among academics and United Nations agencies and disseminating relevant research findings to policy makers and the academic community. In October 1990, UNU and the Population Division jointly sponsored the Symposium on the Mega-city and the Future.

International migration

51. Activities of the Secretariat, carried out by the Population Division, included a study on refugee movements since 1985 and an expert group meeting on international migration and the status of female migrants. The data bank on international migration is being updated. Among the regional commissions, ECLAC is conducting a study on international migration of Latin Americans, especially technological transfer and the migration of professionals. ECA is studying the socio-economic and demographic consequences of refugee movements.

52. Among other United Nations entities, UNU is studying the implications of global and regional population dynamics for development, environment, political order and human welfare to assess the consequences of population growth, the implication of differences between population growth rates in developed and developing countries and issues related to changing demographic composition and population distribution. The second phase of the project on the implications of demographic change (UNU/ILO Asian Regional Project on International Labour Migration) was launched in July 1990. A preparatory workshop was held in Thailand on the impact of structural economic adjustment in Asia on international labour flows.

Population structure

53. Within the Secretariat, the Population Division completed a study on the demographic and socio-economic consequences of demographic ageing in selected developing countries. The proceedings of the International Conference on Ageing Populations in the Context of the Family was published. ^{15/} ESCAP and the Japanese Organization for International Cooperation in Family Planning, conducted a workshop on population ageing in 1991. At ECA a project to evaluate age/sex data from recent population censuses was undertaken. Projects on the basic needs of the aged, health in the third age and the socio-economic profile of the elderly were undertaken by ECLAC.

E. Promotion of knowledge and policy

Data collection and analysis

54. Within the Secretariat, the work of the Statistical Division focused primarily on the 1990 world population and housing census programme and on further improvements in civil registration and vital statistics. UNFPA was a major source of financial assistance in that area. In 1991, UNFPA allocated \$14.5 million in support of population censuses, \$2.3 million to conduct sample surveys through country projects and \$2 million in support of projects to

/...

establish or strengthen civil registration and vital statistics systems. The assistance covered such areas as technical advisory services, equipment and training.

55. ECLAC provided technical advice for the 1990 round of censuses in the region. It included the preparation of census questionnaires, taking experimental censuses, and the use of population information at subnational levels. ECLAC also worked on the development of REtrieval of DAta for small Areas by Microcomputer (REDATAM) 3.1 Software, which makes it possible to store an entire census on an ordinary microcomputer, quickly define any area of interest and then produce results with any variables combining data from household and population, as required. REDATAM PLUS is linked with the Geographic Information System (GIS) developed during 1991.

Research

56. The preceding sections of the present report make mention of a number of research activities being carried out by various entities of the United Nations system. In addition, the Population Division, UNFPA, ILO, FAO and the World Bank provided assistance to countries for the purpose of building up their research capabilities. Of particular importance is the WHO Programme of Research Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction, the objective of which is to develop and test new contraceptive technology and to assess all socio-cultural factors affecting the acceptance of family planning.

Management, training, information, education and communication

57. Among the regional commissions, ESCAP reported having a project on the improvement of family planning management information systems. A diagnostic survey of the service statistics system in seven countries (Fiji, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines and Viet Nam) was completed. The methodologies developed in certain states/provinces of China and India were adopted for use in other states/provinces in those two countries. It is expected that over the next five to seven years, such systems will replace many of the existing systems in those countries.

58. ESCAP mentioned training in the use of microcomputers for demographic analysis, data processing and family planning evaluation. At ECLAC, about 650 Latin American and Caribbean professionals participated in courses, workshops and seminars to improve national institutional capabilities. In 1990, CELADE's post-graduate course in population dynamics and development came to an end, and in 1991 the training programme in Spanish (supported by UNFPA) started, using the experience and infrastructure of CELADE.

59. In the area of population information dissemination, all units and programmes of the system have activities aimed at disseminating guidelines, research results, intergovernmental agreements and provisions. Those with identifiable population programmes participate in the Population Information Network (POPIN), which coordinates population information activities at the regional and global levels. The period 1985-1992 had been of comparative stagnation for global POPIN since the Network lacked a coordinator and had severely limited extrabudgetary funding. Among the regional commissions, ESCAP

/...

reported that the Asia-Pacific POPIN Steering Committee met in Bangkok in 1991. At ECLAC, the establishment of the Latin American and the Caribbean Population Information Network (IPALCA) had put in communication various independent national institutions that use the technical and information products of the regional CELADE/DOCPAL system and database on CD-ROM. The network permits the creation of national capabilities using the MicroISIS system developed by UNESCO.

Notes

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

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).

3/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8).

4/ Projection Methods for Integrating Population Variables into Development Planning. Module Three: Techniques for Preparing Projections of Household and Other Incomes, Household Consumption and Savings and Government Consumption and Investment (ST/ESA/SER.R/90/Add.1).

5/ Population and Development Projection Methods for Microcomputers: A User's Guide (ST/ESA/SER.R/123).

6/ Integrating Development and Population Planning in India (ST/ESA/SER.R/114).

7/ Integrating Development and Population Planning in Thailand (ST/ESA/SER.R/110).

8/ Integrating Development and Population Planning in Turkey (ST/ESA/SER.R/112).

9/ Women's Education and Fertility Behaviour: A Case-study of Rural Maharashtra, India (ST/ESA/SER.R/134).

10/ The Fertility Transition and Women's Life Course in Mexico (ST/ESA/SER.R/136).

11/ Women's Status and Fertility in Pakistan: Recent Evidence (ST/ESA/SER.R/135).

12/ Preparing Migration Data for Subnational Population Projections (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.92.XIII.6).

13/ "Urban and rural areas by sex and age: the 1992 revision"
(ESA/P/WP.120).

14/ Feminization of Internal Migration of Women in Developing Countries:
Proceedings of the United Nations Expert Group Meeting on the Feminization of
Internal Migration, Aguascalientes, Mexico, 22-25 October 1992 (United Nations
publication, Sales No. E.94.XIII.3).

15/ Ageing and the Family: Proceedings of the United Nations
International Conference on Ageing Populations in the Context of the Family,
Kitakyushu (Japan), 15-19 October 1990 (ST/ESA/SER.R/124).
