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### Commission on Population and Development

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**Programme implementation and future programme of work  
of the Secretariat in the field of population**

### **Programme implementation and progress of work in the field of population in 2002: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs**

#### **Report of the Secretary-General**

#### *Summary*

The present report reviews the progress achieved by the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat in implementing its programme of work in the field of population in 2002. It covers the activities of the Population Division dealing with the analysis of fertility, mortality and migration; world population estimates and projections; population policies and population ageing; population and development; monitoring, coordination and dissemination of population information; and technical cooperation in population. In addition, other continuing activities of the Population Division are also described.

**The Commission may wish to take note of this report.**

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\* E/CN.9/2003/1.

## Contents

	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Page</i>
Introduction .....	1–3	3
I. Fertility and family planning .....	4–6	4
II. Mortality and health .....	7–8	5
III. International migration .....	9–11	6
IV. Internal migration .....	12	6
V. World population projections .....	13–19	7
A. World population estimates and projections: the <i>2002 Revision</i> .....	13–18	7
B. World Urbanization Prospects: the 2001 Revision .....	19	8
VI. Population policies .....	20–23	8
VII. Population ageing .....	24–25	9
VIII. Population and development .....	26–29	10
IX. Monitoring, coordination and dissemination of population information .....	30–33	11
A. Monitoring of population trends and policies .....	30	11
B. Population web sites .....	31–33	12
X. Technical cooperation .....	34–37	12
Annex		
Publications, expert group meetings and other materials prepared or organized by the Population Division, 2002 .....		15

## Introduction

1. Population activities in the United Nations Secretariat are centred in the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. As described in the Secretary-General's bulletin on the organization of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (ST/SGB/1997/9), the core functions of the Division are as follows:

(a) Providing accurate and timely data, information and analyses of population trends and policies; and identifying new and emerging issues, and initiating studies thereof, in support of the Commission on Population and Development, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, other intergovernmental bodies and the international community;

(b) Serving as substantive secretariat to the Commission on Population and Development, including the monitoring and review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development;<sup>1</sup>

(c) Promoting coordination among United Nations entities in the field of population;

(d) Preparing the official United Nations population estimates and projections, which serve as the standard figures on population for use throughout the United Nations system;

(e) Taking the lead in the development and maintenance of population information systems and networks;

(f) Providing advisory services to assist Governments in improving their institutional and technical capabilities for the analysis of population data and related information, the formulation of national policies and the implementation and evaluation of programmes;

(g) Preparing reports of the Secretary-General to the Commission on Population and Development, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly;

(h) Preparing analytical reports, in-depth studies, background papers, briefing notes and talking points on population-related issues before the international community for the Secretary-General and his senior officials;

(i) Maintaining contacts with non-governmental organizations and academic institutions throughout the world; organizing working groups, meetings of experts, and symposiums on population issues; and participating in seminars and professional meetings relating to the mandate of the Division.

2. The present report deals with the research and technical cooperation work and information activities carried out by the Population Division during 2002. The work programme for the biennium 2002-2003 was formulated and implemented within the basic framework set forth in the medium-term plan for the period 2000-2005, taking into account the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development held in 1994, the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly at which the Assembly adopted the key actions for the further

implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development<sup>2</sup> and other relevant international conferences.

3. The Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs continued to collaborate closely with agencies, funds, programmes and other bodies of the United Nations system in the implementation of the work programme and in connection with the follow-up activities to the International Conference on Population and Development. United Nations missions, national government offices, United Nations offices, researchers and the public regularly consult the Population Division regarding data and information on population and development issues.

## **I. Fertility and family planning**

4. The report on “Partnership and Reproductive Behaviour in Low-Fertility Countries” (ESA/P/WP.177) has been issued. The analysis shows that while all low-fertility societies share fundamental societal features, many of their socio-economic and cultural characteristics vary and thus shape the demographic differences, in regard to, for example, the forms of conjugal unions, the age at marriage and the age at birth, the proportion formally married, the proportion of women who stay childless and the parity structure of childbearing. During the last decades of the twentieth century, the family as a social institution changed. The age at marriage rose everywhere with the exception of Eastern Europe; in several Western countries, it approached 30 years. The total first marriage rate in nearly all countries had dropped from the average of 0.9-1.0 per woman in 1970 to 0.6-0.7 per woman by the end of the century, implying that formal marriage was less prevalent. The new forms of partnership, such as stable and prolonged cohabitation, proliferated in most countries of Northern and Western Europe and the United States of America. Fertility patterns are associated with changes in partnership behaviour: the age at childbearing rose and births within stable cohabiting unions, wherever they were common, partly compensated for the depressing impact of recent nuptiality trends. Developed countries differ by parity structure of recent fertility declines. In some regions, declines in third and higher-order births constituted a decisive factor in fertility decline. In other regions, in particular Northern Europe, rising childlessness was the major component of fertility decline during the last three decades of the twentieth century. Current incidence of childlessness varies in a very wide range from 5 per cent in Eastern Asia to 20 per cent in the United States and almost 30 per cent in Germany. However, even in Eastern Asia, first-order fertility rates of about 0.7 children per woman imply significant increases of the proportion of childless women in the future.

5. A report on the levels and trends of contraceptive use as assessed in 2002 is being finalized. Preliminary results show that world contraceptive prevalence — the proportion currently using contraception among married or in-union women of reproductive age — reached 61 per cent in 1997, up from a level of 58 per cent in 1993. In the more developed world, contraceptive prevalence averages 69 per cent. In the less developed world, it averages 59 per cent but wide disparities exist among its major areas: prevalence ranges from only 25 per cent in Africa to 64 per cent in Asia and 69 per cent in Latin America and the Caribbean. Most users of contraception rely on modern methods. While modern methods account for the great majority of instances of current contraceptive use in the less developed world — 92 per cent — they account for only 81 per cent of instances of use in the more

developed world. This is due largely to the higher reliance on traditional methods (primarily withdrawal) in some parts of Europe (Eastern and Southern Europe). In Europe, 27 per cent of contraceptive users rely on traditional methods, compared with 20 per cent in Africa, 8 per cent in Asia, 13 per cent in Latin America and the Caribbean, 7 per cent in Northern America and 8 per cent in Oceania. Female sterilization, intrauterine devices and the oral pill are the three most used methods in the world. The present report is partly based on data from the wall chart on *World Contraceptive Use 2001*,<sup>3</sup> which was issued in March 2002.

6. An ongoing study shows that some of the most remarkable demographic and social changes have been in marriage, both in the proportions married and the age at which people marry and in the extent to which marriage ends in widowhood and divorce. A steady increase in the age at marriage to at least 26 years for men and 22 years for women has occurred during the past four decades in all major areas of the world. The proportion of currently married men aged 20-24 years has fallen below 20 per cent in Europe, Northern America and Latin America and the Caribbean, whereas in Africa and Asia it has fallen to just below 60 per cent. The proportion married among adolescent women (ages 15-19) also continues to decline, particularly in Africa and Asia, although it is still high there — 25 per cent and 15 per cent respectively. The exception is Latin America and Caribbean where the declining trend in the proportions married among adolescent women has reversed or stalled in the recent past. Marital disruptions and dissolutions have increased at all ages and in all regions, except Asia, where they have steadily decreased over the past four decades. These changes in marriage patterns partially account for the fertility decline that has occurred especially in the developing countries. While most of the decline in the average number of births per woman in the past two decades is attributed to changes in marital fertility, changes in marriage patterns account for 21 per cent of the fertility decline in Africa, 26 per cent in Asia and 8 per cent in Latin America and the Caribbean.

## **II. Mortality and health**

7. The manual on the estimation of adult mortality, which was published in July 2002 as “Methods for Estimating Adult Mortality” (ESA/P/WP.175), presents methodologies and approaches for estimating adult mortality in contexts where reliable civil registration is not available. The manual discusses and presents applications of census survival methods, methods utilizing intercensal deaths, and methods based on information on the survivorship of parents and siblings. In addition, work is under way on the preparation of a workshop on adult mortality and human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), scheduled for July 2003. This workshop will have experts explaining the methods developed for measuring adult mortality in developing countries, in the face of weak empirical sources. The experts will also analyse the impact of HIV/AIDS on mortality, and give regional pictures of adult mortality in the era of HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on Africa.

8. Work has continued on the preparation of the report on infant and child mortality. The report will present, for each country, information on sources of data, estimates for both sexes combined, estimates specific to males and females, a graphical illustration of trends, and, where applicable, the output from the application of indirect methods.

### III. International migration

9. The Population Division finalized its report entitled “International Migration from Countries with Economies in Transition: 1980-1999” and published it in September 2002 as a working paper (ESA/P/WP.176). This document presents and analyses immigration and emigration data since 1980, as recorded by 45 countries, by country of origin and by country of destination, for the countries of Eastern Europe, the successor States of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), the successor States of the former Yugoslavia, and Albania. Globally, it shows that, in 1980-1984, a total of 1.2 million people moved from countries with economies in transition to countries with established market economies. The flows increased to 2.7 million in 1985-1989, and to 6.0 million in 1990-1994, before diminishing to 3.3 million in 1995-1998.

10. The Population Division organized a Coordination Meeting on International Migration on 11 and 12 July 2002, and produce a document entitled “International Migration Report, 2002”. The meeting brought together participants from international, intergovernmental and other relevant organizations to discuss issues related to the collection and exchange of information on international migration, and to facilitate coordination of activities within the United Nations system and among other relevant international, regional and national organizations concerned with international migration issues. All the papers and a full report of the meeting, including conclusions reached by the participants, were made available on the Population Division web site, and the report has been issued as document ESA/P/WP.178.

11. The Population Division has issued a wall chart entitled *International Migration, 2002*,<sup>4</sup> and an analytical report entitled *International Migration Report, 2002*, which bring together its research in the areas of population policies, population estimates and projections, and migration flows.<sup>5</sup> The wall chart and the report present the latest available key information on international migration for all countries and regions of the world, including estimates on migrant stock, net migration flows, refugees and workers’ remittances. These estimates are supplemented with information concerning Governments’ views and policies on international migration and the status of ratification by countries of United Nations instruments regarding international migration. The data show that, in the year 2000, about 175 million persons were residing in a country other than that in which they had been born. Among them, 16 million were refugees. It also shows that, during 1995-2000, the more developed regions gained, on average, 2.3 million migrants each year from the less developed regions. In 2001, 44 per cent of developed countries had policies aimed at lowering immigration levels, as did 39 per cent of developing countries. The wall chart and the report are also available on the Population Division web site (<http://www.unpopulation.org>).

### IV. Internal migration

12. Work has started on analysing patterns and trends of internal migration, based on data from Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS). The report thereon will examine sex differentials of patterns, outcomes and determinants of the different types of migration. It is expected that the report will be published in 2003.

## V. World population projections

### A. World population estimates and projections: the 2002 Revision

13. The Population Division, with the support of the MacArthur Foundation, convened the United Nations Expert Group Meeting on Completing the Fertility Transition at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 11 to 14 March 2002. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss guidelines for projection of fertility change for the 2002 Revision, particularly for intermediate-fertility countries, defined as countries with total fertility between 2.1 and 5 children per woman in 1995-2000.

14. The proposed guidelines stipulate that fertility in the intermediate-fertility countries will decline to 1.85 children per woman by 2050, rather than to 2.1 children per woman as indicated in the current guidelines. This is a momentous change, both because of the large population of the intermediate-fertility countries (43 per cent of world population in 2000) and because of the many implications of sustained below-replacement fertility.

15. Over 40 population experts, representing all regions of the world, attended the four-day meeting. After considerable discussion, the experts generally endorsed the revised guidelines for the projection of fertility in intermediate-fertility countries. The experts stressed, however, that because of the moderately high levels of fertility in these countries, and also because of the population momentum resulting from nearly a century of rapid population growth, world population is expected to add another 3 billion persons over the next 50 years.

16. This report of the meeting is being published as a special issue of the *Population Bulletin of the United Nations*. The report will provide a summary record of the meeting, including the agenda, organization of work, list of participants, list of documents, and summaries of the 30 papers presented and of the discussions that occurred during the meeting. This report, and the background and country papers presented at the meeting, are available online at the Population Division web site (<http://www.unpopulation.org>).

17. The methodology for projecting fertility in the *World Population Prospects: The 2002 Revision* was revised in light of the discussions held at the Expert Group Meeting. In line with the conclusions of that meeting, total fertility in the medium variant was allowed to drop below replacement level by 2050 for most developing countries with total fertility estimated at or below 5 children per woman in 1995-2000. The results of the 2002 Revision were issued in a draft report entitled "World Population Prospects: The 2002 Revision: Highlights" (ESA/P/WP.180). They have also been made available through an interactive database accessible over the Internet. It is expected that the full results of the 2002 Revision will be published in two volumes. Volume one will present comprehensive tables and volume two will be devoted to the presentation of the sex and age distributions of the population. Dissemination of the full set of estimates and projections will be effected via the preparation of a CD-ROM, which will contain not only all the data printed in volumes one and two but also the results of additional projection scenarios (for example, the zero-migration and constant-mortality scenarios) and those of scenarios with varying assumptions about the future of the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

18. The *2002 Revision* incorporates explicitly the impact of HIV/AIDS for 47 countries and uses the revised methodology developed by the Joint United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (UNAIDS) to estimate and project the impact of the epidemic. Seven different projection variants are included in the *2002 Revision* for all countries, four of which vary exclusively with respect to the path that fertility is assumed to follow in the future. In the medium variant, total fertility is assumed to reach 1.85 children per woman by 2050 for the majority of countries. The exceptions are mostly countries whose total fertility was well above 6 children per woman in 1995-2000. In the high variant, total fertility is assumed to reach a level 0.5 children above that reached by the medium variant; and in the low variant, total fertility is assumed to reach a level 0.5 children below that reached by the medium variant. In the constant-fertility variant, fertility is kept constant at the level estimated for 1995-2000. This variant is calculated for comparison purposes. Similarly, a zero-migration scenario that incorporates the same fertility and mortality assumptions as the medium variant but whose international migration is set at zero as of 2000 is available for comparison purposes. In addition, a constant-mortality scenario where mortality remains constant during 2000-2050 at the level attained in 1995-2000 and an instant-replacement scenario where, starting in 2000, total fertility levels are set at true replacement level for each country have also been produced. In addition, for countries highly affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic, a NO-AIDS scenario allows for an assessment of the demographic impact of the epidemic.

## **B. World Urbanization Prospects: The 2001 Revision**

19. The full report on the results of "World Urbanization Prospects: The 2001 Revision" (ESA/P/WP.173) was completed and published. Two wall charts, *Urban and Rural Areas, 2001*,<sup>6</sup> and *Urban Agglomerations, 2001*<sup>7</sup> were issued. Data were also disseminated in digital form via two data sets on diskette: Urban and Rural Areas, 1950-2030 (POP/DB/WUP/Rev.2001/1) and Urban Agglomerations, 1950-2015 (POP/DB/WUP/Rev.2001/2). Development of the database on city and urban populations has continued. The database has been extended to include the definitions underlying the city and urban data, to ensure consistency over time and allow, eventually, the estimation of indicators according to different definitions. The Population Division is working in close collaboration with the Demographic and Social Statistics Branch of the United Nations Statistics Division to expand the collection of relevant information on urban and city populations from countries.

## **VI. Population policies**

20. *National Population Policies, 2001*<sup>8</sup> was completed and published during 2002. The publication contains the most comprehensive and up-to-date information available on the population policy situation for all States Members and non-member States of the United Nations. Revised and updated on a biennial basis, the publication provides an overview of population policies and dynamics at mid-decade for the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s and for 2001. Included in the publication is information on national population policies in relation to population growth, fertility, health and mortality, international migration and spatial distribution. The study found that the most significant demographic concern in the world among



Governments is HIV/AIDS. Other major concerns include low fertility and population ageing in developed countries, and high population growth, and infant, child and maternal mortality in developing countries. The publication was issued in three formats: a hard-copy version, a CD-ROM version and a web-based download version.

21. Also during 2002, on the occasion of the first anniversary of the special session of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS, *HIV/AIDS: Awareness and Behaviour*<sup>9</sup> was issued. The study, available in English and French, examines HIV/AIDS awareness and behaviour in 39 developing countries. The publication provides a picture of HIV- and AIDS-related awareness and behaviour across countries and population groups, age and gender. Information about risk-related behaviours, their determinants and the context within which they occur has direct relevance for the effective targeting of AIDS prevention efforts. Among the major findings was that, despite the widespread awareness of HIV/AIDS in many countries, behaviour remains risky. In addition, it was found that women are generally less knowledgeable than men about HIV/AIDS, and that this is likely to be related to the status of women and the sensitivity of sexual matters in many cultures. This publication complements a previous publication, the wall chart entitled *HIV/AIDS: Population Impact and Policies, 2001*.<sup>10</sup>

22. A study on international migration policies entitled “International migration: explicit policies, uncertain consequences” was prepared and presented at the United Nations Coordination Meeting on International Migration (11 and 12 July 2002). In providing a broad overview of international migration policies, the study found that migration policies since the 1970s may have had both short-term and longer-term consequences for migratory movements, not all of which were anticipated or desired.

23. Two additional studies were undertaken and completed during 2002. A study on “Views and policies concerning population growth and fertility among Governments in intermediate-fertility countries” was prepared for the United Nations Expert Group Meeting on Completing the Fertility Transition (11-14 March 2002). One of the major conclusions of the paper was that the majority of intermediate-fertility countries (total fertility rate between 2.1 and 5.0) have policies to reduce fertility, and that these policies often include a variety of incentives and disincentives to influence fertility. Also, a study on “Governments’ views and policies on contraception” was prepared for the forthcoming publication *World Contraceptive Use, 2002*. The study found that Governments’ views and policies have changed considerably during the last three decades and that these changes have played an important role in the shift in reproductive behaviour. In general, countries with a long tradition of support for family planning programmes have higher contraceptive prevalence rates than countries that have only recently begun to support such efforts.

## VII. Population ageing

24. The proceedings of a Technical Meeting on Population Ageing and Living Arrangements of Older Persons have been issued in English, French and Spanish as a special issue of the *Population Bulletin of the United Nations*.<sup>11</sup> The volume in English appeared during 2001. The meeting brought together experts from different

world regions to consider the most pressing issues concerning population ageing and the living arrangements of older persons, historical and cultural contexts, the social process through which living arrangements of older persons influence the demand for formal and informal support, and how Governments respond to those needs. A separate study on patterns, trends, and social and economic correlates of living arrangements of older persons worldwide is being finalized for publication during 2003.

25. Also in the area of ageing, two publications that were issued early in 2002 — *World Population Ageing, 1950-2050*<sup>12</sup> and the wall chart *Population Ageing, 2002*<sup>13</sup> — were made available to participants at the Second World Assembly on Ageing (Madrid, April 2002) as well as at the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Ministerial Conference on Ageing (Berlin, September 2002) and other meetings. A special mail distribution was also carried out using the mailing list maintained by the United Nations Programme on Ageing, as well as through the usual routes of distribution to individuals and institutions inscribed on the mailing lists of the Population Division. These publications provide a global and regional overview and national information about population ageing and prospects through 2050. Topics covered include the demographic determinants of population ageing, the magnitude and speed of population ageing, the changing balance among various age groups, the demographic profile of the older population, including differences by gender, and some of the socio-economic characteristics of the older population. These publications show that the ageing of populations that is currently under way is a pervasive, unprecedented and enduring process with profound social and economic implications. Between 1950 and 2000, the number of persons aged 60 years or over tripled worldwide. By the middle of the twenty-first century, the number will have tripled again, to nearly 2 billion older persons. In the more developed regions, almost one fifth of the population was aged 60 years or over in the year 2000; by 2050, this proportion is expected to reach one third. In the less developed regions, only 8 per cent of the population is currently over age 60; however, by 2050, older persons will make up nearly 20 per cent of the population. Since the pace of population ageing is much faster in developing countries than in developed countries, developing countries will have less time to adjust to the consequences of population ageing. Moreover, population ageing in developing countries is taking place at much lower levels of socio-economic development than has been the case in developed countries.

## **VIII. Population and development**

26. The database on Population, Resources, Environment and Development (PRED Bank, version 3) was released on CD-ROM in early 2002 and has since been widely distributed to training institutions and researchers in developing countries and, through sales, to researchers and teaching institutions in developed countries. The new version has global coverage; the selection of variables has been revised; and a new user interface was developed for data retrieval, export and printing. The PRED Bank includes selected indicators from the *2000 Revision* of the population estimates and projections and other Population Division data, as well as economic, social and environmental indicators from other United Nations offices and international organizations. Work has begun on the next version of the databank,

which will incorporate data from the *2002 Revision* of the population estimates and projections and updated data from other sources.

27. A study is under preparation on the socio-economic and developmental impact of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in developing countries, especially sub-Saharan Africa. The study will provide a literature review and assessment of research findings dealing with the impacts of the epidemic. The study is expected to be finalized during 2003.

28. The study provides a critical review of the socio-economic and developmental impact of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa. Since the onset of the pandemic in the early 1980s, research has shown that the HIV/AIDS epidemic is having and will continue to have an impact not only on the demography of the affected countries (mortality, fertility, age structure, population growth rates and the like) but also on their social and economic development. However, some of the results come from anecdotal reporting whereas others are derived from more sophisticated tools of measurement and analysis of the impact of the disease. Hence, this study takes a critical look at the methodology used to derive the results in respect of the impact of HIV/AIDS on households, firms, agriculture, health, education, and the macroeconomy.

29. Research has documented that the HIV/AIDS epidemic is having a detrimental impact on households, which are the first units affected by the disease. The death of the breadwinner may lead to the impoverishment of the household. Children are being taken out of school to care for ill parents or for financial reasons. The HIV/AIDS epidemic is also having a sizeable impact on the labour force, costs and productivity of business firms in the areas with high HIV prevalence. The impact of HIV/AIDS on agriculture is also considerable in the most affected countries. Indeed, the impact in this sector will be far-reaching and threatens the future food security of areas or entire countries. The health sector is often heavily impacted by HIV/AIDS. The increase in the number of persons seeking medical services and the higher costs of health care for AIDS patients are crippling the already inadequate health systems of the most affected countries in the developing regions. The sector is also losing its personnel because of the disease, higher costs and AIDS-related stress of the medical staff. In the education sector, the pool of qualified teachers is also shrinking in countries or areas with high HIV prevalence. Overall, the impact of HIV/AIDS on economy and development is likely to intensify in the near future in the most affected countries.

## **IX. Monitoring, coordination and dissemination of population information**

### **A. Monitoring of population trends and policies**

30. During 2002, the Population Division prepared the latest edition of its annual report, "World Population Monitoring" (ESA/P/WP.179). The topic of the report is "Population, education and development" as decided by the Commission on Population and Development in its decision 2000/1. The report provides recent information on the interrelationships between population and education and their implications for development. It covers topics such as trends in population, education and development; education and entry into reproductive life; the

interrelationships between education and fertility; the interrelationships between education and health and mortality; education and international migration; and progress in achieving the goals of education for all.

## **B. Population web sites**

### **1. Population Division web site (<http://www.unpopulation.org>)**

31. During 2002, the Population Division continued to update and expand its web site. The Population Division web site, among other things, provides information about new Population Division research publications. All or selected parts of a publication appear as well as highlights, key findings, proceedings of meetings and wall charts. Examples of new items on the Population Division web site are reports on international migration, world urbanization prospects, national population policies, HIV/AIDS, contraceptive use, population ageing and abortion policies. The web site also includes documents of the Commission on Population and Development.

### **2. Population Information Network (<http://www.un.org/popin>)**

32. The activities related to the Population Information Network (POPIN) were in 2002 integrated into the technical cooperation programme of the Population Division. Following an extensive process of redevelopment, the POPIN web site (<http://www.un.org/popin>) was relaunched in January 2002 as a portal to the wealth of population information and data available throughout the United Nations system. Maintenance and further development are undertaken on a continuing basis, to ensure that broken links are promptly repaired and that new online population resources offered by the United Nations and the specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations system are reflected in the POPIN web site as soon as they go online. The development of the site continues to be guided, also, by the objective of providing a portal that is simple, well structured and easy to navigate for users in developing countries with very slow and expensive Internet connections.

33. The analysis of the server logs that track the traffic to the POPIN web site shows that POPIN is a major channel for the dissemination of the population information generated by the United Nations, with an annual number of pages visited in excess of half a million.

## **X. Technical cooperation**

34. The Population Division continued to focus its technical cooperation programme on activities designed to strengthen population research and teaching institutions in developing countries. Major strategic objectives of these activities are: (a) to build capacity in developing countries for effective use of the Internet for population research and training and to encourage proper institutionalization of new information and communication technologies in population centres; (b) to promote cooperation among population institutions in the South and enhance the visibility of their work; and (c) to ensure that the results of the analytical and normative activities of the Division are relayed to stakeholders in developing countries.

35. The Population Division has initiated and continues to support and develop three networks of population research and training institutions, each of them having a web site and an electronic discussion group. Demoneta (<http://www.demoneta.org>) serves primarily a set of francophone institutions in six countries of Western Africa and has continued to benefit from additional support from French institutions. Another network, DemoNetAsia (<http://www.demonetasia.org>), comprises eight population institutions in Asia. Its web site includes one of the most comprehensive portals to online resources for population research worldwide. Initially conceived as a tool for the scholars of the DemoNetAsia institutions, this portal is very widely consulted by visitors from Europe and North America and thus contributes to enhancing the visibility of the DemoNetAsia institutions. The DemoNetAsia electronic discussion forum has some 90 registered members and serves mostly as a bulletin board for the posting of information on new and useful online demographic resources. A third network, Redeluso (<http://www.redeluso.org>), caters to population specialists in the eight Portuguese-speaking countries of Latin America, Europe, Africa and Asia. It offers convenient access to population-related resources (statistical data, institutions, documents, international cooperation information) that are available online for each of the eight countries.

36. A mission was undertaken to Togo to provide technical assistance to the Demographic Research Unit of the University of Lomé and to plan for further collaborative activities that could be carried out in the context of Demoneta. The mission was carried out jointly with the office of the Institute of Research for Development (IRD) in the Niger. One of the needs that the mission identified at the regional level concerned the management of the catalogues of the documentation centres in the Demoneta institutions. Planning for a training workshop on WIN-ISIS and WWW-ISIS — library management software developed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) — was carried out; the workshop will be hosted by the University of Lomé in early 2003 and will benefit librarians and information technology specialists from Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, the Niger and Togo.

37. The Population Division has continued to implement its Outreach Programme, which seeks to associate promising population students and young researchers from developing countries to some of its analytical activities. In 2002, four young scholars from Brazil, India, Kenya and Zimbabwe participated in a special training programme designed for them around the Expert Group Meeting on the prospects of fertility decline in intermediate-fertility countries.

## Notes

<sup>1</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>2</sup> General Assembly resolution S-21/2 of 2 July 1999, annex.

<sup>3</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.XIII.7 and Corr.1.

<sup>4</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.XIII.3.

<sup>5</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.XIII.4.

<sup>6</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.XIII.10.

<sup>7</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.XIII.9.

<sup>8</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.XIII.12.

<sup>9</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.XIII.8.

<sup>10</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.01.XIII.6.

<sup>11</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.01.XIII.16.

<sup>12</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.XIII.3.

<sup>13</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.XIII.2.

## Annex

### **Publications, expert group meetings and other materials prepared or organized by the Population Division, 2002**

#### **Expert group meetings**

United Nations Expert Group Meeting on Completing the Fertility Transition, 11-14 March 2002, New York.

Coordination Meeting on International Migration, 11 and 12 July 2002, New York.

#### **Research studies**

*Abortion Policies: A Global Review, Volume III, Oman to Zimbabwe.* ST/ESA/SER.A/196. Sales No. E.02.XIII.5.

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The Newsletter is issued biannually to provide, to a wide readership, information on the programme activities of the Population Division; on action taken by legislative bodies with competence in the population field; and on meetings on population and related issues organized by the Population Division and other United Nations organizations, as well as on recent and forthcoming publications of the Population Division.

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