

APPENDIX E

EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISIONS 1998

98/4. ITEM 3: UNFPA COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

Approved the following country and subregional programmes:

Paraguay (DP/FPA/CP/195)

China (DP/FPA/CP/196)

Nicaragua (DP/FPA/CP/197)

Egypt (DP/FPA/CP/198)

Algeria (DP/FPA/CP/199)

Pacific subregion (DP/FPA/CP/200)

Requested the Executive Director to report regularly to the Executive Board on the implementation of significant elements of the above programmes, including progress in meeting the principles and goals of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.

23 January 1998

98/5. UNDP/UNFPA REPORTS TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

1. **Takes note** of the reports to the Economic and Social Council (DP/1998/14 and Corr.1 and DP/FPA/1998/2 and Corr.1 (French only)) and of the recommendations therein and decides to transmit them to the Economic and Social Council, together with the comments made by delegations and statements and answers given by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund at the present session;

2. **Calls on** the Administrator and Executive Director to provide in future reports to the Economic and Social Council: a thorough analysis of problems encountered and lessons learned in the field; a focus on issues that will permit the Council to fulfil its coordinating role; and, in this context, to present relevant statistical data in a consolidated manner;

3. **Invites** the Administrator and Executive Director to consult with other members of the United Nations Development Group on a consolidated list of issues central to the improved coordination of operational activities for submission to and consideration by the Economic and Social Council during its 1998 substantive session;

4. **Also invites** the Economic and Social Council to recommend, at its 1998 substantive session, actions intended to increase the usefulness of these reports as inputs to the deliberations of the Economic and Social Council, as called for in General Assembly resolution 48/162, by, *inter alia*, considering whether any issues in the current format are suitable for joint recommendations by the funds and programmes.

24 April 1998

98/6. UNFPA TECHNICAL SUPPORT SERVICES

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

1. **Takes note** of the *Report on an Assessment of the Technical Support Services (TSS) Specialist Posts at Headquarters and Regional Levels* (an independent evaluation report prepared for the United Nations Population Fund in 1997) and of the report of the Executive Director on the UNFPA technical support services system (DP/FPA/1997/16), submitted to the Executive Board at its third regular session 1997, and in light of Executive Board decision 97/27;

2. **Authorizes** the continued funding of the TSS specialist

posts until 31 December 1999 as proposed in document DP/FPA/1997/16;

3. **Requests** the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund to continue actively to seek workable solutions to the concerns raised in the independent evaluation report in dialogue with partner organizations, in particular on coordination, accountability, the communication between the three levels of the system and advocacy function of TSS specialists in the partner organizations;
4. **Also requests** the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund to submit at the second regular session 1999 a brief progress report on the effectiveness of the improvements that have been implemented in the operation of the TSS system since the third regular session 1997;
5. **Invites** the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund, in light of the recommendations arising from the ICPD+5 process and in consultation with partner agencies, to develop future options for
- (a) providing specialist support and advice to country support teams and country programmes through arrangements that utilize the best expertise available within the United Nations system and from other sources and
- (b) enhancing the involvement and contribution of relevant United Nations specialized agencies in taking forward and promoting the ICPD agenda;
6. **Requests** the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund to present these proposals in a report, including an analysis of the financial and budgetary aspects, to the Executive Board at its third regular session in 1999.

24 April 1998

98/7. RESOURCE MOBILIZATION STRATEGY FOR THE UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

1. **Takes note** of the report of the Executive Director on *Mobilizing Resources Now and for the Future: UNFPA's Strategy* (DP/FPA/1998/CRP.2);
2. **Invites** the Executive Director to update the conference room paper on *Mobilizing Resources Now and for the Future: UNFPA's Strategy* (DP/FPA/1998/CRP.2) and to report to the Executive Board at its annual session 1998;
3. **Requests** the Executive Director to organize informal intersessional meetings of the Board with a view to reviewing various funding mechanisms for the United Nations Population Fund and also requests the Executive Director to report to the Board on progress made in the informal intersessional meetings with a view to adopting at its third regular session 1998 a decision on a sustainable funding strategy that will place the funding of the United Nations Population Fund on a predictable, assured and continuous basis so as to enable it to play a central role in the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.

24 April 1998

98/8. APPROVAL OF RECRUITMENT OF COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

1. **Recalls** Executive Board decision 97/26;
2. **Takes note** of the Executive Director's comments together with the comments made by delegations on this matter;
3. **Authorizes** the Executive Director of UNFPA to begin recruitment of seven country representatives, as proposed in decision 97/26, in line with the availability of resources;
4. **Requests** the Executive Director to table in writing a financial update to the Board at its annual session.

24 April 1998

98/9. ITEM 4: UNFPA COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

Approved the following country programmes:

I

Assistance to the Government of Botswana (DP/FPA/BWA/3);
Assistance to the Government of Cameroon (DP/FPA/CMR/3);
Assistance to the Government of Equatorial Guinea (DP/FPA/GNQ/3);
Assistance to the Government of Ethiopia (DP/FPA/ETH/4);
Assistance to the Government of Gabon (DP/FPA/GAB/3);
Assistance to the Government of Guinea-Bissau (DP/FPA/GNB/3);
Assistance to the Government of Lesotho (DP/FPA/LSO/3);
Assistance to the Government of Mali (DP/FPA/MLI/4);
Assistance to the Government of Mauritania (DP/FPA/MRT/4);
Assistance to the Government of Mozambique (DP/FPA/MOZ/5);
Assistance to the Government of Niger (DP/FPA/NER/4);
Assistance to the Government of Rwanda (DP/FPA/RWA/4);
Assistance to the Government of Sao Tome and Principe (DP/FPA/STP/3);
Assistance to the Government of South Africa (DP/FPA/SAF/1);
Assistance to the Government of Swaziland (DP/FPA/SWZ/3);

II

Assistance to the Government of Jordan (DP/FPA/JOR/5);
Assistance to the Government of Yemen (DP/FPA/YEM/2);

III

Assistance to the Government of Bangladesh (DP/FPA/BGD/5);
Assistance to the Government of Bhutan (DP/FPA/BTN/3);
Assistance to the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DP/FPA/PRK/3);
Extension of assistance to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran (DP/FPA/IRN/2/EXT1);
Assistance to the Government of Maldives (DP/FPA/MDV/2);
Assistance to the Government of Papua New Guinea (DP/FPA/PNG/2);
Assistance to the Government of Thailand (DP/FPA/THA/7);

IV

Assistance to the Government of Bolivia (DP/FPA/BOL/2);
Assistance to the Government of Brazil (DP/FPA/BRA/2);
Assistance to the Government of Colombia (DP/FPA/COL/3);

24 April 1998

98/10. UNFPA: ABSORPTIVE CAPACITY

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

1. **Takes note** of the report of the Executive Director on absorptive capacity and financial resource utilization in programme countries (DP/FPA/1998/4);
2. **Also takes note** of the importance of South/South cooperation in enhancing absorptive capacity;
3. **Further takes note** of the need to enhance, where appropriate, the role of civil society organizations and the private sector;
4. **Endorses** the actions already taken to increase the absorptive capacity and resource utilization in programme countries, including, *inter alia*, training and the issuance and implementation of the new *UNFPA Policies and Procedures Manual*;
5. **Endorses** the recommendations for further developing absorptive capacity and resource utilization in programme countries contained in document DP/FPA/1998/4;
6. **Urges** the Executive Director to take the steps necessary to implement the recommendations contained in document DP/FPA/1998/4, bearing in mind the comments made by delegations at the 1998 annual session;

7. **Requests** the Executive Director to report to the Executive Board on follow-up to the recommendations contained in document DP/FPA/1998/4 at its third regular session 2000.

12 June 1998

98/11. UNFPA WORK PLAN FOR 1999-2002 AND PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

1. **Notes** programme resource planning proposals of the Executive Director as set out in document DP/FPA/1998/5 and as revised by the Deputy Executive Director at the annual session 1998;
2. **Approves** the request for 1999 programme expenditure authority at a level equal to expected new programmable resources for 1999, currently estimated at \$263 million, and requests the Executive Director to report to the Executive Board on any significant increases or shortfalls in estimated income for the year 1999;
3. **Notes** the following estimates of new programmable resources from regular resources for programme planning for the period 2000-2002: \$283 million for 2000; \$303 million for 2001; and \$325 million for 2002;
4. **Requests** the Executive Director to take steps to evolve the work plan into a more focused, analytical and outcome-orientated document;
5. **Invites** the Executive Director in formulating the work plan for 2000-2003 to increase the proportion of programmable resources.

12 June 1998

98/12. UNFPA: EVALUATION

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

1. **Welcomes** the report of the Executive Director on United Nations Population Fund evaluation activities (DP/FPA/1998/6) and the progress made by the United Nations Population Fund in revising its monitoring and evaluation guidelines, which emphasize effectiveness and outputs;
2. **Encourages** the United Nations Population Fund to continue its efforts to enhance the analytical content of the periodic report on evaluation activities, particularly in regard to outcomes, achievements and lessons learned;
3. **Requests** the Executive Director actively to seek opportunities to undertake joint evaluations, where appropriate, with partner organizations and governments;
4. **Also requests** that efforts be made to increase further the percentage of external evaluations and to continue to report to the Executive Board on progress made towards this objective in the periodic report on evaluation activities;
5. **Requests** the Executive Director to include in the periodic report on evaluation activities, starting in the year 2000, an annex providing a record and analysis of evaluation compliance for all country programmes completed in the previous biennium in line with the evaluation work plan of the United Nations Population Fund.

12 June 1998

98/21. UNFPA: REVISIONS TO THE FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

- Approves** the revisions to the United Nations Population Fund Financial Regulations as contained in paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of document DP/FPA/1998/10, with amendments to Regulation 4.14(g) and Regulation 5.4, as follows:
- (a) **Regulation 4.14(g)**: Amounts otherwise designated to be credited to the biennial support budget, including, *inter alia*, income derived from UNFPA support costs and net

income relating to procurement services provided to third parties;

- (b) **Regulation 5.4:** Funds received by UNFPA under Regulation 14.6 for procurement of supplies, equipment and services on behalf and at the request of Governments, specialized agencies or other intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations shall be treated as trust funds. The income relating to procurement services provided to third parties shall be used to meet the direct cost of these services. At the close of a biennium, any excess of income shall be credited to the biennial support budget.

16 September 1998

98/22. UNFPA MULTI-BILATERAL TRUST-FUND ARRANGEMENTS

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

1. **Welcomes** the report on the review of multi-bilateral trust-fund arrangements prepared in response to Executive Board decision 97/26 (DP/FPA/1998/11);
2. **Reaffirms** the principle of additionality and complementarity of multi-bilateral funding on the understanding that it will not impinge on the general resources of the Fund;
3. **Endorses** the principle of full cost-recovery for multi-bilateral assistance based on charges for managerial and support services and administrative and operational support;
4. **Also endorses** the establishment of a managerial and support services charge to be levied at a rate of 5 per cent on all multi-bilateral activities, as set out in document DP/FPA/1998/11;
5. **Accepts**, as an interim measure, the proposed increase in administrative and operational support costs from the present rate of 5 per cent to the proposed rate of 7.5 per cent;
6. **Requests** the Executive Director to develop a methodology for full cost identification and recovery;
7. **Also requests** the Executive Director to quantify the level of charges for administrative and operational support, as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Operations in its report contained in document DP/1998/37-DP/FPA/1998/14, and to report thereon to the Executive Board with a view to adopting a final decision on administrative and operational support costs at its third regular session 1999;
8. **Decides** that the new cost-recovery arrangements shall be effective from 1 January 1999 and shall apply to new agreements as of that date.

22 September 1998

98/24. UNFPA FUNDING STRATEGY

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

1. **Reaffirms** the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities of the United Nations Development system, which are, *inter alia*, universality, neutrality, multilateralism, and its voluntary and grant nature, fully respecting the priorities of programme countries and responding to the needs of developing countries in a flexible manner;
2. **Welcomes** the effective role of UNFPA in advocating for and implementing programmes and activities in full accordance with its mandate and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and emphasizes the need for predictable, timely payments and increased funding to enhance the capacity of UNFPA to contribute to the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action;
3. **Stresses** the need for a funding strategy based on a concept of collective ownership, partnership and shared interests with differentiated responsibilities that is programme-driven and that encourages a collective partnership with programme and donor countries, lending institutions, the private sector and foundations;
4. **Also stresses** the important opportunity offered by the five-year review of the implementation of the ICPD

Programme of Action in reinvigorating international commitment to the Programme of Action, including to mobilize financial support, based on an analysis of progress made, lessons learned and obstacles encountered, and recalls the resource goals as foreseen in the ICPD Programme of Action;

5. **Recognizes** the clear and focused mandate and programme priorities of UNFPA and the Fund's clear and focused resource allocation system, which is based on a country's level of achievement of ICPD goals and gives special attention to least developed countries, low-income countries and Africa;
6. **Reiterates** that core resources are the bedrock of UNFPA and are essential to maintaining the multilateral nature of the Fund's assistance;
7. **Recognizes** that an effective and visible programme is essential for resource mobilization and, while recognizing the commendable efforts of UNFPA to date in this area, urges the Fund to continue to expand its advocacy and institutional profile at the national and international level in order to illustrate better the importance of its work and of the impact and effectiveness of its programmes;
8. **Also recognizes** the importance for UNFPA of non-core resources and the work of non-state actors in mobilizing resources;
9. **Adopts** for UNFPA a programme-driven total resource goal of \$400 million for 1999; requests the Executive Director, with the support of all the members of the Fund, to make every effort to reach this goal by mobilizing resources from all sources, including donor and programme countries, foundations, and the private sector; and decides to review this goal in September 1999 with a view to deciding goals for future years;
10. **Recognizes** that overdependence on a limited number of donors carries risks for the long-term financial sustainability of UNFPA and urges all donors and programme countries in a position to do so to increase their contributions to core resources;
11. **Decides**, in this context, that UNFPA shall:
 - (a) Develop a multi-year funding framework that integrates programme objectives, resources, budget and outcomes, with the objective of increasing core resources, taking into account the following principles:
 - (i) This framework shall maintain the order of priorities and the mandate of UNFPA as determined by the Executive Board;
 - (ii) This framework shall not introduce any conditionality nor result in distortions in priorities or changes in the current system of resource allocation;
 - (iii) The allocation of additional core resources that may be mobilized by the multi-year funding framework shall be consistent with programming guidelines determined by the Executive Board, and priority must be given to programmes;
 - (b) Designate the second regular session of the Executive Board, starting tentatively with the second regular session 1999, as the time when all member countries would:
 - (i) Announce their voluntary core contributions to UNFPA as follows: a firm funding commitment for the current year; for those in a position to do so, a firm contribution or indication of the contribution for the following year and a firm or tentative contribution for the third year;
 - (ii) Announce payment schedules for the current year; early payments should be encouraged;
 - (iii) Review the record of actual core contributions as well as the timing of payments made in the previous calendar year;
12. **Decides** to initiate a fully participative, transparent, open-ended consultative process between the UNFPA secretariat and the States members of UNFPA for designing a multi-year funding framework based on the principles as outlined in paragraph 11 of the present decision and on the modalities for the announcement of

contributions with a view to holding the first such meeting as stipulated in paragraph 11(b) of the present decision;

13. **Requests** the Executive Director, on the basis of these consultations, to submit to the Executive Board a report on the multi-year funding framework for consideration at its second regular session 1999.

23 September 1998

98/25. ITEM 10: SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

Took note of the progress report on UNFPA support to Partners in Population and Development (DP/FPA/1998/13) and approved the continuing working relationship between UNFPA and the Partners in Population and Development as contained in the report.

ITEM 11: UNFPA COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

Approved the extensions of the following country programmes:

Extension of Assistance to the Government of Pakistan (DP/FPA/PAK/5/EXT 1);

Extension of Assistance to the Government of the Philippines (DP/FPA/PHI/4/EXT 1);

Extension of Assistance to the Governments of Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan (DP/FPA/KATTUK/1/EXT 1);

Took note of the oral report on the UNFPA Global Initiative on Contraceptive Requirements and Logistics Management Needs in Developing Countries, including the private sector initiative.

ITEM 12: COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,

Took note of the report on the first meeting of the WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA Coordinating Committee on Health (DP/FPA/1998/CRP.4) and the comments thereon, and endorsed the Committee's terms of reference as contained in the report.

23 September 1998