



Call for National Committees

Call for

National Committees

Dr. Nafis Sadik, Conference Secretary-General, has called upon all Governments to set up national committees for the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994.

The national committees will serve as focal points for the 1994 Conference, and will facilitate national preparations including the preparation of a national report on population. Guidelines for preparing the report will shortly be distributed to Permanent Missions to the United Nations. The reports should address the population situation, policies and programmes unique to each country, including maternal and child health/family planning programmes and services; population information and education; women, population and development programmes; population policy formulation and processes; and other issues, including, but not limited to, population and the environment, youth, AIDS, aging, resource mobilization and funding. The reports will be useful in disseminating information and experiences among countries.

The National Committees will also manage awareness creation and public information activities for the Conference.



ECOSOC Resolution

Economic and Social Council Resolution 1991/93
International Conference on Population and Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 3344 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974 on the United Nations World Population Conference, 37/14 B of 16 November 1982 on Secretariat organization for United Nations special conferences, 39/228 of 18 December 1984 on the International Conference on Population, 44/210 of 22 December 1989 on future needs in the field of population, including the development of resource requirements for international population assistance, S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, containing the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, 45/199 of 21 December 1990, containing the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 45/206 of 21 December 1990 on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s and 45/216 of 21 December 1990 on population and development

Recalling also its resolution 1989/91 of 26 July 1989, in which it decided to convene an international meeting on population in 1994, under the auspices of the United Nations

Noting with satisfaction the appointment of the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund as Secretary-General of the 1994 international meeting on population and of the Director of the Population

Division of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs as
the Deputy Secretary-General of the meeting

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on preparations for a
1994 intentional meeting on population 1/ and the progress made in the
preparations for the meeting

Emphasizing the national sovereignty of all countries in formulating,
adopting and Implementing their population policies, mindful of their
culture, values and traditions, as well as of their social, economic and
political conditions, and consistent with human rights and with the
responsibilities of individuals, couples and families,

1. Decides that the meeting should henceforth be called the International
Conference on Population and Development

2. Invites the Secretary-General of the Conference and all concerned organs,
organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in carrying out the
preparatory activities of the Conference, to draw on the guidelines provided
in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in the
Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing
Countries, 2/ and the International Development Strategy for the Fourth
United Nations Development Decade, 3/ as well as on the results of the
Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, 4/ the
United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the
International Forum on Population in the Twenty-first Century, 5/ and to
draw on other recent major intergovernmental instruments and meetings;

3. Decides that the objectives of the Conference should be:

(a) To contribute to the review and appraisal of the progress made h1
reaching the objectives goals and recommendations of the World Population

Plan of Action 6/ and to identify the obstacles encountered;

(b) To identify instruments and mechanisms in order to ensure the operational implementation of the recommendations

(c) To maintain and strengthen the level of awareness of population issues on the international agenda and their linkage to development

(d) To consider the desired focus of intensified action at the global, regional and national levels, as well as all necessary ways and means of treating population issues in their proper development perspective during the forthcoming decade and beyond

(e) To adopt a set of recommendations for the next decade in order to respond to the population and development issues of high priority identified in paragraph 4 below;

(f) To enhance the mobilization of resources needed, especially in developing countries, for the implementation of the results of the Conference, resources should be mobilized at the international and national levels by each country according to its capacity

4 Emphasizes that population, sustained economic growth and sustainable development will be the overall theme of the Conference and identifies within that theme the following groups of issues, which are not listed in any order of priority, as those requiring the greatest attention, during the forthcoming decade, from the international community and from the Conference:

(a) Population growth, changes in demographic structure, including ageing of population, and the regional diversity of such changes, with particular emphasis on the interaction between demographic variables and socio-economic development;

(b) Population policies and programmes, with emphasis on the mobilization of resources for developing countries, at the international and national levels by each country according to its capacity-

(c) The interrelationships between population, development environment and related matters

(d) Changes in the distribution of population, including socio-economic determinants of internal migration and the consequences for urban and rural development, as well as determinants and consequences of all types of international migration

e Linkages between enhancing the roles and socio-economic status of women and population dynamics, including adolescent motherhood maternal and child health, education and employment, with particular reference to the access of women to resources and the provision of services;

(f) Family-planning programmes, health and family well-being; 5. Stresses the need, in connection with foregoing issues, to take account of the particular circumstances of the least developed countries-

6. Authorizes the Secretary-General of the Conference to convene six expert group meetings corresponding to the six groups of issues identified in paragraph 4 above, in order to provide the required input for consideration by the Conference, ensuring the participation of a full range of relevant disciplines and or geographical regions

7. Requests the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation to provide overall guidance, orientation and coordination of the input from the appropriate secretariats of the United Nations system to the preparatory activities of the Conference

8. Requests the Secretary-General of the Conference to make use of the substantive contribution of all organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system concerned, as well as of intergovernmental and non-government organizations, in the preparatory activities for the Conference-

9. Also requests the Secretary-General of the Conference to make full use of

the existing resources of all units of the United Nations system concerned, in particular the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs and the United Nations Population Fund;

10. Invites the regional commissions to convene as soon as possible meetings or conferences to review the experience gained in population policies and programmes in their regions, in the light of paragraphs 3 and 4 above, bearing in mind the relationship between such policies and programmes and development issues, and to propose future action, as part of their contribution to the preparatory activities for the Conference-

11. Requests the Secretary-General of the Conference to report to the Economic and Social Council at its regular sessions of 1992, 1993 and 1994 on the progress made in all aspects of the preparatory activities for the Conference

12. Also requests the Secretary-General of the Conference to report to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development on the status of the preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development;

13. Decides, in principle, to hold the second session of the Preparatory Committee in August 1993, immediately following the rescheduled twenty-seventh session of the Population Commission, to review the state of the preparatory work, including the reports of the expert groups on their meetings;

14. Also decides, in principle, to hold the third session of the Preparatory Committee early in 1994 to review the documentation for the Conference, including the draft recommendations

15. Recommends that the General Assembly consider establishing a voluntary fund for the purpose of supporting the developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, in participating fully and effectively in the Conference and its preparatory process and that it invite Governments to contribute to such a fund

16. Requests the Conference to report to the Economic and Social Council and to the General Assembly.

32nd plenary meeting, 26 July 1991

1/ E/1 991/5.

2/ general Assembly resolution S-18/3.

3/ General Assembly resolution 45/199.

4/ A /45/695.

5/ See Report of the International Forum on population in the Twenty-first Century, Amsterdam the Netherlands 6-9 November 1 989 (New York, UNFPA, 1989)

6/ Report of the United Nations ~==~

19i4 United Nations publication, Sales No. E. 75.XIIL3), chap. 1.

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Egypt's Population Soars

Egypt's Population Soars to 57 Million--But Growth Slows

Egypt's influential daily newspaper, Al-Ahram, recently cited National Population Council statistics indicating that Egypt's population had reached 57.8 million on 1 January 1992, including 2.5 million expatriates.

Dr. Maher Mahran, the Council's chairman, said the total is expected to jump to 67 million by the year 2000 and hit the 70 million mark in the next ten years.

Mahran pointed out that the Government has been sounding warnings about the consequences of rapid population growth and established the National Population Council to deal with the problem. He took comfort in the fact that the pace of the

population explosion has shown signs of slowing down during the past few years. "We have placed our feet on the right path and this should give rise to relative optimism," Mahran said.

He said that in 1987 the population of Egypt increased by one million every seven months but the increase in 1989 had slowed down to one million every nine months. The annual increase was 1.7 million in 1988 but dropped to 1.4 million in 1989 and to 1.3 million in 1990. The annual rate of increase was 2.4 per cent. Mahran ascribed the relative decline in population growth to the spread of family planning services.

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Environment Experts in New York

Environment Experts Meet in New York

The first of the six expert group meetings, part of the preparatory process for the upcoming International Conference on Population and Development, 1994, was held at United Nations Headquarters from 20 to 24 January 1992. Leading experts, policy makers and observers from all parts of the world met to discuss the complex interrelationships between population, environment and resources and how they affect economic development.

In her opening statement, Dr. Nafis Sadik, Secretary-General of the Conference, said that the convening of the meeting was an important first step in formulating a relevant agenda for the 1994 Conference. Dr. Sadik stressed the importance of population issues in achieving sustainable development, and said that it was particularly appropriate that critical linkages between population, environment and development be examined in light of disturbing demographic problems. She noted that population issues are now being given due recognition in global environmental fora.

Mr. Shunichi Inoue, Deputy Secretary-General of the Conference called for special attention to the policy implications of the environment-population nexus.

Professor George Benneh of Ghana was elected chairman. In his address, he emphasized the importance of the recommendations that the group would make to the Preparatory Committee for the 1994 Conference, which should be as concrete and as operational as possible. Ms. Maria Concepcion Cruz (Philippines), Ms. Charlotte Hohn (Germany) and Mr. Pedro Jacobi (Brazil)

served as vice chairpersons. Ms. Hohn also chaired the Recommendations Drafting Committee .

Papers were presented on population aspects of environmental issues. Background papers were also submitted by UN agencies and organizations, regional commissions, NGOs and policy makers.

One of the key topics was the linkage between population and the deterioration of the environment. Human activity always has an impact on the environment, and can be expressed in the formula $I = P \times A \times T$, with I being the impact of human activities on the environment; P being population; A being per-capita consumption (determined by income and lifestyle); and T being environmentally harmful technology that supplies A. The three factors P, A and T interact in a multiplicative fashion. Whatever the size of A and T, the role of P is bound to be significant even when a population (numbers, growth rates, distribution) is relatively small. For any type of technology, for any given level of consumption or waste, for any given level of poverty, the more people there are, the greater is the overall impact on the environment.

This equation illustrates how the developed countries (large A and T multipliers) and the developing countries (large P factor) can have an enormous impact on the environment. Some participants however suggested that the real relationships between population and the environment were more complex than the equation suggests.

The experts also pointed out that the stress on the environment caused by those factors may result in a "threshold effect" of irreversible damage. For example, most people in the developing world depend on fuel wood and charcoal for their daily energy needs. As long as the number of wood

collectors does not exceed the capacity of the tree stock to replenish itself through regrowth, the local community can exploit the resource indefinitely. But when the number of collectors grows until they finally exceed the selfrenewing capacity of the trees, even if only by a small amount, suddenly a point is reached where the tree stock starts to decline.

Critical environmental limitations have become increasingly apparent, the expert group concluded. It will become increasingly difficult to continue to use technological "fixes" to deal with environmental problems.

Participants adopted 18 recommendations which will be submitted to the Conference's Second Preparatory Committee in August 1993.

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Experts Debate Women's Position

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The Expert Group Meeting on Women and Population will take place in Gaborone, Botswana from 22-26 June 1992. The meeting will focus on linkages between the role and socio-economic status of women and population dynamics. The sessions will address the following topics: women's health and mortality; women, fertility and family planning; the demographic impact of educating girls; women's economic activity and fertility behaviour; and, women, population and the environment.

The meeting will bring together experts from developing and developed countries having both research and operational experience in the area of women, population and development. Permeating all the discussions will be a consideration of women's position in various societies, how their situations have been changing and the aspects of those changes that are associated with recent demographic trends. It is expected that the exchanges at this meeting will lead to the formulation of recommendations, based on practical experience and scientifically grounded research, to be forwarded to the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994.

The Expert Group Meeting will be opened by the Honourable Festus Mogae, Vice President and Minister of Finance and Planning. Dr. Nafis Sadik, the Secretary General of the 1994 Conference, will address the opening session. The Honourable Patrick Balopi, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, will preside at the closing ceremony.

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Focal Points for Expert Groups

Focal Points for the Expert Group Meetings

Population Division

UNFPA

Population Policies and Programmes

Ms. Ellen Brennan

Mr.

Mohammed Nizamuddin

Programmes

Cairo, Egypt, 12-16 April 1992

Population and Women

Ms. Mary-Beth Weinberger

Ms.

Catherine Pierce

Gaborone, Botswana, 22-26 June 1992

Family Planning, Health and Family Well-Being

Dr. Aminur Rahman Khan

Dr. Nicholas Dodd

Bangalore, India, 26-30 October 1992

Population growth and Demographic Structure Mr. Joseph Chamie

Mr.

Gerardo Gonzalez

Paris, France, 16-20

November 1992

Population Distribution and Migration

Ms. Birgitta Bucht

Mr. Michael Vlassoff

Lima, Peru, 18-22 January 1993

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ICPD Focal Points

Designated ICPD Focal Points

within the United Nations System

UNIT/ORG.	NAME AND TITLE
ECA	Mr. Ahmed Bahri, Chief, Population Division
ECE	Mr. Miroslav Macura, Chief, Population Activities Unit
ECLAC	Mr. Reynaldo Bajraj, Chief, Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE)
ESCAP	Mr. Nibhon Debavalya, Chief, Population Division
ESCWA	Mr. Yousef Gemayel, Senior Population Affairs Officer
FAO	Mr. Joop Alberts, Population Programme Coordinator
Habitat	Mr. Pietro Garau, Chief Settlement Planning and Policies Section Research and Development Division
IFAD	Mr. Atiqur Rahman, Senior Economist, Policy and Planning Division
ILO	Mr. Ghazi Farooq, Coordinator, Population Activities, Employment Planning and Population Branch

UNEP Mr. Uttam Dabholkar, Chief, Development Planning
and Cooperation Unit

UNESCO Mr. Raul Urzua, Director, Population and Human
Settlements Division and Coordinator, Population
Programmes

UNHCR Mr. T. Ali, Senior Population Analyst

UNICEF Mr. Paul Altesman, Director, United Nations Affairs,
and Special Assistant to the Executive Director, or
Dr. Nyi Nyi, Director, Programme Division, and Dr.
Ranjit Atapattu, Senior Adviser, Primary Health Care

UNOV Mr. Jacques du Guerny, Senior Social Affairs Officer,
Division for the Advancement of Women

WFP Ms. Darlene Bisson, Programme Adviser, Project
Design Service

WHO Dr. Hu Ching-Li, Asst. Director-General

World Bank Dr. Anthony R. Measham, Chief, Population, Health
and Nutrition Division, Population, Youth Human
Resources Department



Key to Acronyms

Key to Acronyms

ACC	Administrative Committee on Coordination
CONGO	Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council
DESD	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Development
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ECOSOC	United Nations Economic and Social Council
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations

Habitat	United Nations Centre for Human Settlements
ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development, 1994
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IGO	Intergovernmental Organization
ILO	International Labour Organisation
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNOV	United Nations Office at Vienna
WFP	World Food Programme

WHO

World Health Organization

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Lima to host Migration Experts

Lima To Host Migration Experts

Lima, Peru will be the site of the United Nations Expert Group meeting on Population Distribution and Migration. The meeting, which will take place from 18 to 22 January 1993, will analyse the causes and implications of recent population movements. The meeting is expected to draft recommendations for consideration at the 1994 Conference.

The challenges of the urban-based world of the future and the stresses posed by rapid rates of urbanization in much of the developing world will be high on the agenda. The meeting will single out national policies which have the most beneficial effect on the balance of population for both rural sending areas and urban receiving ones.

Another critical issue is the potential for large-scale international migration. Regional conflicts have led to large increases in the numbers of refugees and asylum seekers. At the same time environmental and economic pressures are stimulating migration. These issues will be examined and strategies suggested to relieve migratory pressures through international cooperation. Discussions will take place within the framework of the international conventions which guarantee basic human rights for all people.

The meeting is being organized by the Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Development in consultation with the United Nations Population Fund.

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Looking Ahead

LOOKING AHEAD . .

1992

¥ 12-16 April Expert Group Meeting on Population Policies and Programmes;
Cairo, Egypt

¥ 22-26 June Expert Group Meeting on Population and Women; Gaborone,
Botswana

¥ July (Dates to be determined) ACC Ad hoc Task Force Meeting; United
Nations Headquarters, New York

¥ 19-27 August Fourth Asian and Pacific Population Conference; Denpasar,
Indonesia; jointly organized by ESCAP and UNFPA

¥ 26-30 October Expert Group Meeting on Family Planning, Health and Family
Well-being; Bangalore, India

¥ 16-20 November Expert Group Meeting on Population Growth and Demographic
Structure; Paris, France

¥ November (dates to be determined) Third African Population Conference;
Dakar, Senegal; jointly organized by ECA and UNFPA

1993

¥ 18-22 January Expert Group Meeting on Population Distribution and Migration; Lima, Peru

¥ 23-26 March 1993 European Population Conference; Geneva, Switzerland; jointly organized by ECE, Council of Europe and UNFPA

¥ May/June (dates and place to be determined) Regional Population Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean; jointly organized by ECLAC and UNFPA

¥ Spring (dates and place to be determined) Regional Population Conference for the Arab World; jointly organized by ESCWA, the League of Arab States and UNFPA

¥ 16-19 August Second meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994; United Nations Headquarters, New York

1994

¥ February/March (dates to be determined) Third meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994; United Nations Headquarters, New York

¥ Spring (dates and place to be determined) Meetings of Regional Commissions to discuss the results of the regional population conferences and the reports of the Preparatory Committee

Summer (dates and place to be determined) - International Conference on Population and Development, 1994

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Looking Back

LOOKING BACK. . .

1989

¥ 5-28 July ECOSOC, Second regular session of 1989; Geneva;
adoption of resolution 1989/91

1990

¥ June Appointment by the United Nations Secretary General
of Dr. Nafis Sadik, Executive Director of UNFPA as
Secretary-General of the Conference, and of Mr.
Shunichi Inoue, Director of the Population Division, as
Deputy Secretary-General

1991

¥ 4-8 March First Meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the
International Conference on Population and
Development, 1994; United Nations Headquarters, New
York

¥ March Establishment of the NGO Planning Committee for the
International Conference on Population and
Development, 1994

¥ 3-26 July ECOSOC, Second regular session of 1991; Geneva;
Adoption of resolution 1991/93

1992

¥ 20-24 January Expert Group Meeting on Population, Environment and
Development; United Nations Headquarters, New York

¥ 27 January Informal Meeting of the ACC Ad hoc Task Force,
International Conference on Population and Development, 1994; United
Nations Headquarters, New York

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Message from the Secretary

Message from the Secretary-General of the International Conference on
Population

It gives me great pleasure to introduce POPULATION 94, the newsletter of the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994. In the two years leading to this international community abreast of the Conference's important preparatory process and pre-conference activities worldwide.

The United Nations Economic and Social Council's decision in 1989 to convene an international conference on population was a timely response to a demand for action to address the triad of rapid population growth, increasing environmental degradation and pervasive poverty. The international conference will take place at a time of heightened global concern for sustainable development, a time in which a rapidly changing world needs concerted action

No lasting solution to problems of the environment and poverty can be found without resolving population issues. Refining strategic population and development goals, particularly at the operational level, extending the outreach and effectiveness of population programmes, and securing commitments and resources over the long term will pave the way for sustained and sustainable development.

Much has changed since the International Conference on Population in Mexico City in 1984. On the positive side, population policies have been almost universally adopted as integral parts of development issue has largely been

overcome; and developing countries, including those in Africa, now have a decade or more of experience in formulating and adopting population policies. Much progress has also been made in fertility reduction in some parts of the world.

However, success in some countries has fostered some unjustified complacency. Human numbers are growing faster than ever before; stress on the environment continues to increase migratory pressures have grown; and in some regions, efforts to balance population and development have been held up by economic problems.

The International Conference on Population and Development, 1994, will remind the international community that population problems are among the most serious threats to the attainment of sustained growth and sustainable development.

The Conference will address other issues, including continued high rates of population growth in Africa and in parts of Asia and Central America; the role and status of women as critical factors in demographic change and socioeconomic development; the aging of populations and changes in family and household structures; rapid urbanization in the developing world and sharp increases in the number of international migrants and refugees; and finally, the complex interrelationships among populations, resources, environment and development.

The 1994 Conference will strive to transform the heightened awareness of current and emerging population issues into operational strategies for effective and comprehensive programmes. The Economic and Social Council has instructed the Conference to adopt a consolidated and updated set of recommendations to guide the implementation of population policies and programmes. In preparing the draft of these recommendations the World Population Plan of Action the 88 recommendations adopted in Mexico in 1984

for the further implementation of the Plan, as well as other relevant documents will be taken into account. The draft recommendations will be reviewed at the third session of the Preparatory Committee before they are presented to the Conference for its consideration.

The 1994 Conference is not just about policies and goals, demographic change and development at the macro level. It is also about improving the quality of life at the individual level. We must remember the women, men and children throughout the world who suffer from hunger, poor health and premature death; the women and adolescent girls who die or are disabled due to inadequate reproductive health services; the large numbers of children, especially girls, are out of school; the families crowded into urban slums; or the migrants from rural areas whose land holdings have become too fragmented or eroded to provide a living. Making family planning as widely available as possible to both women and men, improving maternal and child health, and advancing women's status, education and options can contribute to slower, more balanced population growth and a sustainable future.

Population change is slow and the beneficial effects of population policies and programmes are felt over the long term. Our challenge is to maintain our commitment over the long term, to ensure a better quality of life for future generations.

I hope that Population 94 will contribute to increased awareness of population issues and to the success of the International Conference on Population and Development,

Dr. Nafis Sadik

Secretary-General

International Conference on Population and Development 1991

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News from the NGOs

News from the NGOs

NGOs are preparing to participate fully in the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994. More than forty NGOs were represented at the first meeting of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (CONGO) Planning Committee for the 1994 Conference which met on 12 March 1992 in New York. To date, more than fifty NGOs have joined the Committee.

The NGO Planning Committee is focusing its attention on facilitating participation in three important activities: the regional population conferences, the preparatory committees and the Conference itself.

Addressing the gathering on 12 March, Mr. David Poindexter, Committee Convener, stressed the importance of population and development issues, and the path finding role that NGOs played in the field of population and development, bringing it to the attention of Governments and continuing to work in partnership with them.

The first of the regional population conferences, the Fourth Asian and Pacific Population Conference, to be held in Denpasar, Indonesia from 19-27 August 1992, will receive the Committee's immediate attention. The Committee is also examining the possibility of holding an NGO Consultation in 1993.

NGOs wishing to receive more information about Planning Committee activities are invited to contact:

Mr. David O. Poindexter, Convener

NGO Planning Committee for the International Conference on Population and
Development, 1994

777 United Nations Plaza Telephone: (212) 687-3366

New York, N.Y. 10017 Fax: (212) 661-4188

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Policy Experts in Cairo

Policy Experts Meet in Cairo

Population policies and programmes will be the main topics of an expert group meeting being convened in Cairo, Egypt from 12-16 April 1992. The meeting, organized by the Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Development in consultation with the United Nations Population Fund, is an integral part of the preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994. The Government of Egypt and the National Population Council will host the gathering at Cairo's ultra-modern International Conference Centre.

The meeting will be the second of six expert group meetings leading to the 1994 Conference. Scholars and public officials from both the developing and developed world, representatives of the United Nations regional commissions, specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations will review population policies and programmes in their regions; present national case studies, discuss the mobilization of resources; and recommend future directions for population activities and their effective integration into the development process.

Prime Minister Atef Sidki of Egypt will deliver the opening address. The Secretary-General of the 1994 Conference, Dr. Nafis Sadik, and the Deputy Secretary-General, Mr. Shunichi Inoue, will also make opening statements.

The meeting will adopt a set of recommendations which will be forwarded to the Preparatory Committee of the 1994 Conference.

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Process Begins

The Process Begins - Background to the International Conference on population and development, 1994

"Population, sustained growth and sustainable development" will be the overall themes of the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994. The Conference is being convened under the auspices of the United Nations, in response to two ECOSOC Resolutions.

The first of these, resolution 1989/91, adopted in July 1989, called for an "international meeting on population that would bring together high-level governmental authorities and population experts and be open to all States as full participants, the specialized agencies and other relevant organizations. The resolution stressed the need for continued attention to population issues at a high policy level and designated the Population Commission, meeting in open-ended session, as the preparatory committee for the meeting.

Meeting at United Nations Headquarters from 4 to 8 March 1991, the Preparatory Committee recommended the adoption of a draft resolution which further defined the objectives and themes of the meeting, identified groups of priority issues, and proposed the convening of six expert group meetings, regional population conferences and two additional sessions of the Preparatory Committee. The draft resolution was adopted by ECOSOC at its second regular session in July 1991 as resolution 1991/93, "International Conference on Population and Development".

Setting Goals

The meeting in 1994 will be the fifth international population conference convened by the United Nations. The first two, in Rome in 1954 and in Belgrade in 1965, were purely technical meetings. In contrast, the two subsequent conferences, the World Population Conference held in Bucharest in 1974 and the International Conference on Population held in Mexico City in 1984, were intergovernmental meetings which set goals and made recommendations in the area of population. The International Conference on Population and Development, 1994, will be the third.

The objectives of the 1994 Conference are: 1) to review and appraise the progress made in reaching the goals and objectives of the World Population Plan of Action adopted at the 1974 Conference; 2) to identify ways to implement the recommendations of the Plan; 3) to increase awareness of population issues on the international agenda; 4) to consider the desired focus of action on population issues; 5) to adopt a set of recommendations for the next decade; and 6) to mobilize the needed resources.

Six groups of issues were also identified in the ECOSOC resolution as requiring the greatest attention: population growth and demographic structure; population policies and programmes; population, environment and development; population distribution and migration; population and women; and family planning, health and family well-being.

These issues will be the topics of six expert group meetings being convened in 1992 and 1993 in order to provide input and an adequate scientific basis for the formulation of recommendations at the Conference.

Regional Conferences

In addition to governments and experts, all relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental

organizations will contribute to the Conference and the preparatory process in their areas of expertise. The Regional Commissions of the United Nations will organize their own population conferences to review their experiences in population and to propose future action. These meetings, which are being jointly sponsored by the regional commissions and UNFPA, will take place in 1992 and 1993. The recommendations that emerge from them will be made available to the Preparatory Committee at its second session and to the Conference itself.

The Secretary-General of the United Nations appointed Dr. Nafis Sadik, Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund, as Secretary-General of the Conference, and Mr. Shunichi Inoue, Director, Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Development,

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General. Other principal officers include Mr. Jyoti Shankar Singh, Director, Technical and Evaluation Division, UNFPA, as Executive Coordinator of the Conference, and Mr. German Bravo-Casas, Coordinator, World Population Conference Implementation, Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Development, as Deputy Executive Coordinator.

UNFPA, in consultation with the Department of Economic and Social Development, will be responsible for coordinating the overall organizational preparations for the Conference, including procuring financial resources, public information and communication activities, promoting regional and national preparatory activities and maintaining close relationships with Governments. UNFPA will also provide programme-related information to ensure

the operational orientation of the Conference.

Similarly, the Department of Economic and Social Development, in consultation with UNFPA, will be responsible for coordinating the substantive aspects of the preparations for the Conference, including the review and appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action and the formulation of the draft recommendations.

The Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) has established an Ad-hoc Task Force to ensure inter-agency coordination and participation by United Nations bodies in the 1994 Conference and its preparatory process. Focal points in the specialized agencies and organizations have already been designated. An informal meeting of the Ad-hoc Task Force was held on 27 January 1992- the first formal meeting will be held in July 1992, at the time of the ECOSOC session.

There will be two more sessions of the Preparatory Committee, one in August 1993 to review the preparatory work, including the reports and recommendations of the expert group meetings, and the other in early 1994, to review the documentation for the Conference. The Economic and Social Council will decide on the site and dates of the Conference during its session in June-July 1992.

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Secretariat of the ICPD

Secretariat of the International Conference on Population and Development,
1994

Principal Officers:

Secretary-General

Dr. Nafis Sadik, Executive Director, UNFPA

Deputy Secretary-General

Mr. Shunichi Inoue, Director, Population Division, DESD

Executive Coordinator

Mr. Jyoti Shankar Singh, Director, Technical and Evaluation
Division, UNFPA

Deputy Executive Coordinator

Mr. German Bravo-Casas, Coordinator, World Population
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