



Calendar of Upcoming Events

CALENDAR OF UP-COMING EVENTS

29 June -

31 July ECOSOC, regular session; United Nations Headquarters, New York

2 July ECOSOC discussion on preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994; United Nations Headquarters, New York

6 July ACC Ad hoc Task Force Meeting, International Conference on Population and Development, 1994; United Nations Headquarters, New York

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

6-9 October Meeting of Government Experts in preparation for the Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Population Conference; Saint Lucia

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

7-12 December (dates tentative) - Third African Population Conference; Dakar, Senegal; jointly organized by ECA and UNFPA
1993

18-22 January Expert Group Meeting on Population Distribution and Migration; Latin America

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

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

4-9 April (dates tentative) - Regional Population Conference for the Arab World; Amman, Jordan; 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

24 August -

1 September 22nd IUSSP General Conference, Montreal, Canada

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

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

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European Agenda for World Population

European Agenda for Action on World Population

A new European Agenda for Action on World Population was adopted by European politicians at a conference in London held 31 January to 1 February 1992. The Conference was organized by the British All-Party Parliamentary Group on Population and Development in cooperation with the Europe Regional Bureau of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

Speakers at the Conference included Dr. Halfdan Mahler, Secretary-General, IPPF; Dr. Fred Sai, President, IPPF; Dr. Nafis Sadik, Executive Director, UNFPA, and Secretary-General, International Conference on Population and Development, 1994; Sir Charles Morrison, Chairman, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Population and Development; and Mr. Joseph Wheeler, Director, Programme Integration for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED).

The aim of the Conference was to provide an opportunity for European parliamentarians to clarify issues and approaches to UNCED and to the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994 (ICPD). The Conference also gave them a chance to suggest ways of increasing awareness and understanding of population issues, with particular emphasis on the how to respond to the needs of the developing world.

The participants of the Conference, representing parliamentarians from 20 European countries and the European Parliament, drew up a "European Agenda

for Action on World Population. The Agenda calls for strong new initiatives that will be needed at national, regional, and international levels in order to make family planning universally available before the end of the decade.

European members of parliaments were urged to persuade their Governments to increase bilateral and multilateral development assistance to overseas family planning programmes through a variety of channels such as UNFPA, IPPF and other NGOs working in the population field. The overall aim is to establish an annual assistance level of \$ 4 billion by the year 2000. Parliamentarians were also called upon to review current development policies of their Governments and to establish parliamentary population groups where they do not already exist. Population policies and family planning programmes should be integrated into the overall sustainable development strategy, the Agenda says.

Parliamentarians were also encouraged to overcome existing obstacles in realizing universal access to family planning and to contraceptive availability in order to reduce the number of abortions worldwide, and to respond to the public health consequences of unsafe abortions. The agenda also recommends the establishment of a Global Commission on Population to gather evidence from experts and parliamentarians in anticipation of the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994.

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IUSSP General Conference Set for 1993

IUSSP General Conference Set for 1993

The International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) will convene its Twenty-second General Conference in Montreal from 24 August to 1 September 1993, at the invitation of the Federation of Canadian Demographers and under the auspices of the Governments of Canada and Quebec.

IUSSP is a leading international professional association for those with an interest in population studies. It was founded in 1928, and has 2000 members worldwide.

The General Conference will include a special plenary session devoted to a discussion of the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994.

IUSSP has a long history of cooperation with the United Nations, having been a key partner in the organization of population conferences held in Rome in 1954 and Belgrade in 1965. The Union continues to maintain close ties with many United Nations bodies, agencies and programmes, particularly UNFPA, and also with other major donors and organizations working in the population field.

For more information about the IUSSP Conference, please contact:

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India to Host Family Planning

India to Host Family Planning Meeting

India will play host to the Expert Group Meeting on Family Planning, Health and Family Well-Being in Bangalore from 26-30 October 1992. The meeting, one of six expert group meetings preceding the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994, will bring together renowned experts in family planning, policy-makers, representatives of both inter-governmental and non governmental organizations, and United Nations officials.

Despite the success of a number of family planning programmes in developing regions of the world, implementation problems continue to hinder progress in some countries. The meeting will attempt to address these problems.

Changes in the social, economic and demographic conditions of the world are such that even when programmes are successful, there is no room for complacency. Programmes should be continually evaluated and reviewed. The considerable increase in the number of couples who will need access to family planning services and information by the year 2000 will be a major consideration in shaping family planning programmes in the years ahead.

Family planning is not just a demographic issue. It is also an issue related to individual rights, socio-economic development, preservation of the environment, and the health and well-being of women, couples, families and society at large. The participants will examine the issues in this light, and will place special emphasis on both operational and financial questions.

The general objectives of the meeting are how to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of existing family planning programmes and services; how to reach larger segments of the population; how to devise innovative approaches to new or existing problems; and how to obtain the funding needed for the ever-increasing demand for family planning services.

The Expert Group Meeting encompasses seven sessions. The session on "Society and Family Planning" will examine societal aspects of family planning programmes in developing countries, in particular, the political, economic and socio-cultural context in which programmes operate, with special emphasis on the role and status of women. The session on "Family Planning Programmes: Lessons Learned" will discuss the impact of family planning programmes around the globe and attempt to draw lessons from those experiences. "Programme Implementation" will address important operational aspects of family planning programmes, including their organization and management; quality of services; human resource development; unreached populations; adolescent fertility; information, education and communication activities; community-based delivery systems; social marketing of contraceptives; and future contraceptive requirements and logistics management needs.

Nowadays, family planning programmes are seen not only as programmes to reduce fertility, but as programmes which promote the welfare of the entire family. The session devoted to "Family Planning and Health" will discuss safe motherhood and child survival, and sexually-transmitted diseases, including AIDS. "Family Planning and Family Well-Being" will review changes in the size and structure of the family and consider the implications of these changes for family well-being and child development.

An emerging issue which will be addressed is that of people's involvement in family planning programmes. Direct community involvement helps ensure that services are provided in accordance with community preferences, and are thus more likely to be accepted.

Another question which participants will consider is the cost of contraception for individual couples, which in some circumstances may still be an important barrier to contraceptive practice. How much can users around the world afford to pay, and how much will Governments need to spend to make family planning information, supplies and services fully available?

The future role of NGOs and the private sector in family planning service delivery will also be raised, in view of the expected rise in the number of users and the cost of providing high quality services.

The final session of the expert Group Meeting will be devoted to the discussion and adoption of a set of recommendations to be presented to the Preparatory Committee of the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994.

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Key to Acronyms

KEY TO ACRONYMS

ACC	Administrative Committee on Coordination
CELADE	Latin American Demographic Centre
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 Organization
IPPF	International Planned Parenthood Federation
IUSSP	International Union for the Scientific Study of Population
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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Latin America and Caribbean

Latin American and Caribbean Region Begins Preparations for 1994

Mexico City will be the site of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Population Conference scheduled for May/June 1993. The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE) will organize the Conference in cooperation with UNFPA.

The Conference will be preceded by a Meeting of Government Experts in Saint Lucia, from 6-9 October 1992, also organized in cooperation with UNFPA. The Meeting will provide a forum to discuss the topics on the agenda for the 1994 Conference and to seek a consensus on the issues.

The specific issues to be discussed at the Saint Lucia Meeting correspond to the general theme of the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994, i.e. the complex interactions between population, sustained growth and sustainable development. Special attention will be paid to population dynamics and poverty alleviation, as well as to the particular situation of the English-speaking countries of the region.

The following scientific papers will be presented at the Saint Lucia Meeting:

- 1) Population growth, fertility and mortality transition, changes in demographic structure, including ageing, and trends in population distribution, migration and urbanization;

- 2) Demographic dynamics and development in the Caribbean sub region;
- 3) Population programmes and policies and their integration into economic and social development policies and plans;
- 4) Interrelationships among population growth and distribution, environment and sustainable development;
- 5) Roles and socio-economic situation of women and population dynamics; and
- 6) Family planning, health and family well-being, with particular emphasis on the situation of adolescents.

No dates have yet been set for the Regional Population Conference in Mexico City.

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Paris Site of Expert Group

Paris Site of Expert Group Meeting on Population Growth and Demographic Structure

One of the six groups of issues identified by the Economic and Social Council as requiring the greatest attention during the forthcoming decade from the international community and from the 1994 Conference, is population growth, changes in demographic structure, including ageing of the population, and the regional diversity of such changes, with particular emphasis on the interaction between demographic variables and socio-economic development.

These issues will be discussed at an up-coming Expert Group Meeting on Population Growth and Demographic Structure, which will take place from 16-20 November 1992 in Paris, at the invitation of the French Government. The Meeting will mark the fifth of six expert group meetings leading to the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994.

The meeting will be held at UNESCO Headquarters. Organized by the Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Development and the United Nations Population Fund, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Cooperation and the Ministry of Social Affairs of France, the group of gathered experts will debate the complex interrelationships between demographic variables and socio-economic development. The links between population growth and socio-economic development have been the subject of intense controversy for more than two decades.

Invited scholars from around the world, as well as representatives of United Nations bodies and organizations, regional commissions, specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations will attend. Each of the experts will submit a technical paper in his or her field of specialization. Participants will discuss the issues during the eight scheduled plenary sessions.

Participants will debate the following topics: socio-economic development and population trends; demographic changes and social development; population and poverty; population growth and labour absorption; and ageing issues in both the developing and developed world.

To conclude the week of deliberations, a set of recommendations will be adopted by participants and will be forwarded to the Preparatory Committee of the 1994 Conference. These recommendations, along with those from the other five expert group meetings, will provide input and a scientific basis for the formulation of recommendations at the 1994 Conference.

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Population Policies and Programs

Population Policies and Programmes Debated at Cairo Meeting

Cairo's impressive International Conference Centre was the site of the second in a series of six expert group meetings convened in preparation for the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994. The meeting, which took place from 12-16 April 1992, addressed the topic "Population Policies and Programmes."

Close to fifty population scholars, policy makers and representatives of United Nations agencies, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations met to compare and analyze their experiences in population policies and programmes and to consider an agenda for action for the next decade. Resource mobilization and the political commitments called for in the Amsterdam Declaration, adopted at the International Forum on Population in the Twenty-first Century (Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 1989), and subsequently endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly, were given special attention.

In her opening remarks, Dr. Nafis Sadik, Conference Secretary-General, stated that the Egyptian population programme had, after years of policy and programme development, reached a level of development that had produced an observable impact on rates of population growth. Dr. Sadik emphasized the challenge that population growth posed to sustainable development and the environment. Delayed action to reduce rapid population growth, she said, could make a difference of up to four billion in the size of the world's population in the year 2050-- equal to the whole of world population in 1975. She called on the group to define policy alternatives and programmatic

requirements to secure a sustainable future. Dr .Sadik also reviewed specific critical issues in various parts of the world: growth and distribution problems in Africa, Asia and Latin America; the growing urgency of international migration; and the emerging importance of balanced population growth and population ageing.

Dr. Sadik emphasized the lessons learned from over two decades of experience in population policies and programmes, focusing on the need for political commitment, broad mobilization of individual and community support, involvement of women at all stages of programme planning and execution, and the need to provide a strong institutional framework for service delivery. She stressed the importance of involving the full range of governmental, non governmental and private organizations.

Dr. Maher Mahran, Chairman of Egypt's National Population Council, welcomed the assembled experts and guests. The opening address was given by Dr. Mohamed Ragheb Dwidar, the Egyptian Minister of Health, who spoke on behalf of the Prime Minister. Dr. Dwidar stressed the importance of the national family planning programme in Egypt's overall development strategy. Notable achievements had been the decline in fertility and in infant and child mortality, and improvements in maternal and child health which had been fostered by the country's family planning programme.

Mr. Shunichi Inoue, the Deputy SecretaryGeneral of the 1994 Conference and Director of the Population Division, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Development, stressed the progress which had been made in policy development over the past decade.

Dr. Riad Tabbarah (Lebanon) was elected Chairman of the meeting. Other officers included: Ms. Charlotte Gardiner (Ghana) and Mr. Chris Allison

(U.K.), Vice-Chairmen; Mr. Hussein Abdul Aziz Sayed (Egypt), Chairman, Recommendations Committee; Ms. Maria Helena Henriques-Mueller (Brazil), Rapporteur. The Recommendations Committee included Ms. Gabriella Vukovich (Hungary), Mr. Aprodicio Laquian (Philippines), Ms. Simeem Mahmud (Bangladesh), Mr. Raul Urzua (UNESCO) and Mr. Steven Sinding (U.S.A.).

No single statement does justice to the wide range of concerns elaborated at the meeting. Close attention was paid to the responsiveness of population policy to local needs and to developing and maintaining adaptable implementation frameworks for programme activities.

Policy considerations were addressed first. The United Nations Population Division presented a broad overview of the evolution of population policy since 1984. Experts then presented papers reviewing particular population policy issues and accomplishments in both developing and more developed regions of the world.

Population programmes followed the discussion on policy. The first paper, presented by UNFPA, summarized the achievements and challenges of population programmes, and gave attention to the lessons learned from 23 years of experience in population activities. Specific country experiences were then reviewed, including a case study from Indonesia (which has one of the most established and successful national population programmes) and another from Rwanda (which has one of the newest, community-rooted population programmes). Another paper presented a succinct summary of the resource requirements and institutional and programme development needs for the coming decade.

The final set of issues dealt with resource mobilization. The growing role of domestic resource generation and the challenge posed by future requirements had been noted in the UNFPA contribution and was the central

topic of one of the presentations. The role and utility of cost-sharing and cost-recovery mechanisms in programme execution were also the subject of extended discussions.

The many valuable contributions of non governmental organizations to policy and programme formulation, local community development, implementation of health and family planning programmes, and advocacy were reviewed and commended. All discussions stressed the need for broad-based action and also stressed the magnitude of commitments that would be required to attain programme goals.

The experts also reviewed multilateral and bilateral population assistance. One of the interesting points made in the discussion concerned donor coordination problems. While frequently thought to be a cause for concern, it was pointed out that donor coordination problems occur only in a handful of countries, since assistance to many nations' population programmes comes from a single source or a small number of sources. Donor coordination problems are therefore present only in nations with many bilateral and multilateral donors of population assistance. The special problems of the least developed countries were also the subject of a separate paper. The group suggested that UNFPA continue to play a leading role in donor coordination, where relevant, and in providing assistance in formulating country population strategies.

A final set of expert analyses addressed future directions for population policy and programme efforts. The discussion affirmed the importance of the political skills necessary to assure that priority be given to population programme activities, to integrating population concerns into development strategies, and to defining strategies for coordinating policy and programme activities.

One of the key concerns of the entire meeting was an effort to identify emerging directions for action, which could raise and effectively use resources. On the positive side, it was noted that satisfying unmet needs for family planning services would achieve significant fertility reductions consistent with the Amsterdam Declaration goals. However, this fact does not diminish the magnitude of financial and political resources needed to attain that end.

Participants adopted twenty-one recommendations which will be submitted to the Preparatory Committee of the 1994 Conference in August 1993. These covered a variety of issues which had been addressed and reviewed in the presentations. Among these were recommendations calling for: assessments of prior policy and programme actions; renewals of political and financial commitments; scrutiny of policy and programme institutions and their coordination; long-term strategies to most effectively use the inputs of all sources (governmental, non-governmental, local, regional and international); improving the quality of services; promoting the decentralized delivery of services; and emphasizing and further empowering women and recognizing their basic rights.

Overall, the discussions and the recommendations indicated the importance of population policy and programme issues in the development process, the magnitude of the tasks being undertaken, and the need to exert every possible effort to generate the will, the capacity, and the resources to attain essential population and development goals.



Population and Sustainable Development

Population and Sustainable Development Theme of Asian and Pacific Population Conference

"Population and Sustainable Development: Goals and Strategies into the 21st Century" will be the theme of the Fourth Asian and Pacific Population Conference scheduled for 19 - 27 August 1992 in Denpasar (Bali), Indonesia. The Conference is being organized by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in cooperation with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). Previous regional population conferences took place in New Delhi in 1963, Tokyo in 1972 and Colombo in 1982.

Three pre-conference seminars were organized to focus on technical aspects of selected topics. The first was an expert group meeting on population, environment and sustainable development held in Jomtien, Thailand in May 1991. It was followed by a seminar on migration and urbanization in Seoul, Korea in January 1992, and a seminar on family planning and family health and welfare programmes held in Beijing, China, in March 1992. The conclusions and findings of the regional seminars will provide important technical input to the regional conference.

The Asian and Pacific Population Conference will consist of two meetings: a senior officials' meeting for five days, which will be followed by a two-day ministerial meeting.

Objectives of the Conference are: 1) to review the progress in the implementation of the 1982 Asia Pacific Call for Action on Population and

Development and to develop inter-disciplinary approaches to social and economic goals, in the light of emerging population issues and changing economic situations; 2) to increase awareness of population issues and to deepen the understanding of Governments of important issues in population and development in the next decade and beyond; 3) to identify and endorse agendas, policies, strategies and programmes responsive to emerging issues, in consonance with goals of sustainable development; 4) to intensify regional cooperation in the formulation and implementation of programmes and projects designed to deal with population problems in the 1990s, and to strengthen both the political and financial commitments necessary to safeguard the future; 5) to delineate specific programme strategies to enhance the role and status of women in accelerating the pace of development; and 6) to adopt specific programme strategies to be implemented by Governments with the support of United Nations organizations and specialized agencies, inter-governmental organizations, bilateral agencies and NGOs.

The Senior Officials Meeting will discuss in plenary sessions and in informal working groups topics ranging from mortality and fertility transitions to population ageing, and from population data and information to migration. Based on the deliberations, participants will consider and adopt reports on the topics. A Population Declaration will be drafted for presentation at the Ministerial Meeting.

At the two-day Ministerial Meeting, Ministers are expected to make statements on policy formulation and implementation in their respective countries and in the region in general. The Ministers will consider the draft Population Declaration and formally issue their declaration on the final day of the Conference.

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Population and Women

Experts to Consider Women-Population Nexus

The connection between the status of women and the pace of development is becoming increasingly clear. Studies have shown that economic growth and improvement in the quality of life have been fastest in those areas where women enjoy higher status, and slowest where they face the greatest disadvantages. There can be no sustainable development without development for women.

The Expert Group Meeting on Population and Women, which will take place from 22-26 June 1992 in Gaborone, the capital of Botswana, will provide a welcome opportunity to re-examine this connection and to review changes in women's social and economic position since the 1984 International Population Conference, changes which are viewed as closely related to recent demographic trends.

This is the third of six expert group meetings which form part of the crucial preparatory process for the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994. Participants will adopt a set of action-oriented recommendations that will be presented to the second session of the Conference Preparatory Committee.

As a basis for the discussions and recommendations, experts from both developing and developed countries, most of whom are women, have been invited to present up-to-date information and scientific evidence on topics including: social valuation and participation of women and girls, women's autonomy and population trends; women, health and mortality; women,

fertility and family planning; women's education and its impact on health, family welfare and fertility; linkages between women's economic activities and population dynamics; and population, environment and development: issues of special concern for women.

A variety of non-governmental organizations, agencies within the United Nations system and representatives of the host Government will also participate in the discussions and add their expertise and experience to the formulation of the recommendations .

The Honourable Festus Mogae, Vice President and Minister of Finance and Planning of Botswana, will open the meeting. Dr. Nafis Sadik, Secretary General of the 1994 Conference, and Mr. Shunichi Inoue, Deputy Secretary General of the Conference, will address the group during the opening session. The Honourable Patrick Balopi, Minister of Labour and Home Affairs, Botswana, will preside at the closing ceremony.

The inclusion of women's status and roles as a priority theme for the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994 is a sign that women's issues are increasingly being viewed by the international community as crucial for demographic and social change, as well as matters of concern in their own right. This growing concern reflects in part a disappointment with the pace of improvement in women's status, in part a growing acceptance of the principles espoused in Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. It also reflects a growing conviction that the betterment of women's situation is vital for the achievement of other social and economic goals, ranging from improved health status of all family members, to changes in population growth rates, to the achievement of sustainable economic development.

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