

**REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE, 1974**

BUCHAREST, 19 – 30 AUGUST 1974



**UNITED NATIONS**

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# REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE, 1974

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Part one

DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE



## Chapter I

### WORLD POPULATION PLAN OF ACTION

#### The World Population Conference,

Having due regard for human aspirations for a better quality of life and for rapid socio-economic development,

Taking into consideration the interrelationship between population situations and socio-economic development,

Decides on the following World Population Plan of Action as a policy instrument within the broader context of the internationally adopted strategies for national and international progress:

#### A. Background to the Plan

1. The promotion of development and improvement of quality of life require co-ordination of action in all major socio-economic fields including that of population, which is the inexhaustible source of creativity and a determining factor of progress. At the international level a number of strategies and programmes whose explicit aim is to affect variables in fields other than population have already been formulated. These include the Provisional Indicative World Plan for Agricultural Development of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations/FAO World Food Programme, the International Labour Organisation's World Employment Programme, the Action Plan for the Human Environment, the United Nations World Plan of Action for the Application of Science and Technology to Development, the Programme of Concerted Action for the Advancement of Women, and, more comprehensively, the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade. The Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and the Programme of Action to achieve it, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its sixth special session (resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974), provide the most recent over-all framework for international co-operation. The explicit aim of the World Population Plan of Action is to help co-ordinate population trends and the trends of economic and social development. The basis for an effective solution of population problems is, above all, socio-economic transformation. A population policy may have a certain success if it constitutes an integral part of socio-economic development; its contribution to the solution of world development problems is hence only partial, as is the case with the other sectoral strategies. Consequently, the Plan of Action must be considered as an important component of the system of international strategies and as an instrument of the international community for the promotion of economic development, quality of life, human rights and fundamental freedoms.

2. The formulation of international strategies is a response to universal recognition of the existence of important problems in the world and the need for

concerted national and international action to achieve their solution. Where trends of population growth, distribution and structure are out of balance with social, economic and environmental factors, they can, at certain stages of development, create additional difficulties for the achievement of sustained development. Policies whose aim is to affect population trends must not be considered substitutes for socio-economic development policies but as being integrated with those policies in order to facilitate the solution of certain problems facing both developing and developed countries and to promote a more balanced and rational development.

3. Throughout history the rate of growth of world population averaged only slightly above replacement levels. The recent increase in the growth rate began mainly as a result of the decline in mortality during the past few centuries, a decline that has accelerated significantly during recent decades. The inertia of social structures and the insufficiency of economic progress, especially when these exist in the absence of profound socio-cultural changes, partly explain why in the majority of developing countries the decline in mortality has not been accompanied by a parallel decline in fertility. Since about 1950, the world population growth rate has risen to 2 per cent a year. If sustained, this will result in a doubling of the world's population every 35 years. However, national rates of natural growth range widely, from a negative rate to well over 3 per cent a year.

4. The consideration of population problems cannot be reduced to the analysis of population trends only. It must also be borne in mind that the present situation of the developing countries originates in the unequal processes of socio-economic development which have divided peoples since the beginning of the modern era. This inequity still exists and is intensified by lack of equity in international economic relations with consequent disparity in levels of living.

5. Although acceleration in the rate of growth of the world's population is mainly the result of very large declines in the mortality of developing countries, those declines have been unevenly distributed. Thus, at present, average expectation of life at birth is 63 years in Latin America, 57 years in Asia and only a little over 46 years in Africa, compared with more than 71 years in the developed regions. Furthermore, although on average less than one in 40 children dies before reaching the age of 1 year in the developed regions, 1 in 15 dies before reaching that age in Latin America, 1 in 10 in Asia and 1 in 7 in Africa. In fact, in some developing regions, and particularly in African countries, average expectation of life at birth is estimated to be less than 40 years and 1 in 4 children dies before the age of 1 year. Consequently, many developing countries consider reduction of mortality, and particularly reduction of infant mortality, to be one of the most important and urgent goals.

6. While the right of couples to have the number of children they desire is accepted in a number of international instruments, many couples in the world are unable to exercise that right effectively. In many parts of the world, poor economic conditions, social norms, inadequate knowledge of effective methods of family regulation and the unavailability of contraceptive services result in a situation in which couples have more children than they desire or feel they can properly care for. In certain countries, on the other hand, because of economic or biological factors, problems of involuntary sterility and of subfecundity exist, with the result that many couples have fewer children than they desire. Of course, the degree of urgency attached to dealing with each of these two situations depends upon the prevailing conditions within the country in question.

7. Individual reproductive behaviour and the needs and aspirations of society should be reconciled. In many developing countries, and particularly in the large countries of Asia, the desire of couples to achieve large families is believed to result in excessive national population growth rates and Governments are explicitly attempting to reduce those rates by implementing specific policy measures. On the other hand, some countries are attempting to increase desired family size, if only slightly.

8. Throughout the world, urban populations are growing in size at a considerably faster rate than rural populations. As a result, by the end of this century, and for the first time in history, the majority of the world's population will be living in urban areas. Urbanization is an element of the process of modernization. Moreover, while in certain countries this process is efficiently managed and maximum use is made of the advantages this management presents, in others urbanization takes place in an uncontrolled manner and is accompanied by overcrowding in certain districts, an increase in slums, deterioration of the environment, urban unemployment and many other social and economic problems.

9. In most of the developing countries, although the rate of urban population growth is higher than the growth rate in rural areas, the latter is still significant. The rural population of developing countries is growing at an average rate of 1.7 per cent a year, and in some instances at a faster rate than that of the urban population in developed countries. Furthermore, many rural areas of heavy emigration, in both developed and developing countries, are being depleted of their younger populations and are being left with populations whose age distribution is unfavourable to economic development. Thus, in many countries, the revitalization of the countryside is a priority goal.

10. For some countries international migration may be, in certain circumstances, an instrument of population policy. At least two types of international migration are of considerable concern to many countries in the world: the movement of migrant workers with limited skills, and the movement of skilled workers and professionals. Movements of the former often involve large numbers and raise such questions as the fair and proper treatment in countries of immigration, the breaking up of families and other social and economic questions in countries both of emigration and immigration. The migration of skilled workers and professionals results in a "brain drain", often from less-developed to more-developed countries, which is at present of considerable concern to many countries and to the international community as a whole. The number of instruments on these subjects and the increased involvement of international organizations reflect international awareness of these problems.

11. A population's age structure is greatly affected by its birth rates. For example, declining fertility is the main factor underlying the declining proportion of children in a population. Thus, according to the medium projections of the United Nations, the population of less than 15 years of age in the developing countries is expected to decline from an average of more than 41 per cent of total population in 1970 to an average of about 35 per cent in 2000. However, such a decline in the proportion of children will be accompanied by an increase in their numbers at an average of 1.7 per cent a year. The demand for educational services is expected to increase considerably, in view of both the existing backlog and the continuously increasing population of children which ought to enter and remain in schools; therefore the supply of educational services must be increased. With regard to the population 15 to 29 years of age, an increase in both their

proportion and number is expected in the developing countries. Consequently, unless very high rates of economic development are attained, in many of these countries, and particularly where levels of unemployment and underemployment are already high, the additional difficulties will not be overcome at least until the end of this century. Furthermore, in both developed and developing countries, the greatly changing social and economic conditions faced by youth require a better understanding of the problems involved and the formulation and implementation of policies to resolve them.

12. Declining birth rates also result in a gradual aging of the population. Because birth rates have already declined in developed countries, the average proportion of the population aged 65 years and over in these countries makes up 10 per cent of the total population, whereas it makes up only 3 per cent in developing countries. However, aging of the population in developing countries has recently begun, and is expected to accelerate. Thus, although the total population of these countries is projected to increase by an average of 2.3 per cent a year between 1970 and 2000, the population 65 years and over is expected to increase by 3.5 per cent a year. Not only are the numbers and proportions of the aged increasing rapidly but the social and economic conditions which face them are also rapidly changing. There is an urgent need, in those countries where such programmes are lacking, for the development of social security and health programmes for the elderly.

13. Because of the relatively high proportions of children and youth in the populations of developing countries, declines in fertility levels in those countries will not be fully reflected in declines in population growth rates until some decades later. To illustrate this demographic inertia, it may be noted that, for developing countries, even if replacement levels of fertility - approximately two children per completed family - had been achieved in 1970 and maintained thereafter, their total population would still grow from a 1970 total of 2.5 billion to about 4.4 billion before it would stabilize during the second half of the twenty-first century. In these circumstances, the population of the world as a whole would grow from 3.6 billion to 5.8 billion. This example of demographic inertia, which will lead to a growing population for many decades to come, demonstrates that whatever population policies may be formulated, socio-economic development must accelerate in order to provide for a significant increase in levels of living. Efforts made by developing countries to speed up economic growth must be viewed by the entire international community as a global endeavour to improve the quality of life for all people of the world, supported by a just utilization of the world's wealth, resources and technology in the spirit of the new international economic order. It also demonstrates that countries wishing to affect their population growth must anticipate future demographic trends and take appropriate decisions and actions in their plans for economic and social development well in advance.

#### B. Principles and objectives of the Plan

14. This Plan of Action is based on a number of principles which underlie its objectives and are observed in its formulation. The formulation and implementation of population policies is the sovereign right of each nation. This right is to be exercised in accordance with national objectives and needs and without external interference, taking into account universal solidarity in order to improve the quality of life of the peoples of the world. The main responsibility for national population policies and programmes lies with national authorities. However,

international co-operation should play an important role in accordance with the principles of the United Nations Charter. The Plan of Action is based on the following principles:

(a) The principal aim of social, economic and cultural development, of which population goals and policies are integral parts, is to improve levels of living and the quality of life of the people. Of all things in the world, people are the most precious. Man's knowledge and ability to master himself and his environment will continue to grow. Mankind's future can be made infinitely bright;

(b) True development cannot take place in the absence of national independence and liberation. Alien and colonial domination, foreign occupation, wars of aggression, racial discrimination, apartheid and neo-colonialism in all its forms continue to be among the greatest obstacles to the full emancipation and progress of the developing countries and all the people involved. Co-operation among nations on the basis of national sovereignty is essential for development. Development also requires recognition of the dignity of the individual, appreciation for the human person and his self-determination, as well as the elimination of discrimination in all its forms;

(c) Population and development are interrelated: population variables influence development variables and are also influenced by them; thus the formulation of a World Population Plan of Action reflects the international community's awareness of the importance of population trends for socio-economic development, and the socio-economic nature of the recommendations contained in this Plan of Action reflects its awareness of the crucial role that development plays in affecting population trends;

(d) Population policies are constituent elements of socio-economic development policies, never substitutes for them: while serving socio-economic objectives, they should be consistent with internationally and nationally recognized human rights of individual freedom, justice and the survival of national, regional and minority groups;

(e) Independently of the realization of economic and social objectives, respect for human life is basic to all human societies;

(f) All couples and individuals have the basic right to decide freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children and to have the information, education and means to do so; the responsibility of couples and individuals in the exercise of this right takes into account the needs of their living and future children, and their responsibilities towards the community;

(g) The family is the basic unit of society and should be protected by appropriate legislation and policy;

(h) Women have the right to complete integration in the development process particularly by means of an equal access to education and equal participation in social, economic, cultural and political life. In addition, the necessary measures should be taken to facilitate this integration with family responsibilities which should be fully shared by both partners;

(i) Recommendations in this Plan of Action regarding policies to deal with population problems must recognize the diversity of conditions within and among different countries;

(j) In the democratic formulation of national population goals and policies, consideration must be given, together with other economic and social factors, to the supplies and characteristics of natural resources and to the quality of the environment and particularly to all aspects of food supply including productivity of rural areas. The demand for vital resources increases not only with growing population but also with growing per capita consumption; attention must be directed to the just distribution of resources and to the minimization of wasteful aspects of their use throughout the world;

(k) The growing interdependence among nations makes international action increasingly important to the solution of development and population problems. International strategies will achieve their objective only if they ensure that the underprivileged of the world achieve, urgently, through structural, social and economic reforms, a significant improvement in their living conditions;

(l) This Plan of Action must be sufficiently flexible to take into account the consequences of rapid demographic changes, societal changes and changes in human behaviour, attitudes and values;

(m) The objectives of this Plan of Action should be consistent with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and with the objectives of the Second United Nations Development Decade; however, changes in demographic variables during the Decade are largely the result of past demographic events and changes in demographic trends sought during the Decade have social and economic repercussions up to and beyond the end of this century.

15. Guided by these principles, the primary aim of this Plan of Action is to expand and deepen the capacities of countries to deal effectively with their national and subnational population problems and to promote an appropriate international response to their needs by increasing international activity in research, the exchange of information, and the provision of assistance on request. In pursuit of this primary aim, the following general objectives are set for this Plan of Action:

(a) To advance understanding of population at global, regional, national and subnational levels, recognizing the diversity of the problems involved;

(b) To advance national and international understanding of the interrelationship of demographic and socio-economic factors in development: on the one hand, of the nature and scope of the effect of demographic factors on the attainment of goals of advancing human welfare, and, on the other hand, the impact of broader social, economic and cultural factors on demographic behaviour;

(c) To promote socio-economic measures and programmes whose aim is to affect, inter alia, population growth, morbidity and mortality, reproduction and family formation, population distribution and internal migration, international migration and, consequently, demographic structures;

(d) To advance national and international understanding of the complex relations among the problems of population, resources, environment and development, and to promote a unified analytical approach to the study of these interrelationships and to relevant policies;

(e) To promote the status of women and the expansion of their roles, their full participation in the formulation and implementation of socio-economic policy including population policies, and the creation of awareness among all women of their current and potential roles in national life;

(f) To recommend guidelines for population policies consistent with national values and goals and with internationally recognized principles;

(g) To promote the development and implementation of population policies where necessary, including improvement in the communication of the purposes and goals of those policies to the public and the promotion of popular participation in their formulation and implementation;

(h) To encourage the development and good management of appropriate education, training, statistical research, information and family health services as well as statistical services in support of the above principles and objectives.

### C. Recommendations for action

#### 1. Population goals and policies

##### (a) Population growth

16. According to the United Nations medium population projections, little change is expected to occur in average rates of population growth either in the developed or in the developing regions by 1985. According to the United Nations low variant projections, it is estimated that, as a result of social and economic development and population policies as reported by countries in the Second United Nations Inquiry on Population and Development, population growth rates in the developing countries as a whole may decline from the present level of 2.4 per cent per annum to about 2 per cent by 1985 and may remain below 0.7 per cent per annum in the developed countries. In this case the world-wide rate of population growth would decline from 2 per cent to about 1.7 per cent.

17. Countries which consider that their present or expected rates of population growth hamper their goals of promoting human welfare are invited, if they have not yet done so, to consider adopting population policies, within the framework of socio-economic development, which are consistent with basic human rights and national goals and values.

18. Countries which aim at achieving moderate or low population growth should try to achieve it through a low level of birth and death rates. Countries wishing to increase their rate of population growth should, when mortality is high, concentrate efforts on the reduction of mortality, and where appropriate, encourage an increase in fertility and encourage immigration.

19. Recognizing that per capita use of world resources is much higher in the developed than in the developing countries, the developed countries are urged to adopt appropriate policies in population, consumption and investment, bearing in mind the need for fundamental improvement in international equity.

(b) Morbidity and mortality

20. The reduction of morbidity and mortality to the maximum feasible extent is a major goal of every human society. It should be achieved in conjunction with massive social and economic development. Where mortality and morbidity rates are very high, concentrated national and international efforts should be applied to reduce them as a matter of highest priority in the context of societal change.

21. The short-term effect of mortality reduction on population growth rates is symptomatic of the early development process and must be viewed as beneficial. Sustained reductions in fertility have generally been preceded by reductions in mortality. Although this relationship is complex, mortality reduction may be a prerequisite to a decline in fertility.

22. It is a goal of this Plan of Action to reduce mortality levels, particularly infant and maternal mortality levels, to the maximum extent possible in all regions of the world and to reduce national and subnational differentials therein. The attainment of an average expectation of life of 62 years by 1985 and 74 years by the year 2000 for the world as a whole would require by the end of the century an increase of 11 years for Latin America, 17 years for Asia and 28 years for Africa

23. Countries with the highest mortality levels should aim by 1985 to have an expectation of life at birth of at least 50 years and an infant mortality rate of less than 120 per thousand live births.

24. It is recommended that national and international efforts to reduce general morbidity and mortality levels be accompanied by particularly vigorous efforts to achieve the following goals:

(a) Reduction of foetal, infant and early childhood mortality and related maternal morbidity and mortality;

(b) Reduction of involuntary sterility, subfecundity, defective births and illegal abortions;

(c) Reduction or, if possible, elimination of differential morbidity and mortality within countries, particularly with regard to differentials between regions, urban and rural areas, social and ethnic groups, and the sexes;

(d) Eradication, wherever possible, or control of infections and parasitic diseases, undernutrition and malnutrition; and the provision of a sufficient supply of potable water and adequate sanitation;

(e) Improvement of poor health and nutritional conditions which adversely affect working-age populations and their productivity and thus undermine development efforts;

(f) Adoption of special measures for reducing mortality from social and environmental factors and elimination of aggression as a cause of death and poor health.

25. It is recommended that health and nutrition programmes designed to reduce morbidity and mortality be integrated within a comprehensive development strategy

and supplemented by a wide range of mutually supporting social policy measures; special attention should be given to improving the management of existing health, nutrition and related social services and to the formulation of policies to widen their coverage so as to reach, in particular, rural, remote and underprivileged groups.

26. Each country has its own experience in preventing and treating diseases. Promotion of interchange of such experience will help to reduce morbidity and mortality.

(c) Reproduction, family formation and the status of women

27. This Plan of Action recognizes the variety of national goals with regard to fertility and does not recommend any world family-size norm.

28. This Plan of Action recognizes the necessity of ensuring that all couples are able to achieve their desired number and spacing of children and the necessity of preparing the social and economic conditions to achieve that desire.

29. Consistent with the Proclamation of the International Conference on Human Rights, the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, the relevant targets of the Second United Nations Development Decade and the other international instruments on the subject, it is recommended that all countries:

(a) Respect and ensure, regardless of their over-all demographic goals, the right of persons to determine, in a free, informed and responsible manner, the number and spacing of their children;

(b) Encourage appropriate education concerning responsible parenthood and make available to persons who so desire advice and the means of achieving it;

(c) Ensure that family planning, medical and related social services aim not only at the prevention of unwanted pregnancies but also at the elimination of involuntary sterility and subfecundity in order that all couples may be permitted to achieve their desired number of children, and that child adoption may be facilitated;

(d) Seek to ensure the continued possibility of variations in family size when a low fertility level has been established or is a policy objective;

(e) Make use, wherever needed and appropriate, of adequately trained professional and auxiliary health personnel, rural extension, home economics and social workers, and non-governmental channels, to help provide family planning services and to advise users of contraceptives;

(f) Increase their health manpower and health facilities to an effective level, redistribute functions among the different levels of professionals and auxiliaries in order to overcome the shortage of qualified personnel and establish an effective system of supervision in their health and family planning services;

(g) Ensure that information about, and education in, family planning and other matters which affect fertility are based on valid and proven scientific knowledge, and include a full account of any risk that may be involved in the use or non-use of contraceptives.

30. Governments which have family planning programmes are invited to consider integrating and co-ordinating those services with health and other services designed to raise the quality of family life, including family allowances and maternity benefits, and to consider including family planning services in their official health and social insurance systems. As concerns couples themselves, family planning policy should also be directed towards the promotion of the psycho-social harmony and mental and physical well-being of couples.

31. It is recommended that countries wishing to affect fertility levels give priority to implementing development programmes and educational and health strategies which, while contributing to economic growth and higher standards of living, have a decisive impact upon demographic trends, including fertility. International co-operation is called for to give priority to assisting such national efforts in order that these programmes and strategies be carried into effect.

32. While recognizing the diversity of social, cultural, political and economic conditions among countries and regions, it is nevertheless agreed that the following development goals generally have an effect on the socio-economic context of reproductive decisions that tends to moderate fertility levels:

(a) The reduction of infant and child mortality, particularly by means of improved nutrition, sanitation, maternal and child health care, and maternal education;

(b) The full integration of women into the development process, particularly by means of their greater participation in educational, social, economic and political opportunities, and especially by means of the removal of obstacles to their employment in the non-agricultural sector wherever possible. In this context, national laws and policies, as well as relevant international recommendations, should be reviewed in order to eliminate discrimination in, and remove obstacles to, the education, training, employment and career advancement opportunities for women;

(c) The promotion of social justice, social mobility and social development, particularly by means of a wide participation of the population in development and a more equitable distribution of income, land, social services and amenities;

(d) The promotion of wide educational opportunities for the young of both sexes, and the extension of public forms of pre-school education for the rising generation;

(e) The elimination of child labour and child abuse and the establishment of social security and old-age benefits;

(f) The establishment of an appropriate lower limit for age at marriage.

33. It is recommended that Governments consider making provision, in both their formal and non-formal educational programmes for informing their people of the consequences of existing or alternative fertility behaviour for the well-being of the family, for educational and psychological development of children and for the general welfare of society, so that an informed and responsible attitude to marriage and reproduction will be promoted.

34. Family size may also be affected by incentive and disincentive schemes. However, if such schemes are adopted or modified it is essential that they should not violate human rights.

35. Some social welfare programmes, such as family allowances and maternity benefits, may have a positive effect on fertility and may hence be strengthened when such an effect is desired. However, such programmes should not, in principle, be curtailed if the opposite effect on fertility is desired.

36. The projections in paragraph 16 of future declines in rates of population growth, and those in paragraph 22 concerning increased expectation of life, are consistent with declines in the birth-rate of the developing countries as a whole from the present level of 38 per thousand to 30 per thousand by 1985; in these projections, birth-rates in the developed countries remain in the region of 15 per thousand. To achieve by 1985 these levels of fertility would require substantial national efforts, by those countries concerned, in the field of socio-economic development and population policies, supported, upon request, by adequate international assistance. Such efforts would also be required to achieve the increase in expectation of life.

37. In the light of the principles of this Plan of Action, countries which consider their birth-rates detrimental to their national purposes are invited to consider setting quantitative goals and implementing policies that may lead to the attainment of such goals by 1985. Nothing herein should interfere with the sovereignty of any Government to adopt or not to adopt such quantitative goals.

38. Countries which desire to reduce their birth-rates are invited to give particular consideration to the reduction of fertility at the extremes of female reproductive ages because of the salutary effects this may have on infant and maternal welfare.

39. The family is recognized as the basic unit of society. Governments should assist families as far as possible to enable them to fulfil their role in society. It is therefore recommended that:

(a) The family be protected by appropriate legislation and policy without discrimination as to other members of society;

(b) Family ties be strengthened by giving recognition to the importance of love and mutual respect within the family unit;

(c) National legislation having direct bearing on the welfare of the family and its members, including laws concerning age at marriage, inheritance, property rights, divorce, education, employment and the rights of the child, be periodically reviewed, as feasible, and adapted to the changing social and economic conditions and with regard to the cultural setting;

(d) Marriages be entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses;

(e) Measures be taken to protect the social and legal rights of spouses and children in the case of dissolution or termination of marriage by death or other reason.

40. It is also recommended that:

(a) Governments should equalize the legal and social status of children born in and out of wedlock as well as children adopted;

(b) The legal responsibilities of each parent towards the care and support of all their children should be established.

41. Governments should ensure full participation of women in the educational, social, economic and political life of their countries on an equal basis with men. It is recommended that:

(a) Education for girls as well as boys should be extended and diversified to enable them to contribute more effectively in rural and urban sectors, as well as in the management of food and other household functions;

(b) Women should be actively involved both as individuals and through political and non-governmental organizations, at every stage and every level in the planning and implementation of development programmes, including population policies;

(c) The economic contribution of women in households and farming should be recognized in national economies;

(d) Governments should make a sustained effort to ensure that legislation regarding the status of women complies with the principles spelled out in the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and other United Nations declarations, conventions and international instruments, to reduce the gap between law and practice through effective implementation, and to inform women at all socio-economic levels of their legal rights and responsibilities.

42. Equal status of men and women in the family and in society improves the over-all quality of life. This principle of equality should be fully realized in family planning where each spouse should consider the welfare of the other members of the family.

43. Improvement of the status of women in the family and in society can contribute where desired, to smaller family size, and the opportunity for women to plan births also improves their individual status.

(d) Population distribution and internal migration

44. Urbanization in most countries is characterized by a number of adverse factors drain from rural areas through migration of individuals who cannot be absorbed by productive employment in urban areas, serious disequilibrium in the growth of urban centres, contamination of the environment, inadequate housing and services and social and psychological stress. In many developing countries, adverse consequences are due in large part to the economic structures resulting from the dependent situation of those countries in the international economic system; the correction of these shortcomings requires as a matter of priority the establishment of equitable economic relations among peoples.

45. Policies aimed at influencing population flows into urban areas should be co-ordinated with policies relating to the absorptive capacity of urban centres

as well as policies aimed at eliminating the undesirable consequences of excessive migration. In so far as possible, those policies should be integrated into plans and programmes dealing with over-all social and economic development.

46. In formulating and implementing internal migration policies, Governments are urged to consider the following guidelines, without prejudice to their own socio-economic policies:

(a) Measures should be avoided which infringe the right of freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State as enunciated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international instruments;

(b) A major approach to a more rational distribution of the population is that of planned and more equitable regional development, particularly in the advancement of regions which are less favoured or developed by comparison with the rest of the country;

(c) In planning development, and particularly in planning the location of industry and business and the distribution of social services and amenities, Governments should take into account not only short-term economic returns or alternative patterns but also the social and environmental costs and benefits involved as well as equity and social justice in the distribution of the benefits of development among all groups and regions;

(d) Population distribution patterns should not be restricted to a choice between metropolitan and rural life: efforts should be made to establish and strengthen networks of small and medium-size cities to relieve the pressure on the large towns, while still offering an alternative to rural living;

(e) Intensive programmes of economic and social improvement should be carried out in the rural areas through balanced agricultural development which will provide increased income to the agricultural population, permit an effective expansion of social services and include measures to protect the environment and conserve and increase agricultural resources;

(f) Programmes should be promoted to make accessible to scattered populations the basic social services and the support necessary for increased productivity, for example, by consolidating them in rural centres.

47. Internal migration policies should include the provision of information to the rural population concerning economic and social conditions in the urban areas, including information on the availability of employment opportunities.

48. In rural areas and areas accessible to rural populations, new employment opportunities, including industries and public works programmes, should be created, systems of land tenure should be improved and social services and amenities provided. It is not sufficient to consider how to bring the people to existing economic and social activities; it is also important to bring those activities to the people.

49. Considerable experience is now being gained by some countries which have implemented programmes for relieving urban pressures, revitalizing the countryside, inhabiting sparsely populated areas and settling newly reclaimed agricultural land. Countries having such experience are invited to share it with other countries. It is recommended that international organizations make available upon request co-ordinated technical and financial assistance to facilitate the settlement of people.

50. The problems of urban environment are a consequence not only of the concentration of inhabitants but also of their way of life which can produce harmful effects, such as wasteful and excessive consumption and activities which produce pollution. In order to avoid such effects in those countries experiencing this problem, a development pattern favouring balanced and rational consumption is recommended.

(e) International migration

51. It is recommended that Governments and international organizations generally facilitate voluntary international movement. However, such movements should not be based on racial considerations which are to the detriment of indigenous populations. The significance of international migration varies widely among countries, depending upon their area, population size and growth rate, social and economic structure and environmental conditions.

52. Governments which consider international migration to be important to their countries, either in the short or the long run, are urged to conduct, when appropriate, bilateral or multilateral consultations, taking into account the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the relevant resolutions of the United Nations system and other international instruments, with a view to harmonizing those of their policies which affect these movements. It is recommended that international organizations make available upon request co-ordinated technical and financial assistance to facilitate the settlement of people in countries of immigration.

53. Problems of refugees and displaced persons arising from forced migration, including their right of return to homes and properties, should also be settled in accordance with the relevant principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international instruments.

54. Countries that are concerned with the outflow of migrant workers and wish to encourage and assist those remaining workers or returning workers should make particular efforts to create favourable employment opportunities at the national level. More developed countries should co-operate, bilaterally or through regional organizations and the international community, with less developed countries, to achieve these goals through the increased availability of capital, technical assistance, export markets and more favourable terms of trade and choice of production technology.

55. Countries receiving migrant workers should provide proper treatment and adequate social welfare services for them and their families, and should ensure their physical safety and security, in conformity with the provisions of the relevant conventions and recommendations of the International Labour Organisation and other international instruments.

56. Specifically, in the treatment of migrant workers, Governments should work to prevent discrimination in the labour market and in society through lower salaries or other unequal conditions, to preserve their human rights, to combat prejudice against them and to eliminate obstacles to the reunion of their families. Governments should enable permanent immigrants to preserve their cultural heritage inter alia through the use of their mother tongue. Laws to limit illegal immigration should relate not only to the illegal migrants

themselves but also to those inducing or facilitating their illegal action and should be promulgated in conformity with international law and basic human rights. Governments should bear in mind humanitarian considerations in the treatment of aliens who remain in a country illegally.

57. Since the outflow of qualified personnel from developing to developed countries seriously hampers the development of the former, there is an urgent need to formulate national and international policies to avoid the "brain drain" and to obviate its adverse effects, including the possibility of devising programmes for large-scale communication of appropriate technological knowledge mainly from developed countries to the extent that it can be properly adjusted and appropriately absorbed.

58. Developing countries suffering from heavy emigration of skilled workers and professionals should undertake extensive educational programmes, manpower planning, and investment in scientific and technical programmes. They should also undertake other programmes and measures to better match skills with employment opportunities and to increase the motivation of such personnel to contribute to the progress of their own country. Measures should be taken to encourage the return of scientists and skilled personnel to specific job vacancies.

59. Foreign investors should employ and train local personnel and use local research facilities to the greatest possible extent in conformity with the policies of the host country. Subject to their consent, the location of research facilities in host countries may aid them to a certain extent in retaining the services of highly skilled and professional research workers. Such investment should, of course, in no circumstances inhibit national economic development. International co-operation is needed to improve programmes to induce skilled personnel to return to, or remain in, their own countries.

60. Where immigration has proved to be of a long-term nature, countries are invited to explore the possibilities of extending national civil rights to immigrants.

61. The flow of skilled workers, technicians and professionals from more developed to less developed countries may be considered a form of international co-operation. Countries in a position to do so should continue and increase this flow with full respect for the sovereignty and equality of recipient countries.

62. Countries affected by significant numbers of migrant workers are urged, if they have not yet done so, to conclude bilateral or multilateral agreements which would regulate migration, protect and assist migrant workers, and protect the interests of the countries concerned. The International Labour Organisation should promote concerted action in the field of protection of migrant workers, and the United Nations Commission on Human Rights should help, as appropriate, to ensure that the fundamental rights of migrants are safeguarded.

(f) Population structure

63. All Governments are urged, when formulating their development policies and programmes, to take fully into account the implications of changing numbers and proportions of youth, working-age groups and the aged, particularly where such changes are rapid. Countries should study their population structures to determine the most desirable balance among age groups.

64. Specifically, developing countries are urged to consider the implications which the combination of the characteristically young age structure and moderate to high fertility has on their development. The increasing number and proportion of young persons in the populations of developing countries requires appropriate development strategies, priority being accorded to their subsistence, health, education, training and incorporation in the labour force through full employment as well as their active participation in political, cultural, social and economic life.

65. Developing countries are invited to consider the possible economic, social and demographic effects of population shifts from agriculture to non-agricultural industries. In addition to fuller utilization of labour and improvements in productivity and the levels of living, promotion of non-agricultural employment should aim at such changes in the socio-economic structure of manpower and population as would affect demographically relevant behaviour of individuals. All countries are invited to consider fully giving appropriate support and assistance to the World Employment Programme and related national employment promotion schemes.

66. Similarly, the other countries are urged to consider the contrary implications of the combination of their aging structure with moderate to low or very low fertility. All countries should carry out, as part of their development programmes, comprehensive, humanitarian and just programmes of social security for the elderly.

67. In undertaking settlement and resettlement schemes and urban planning, Governments are urged to give adequate attention to questions of age and sex balance and, particularly, to the welfare of the family.

## 2. Socio-economic policies

68. This Plan of Action recognizes that economic and social development is a central factor in the solution of population problems. National efforts of developing countries to accelerate economic growth should be assisted by the entire international community. The implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, and the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the New International Economic Order as adopted at the sixth special session of the General Assembly should lead to a reduction in the widening gap in levels of living between developed and developing countries and would be conducive to a reduction in population growth rates particularly in countries where such rates are high.

69. In planning measures to harmonize population trends and socio-economic change, human beings must be regarded not only as consumers but also as producers. The investment by nations in the health and education of their citizens contributes substantially to productivity. Consequently, plans for economic and social development and for international assistance for this purpose should emphasize the health and education sectors. Likewise, patterns of production and technology should be adapted to each country's endowment in human resources. Decisions on the introduction of technologies affording significant savings in employment of manpower should take into account the relative abundance of human resources. To this end it is recommended that efforts should be intensified to determine for each country the technologies and production methods best suited to its working population situation and to study the relationship between population factors and employment.

70. It is imperative that all countries, and within them all social sectors, should adapt themselves to more rational utilization of natural resources, without excess, so that some are not deprived of what others waste. In order to increase the production and distribution of food for the growing world population it is recommended that Governments give high priority to improving methods of food production, the investigation and development of new sources of food and more effective utilization of existing sources. International co-operation is recommended with the aim of ensuring the provision of fertilizers and energy and a timely supply of food-stuffs to all countries.

### 3. Promotion of knowledge and policies

71. In order to achieve the population objectives of this Plan of Action and to put its policy recommendations adequately into effect, measures need to be undertaken to promote knowledge of the relationships and problems involved, to assist in the development of population policies and to elicit the co-operation and participation of all concerned in the formulation and implementation of these policies.

#### (a) Data collection and analysis

72. Statistical data on the population collected by means of censuses, surveys or vital statistics registers, are essential for the planning of investigations and the provision of a basis for the formulation, evaluation and application of population and development policies. Countries that have not yet done so are urged to tabulate and analyse their census and other data and make them available to national policy-making bodies in order to fulfil these objectives.

73. It is up to each country to take a population census in accordance with its own needs and capabilities. However, it is recommended that a population census be taken by each country between 1975 and 1985. It is also recommended that those censuses give particular attention to data relevant to development planning and the formulation of population policies. In order to be of greatest value, it is recommended that the data be tabulated and made available as quickly as possible, together with an evaluation of the quality of the information and the degree of coverage of the census.

74. All countries that have not yet done so are encouraged to establish a continuing capability for taking household sample surveys and to establish a long-term plan for regular collection of statistics on various demographic and interrelated socio-economic variables, particularly those relating to the improvement of levels of living, well-being and level of education of individuals, factors which relate closely to problems affecting population. All countries are invited to co-operate with the World Fertility Survey.

75. In line with the objectives of the World Programme for the Improvement of Vital Statistics, countries are encouraged to establish or improve their vital registration system, as a long-term objective, and to enact laws relevant to the improvement of vital registration. Until this improvement is completed, the use of alternative methods is recommended, such as sample surveys, to provide up-to-date information on vital events.

76. Developing countries should be provided with technical co-operation, equ and financial support to develop or improve the population and related statist programmes mentioned above. Provision for data-gathering assistance should c fully the need for evaluating, analysing and presenting the data in a form mo appropriate to the needs of users.

77. Governments that have not yet done so are urged to establish appropriate services for the collection, analysis and dissemination of demographic and re statistical information.

(b) Research

78. This Plan of Action gives high priority to research activities in popula problems (including unemployment, starvation and poverty) and to related fiel particularly to research activities that are important for the formulation, evaluation and implementation of the population policies consistent with full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as recognized in internatio instruments of the United Nations. Although research designed to fill gaps in knowledge is very urgent and important, high priority should be given to rese oriented to the specific problems of countries and regions, including methodol studies. Such research is best carried out in the countries and regions them and by competent persons especially acquainted with national and regional conditions. The following areas are considered to require research in order - fill existing gaps in knowledge:

(a) The social, cultural and economic determinants of population variabl in different developmental and political situations, particularly at the fami and micro levels;

(b) The demographic and social processes occurring within the family cyc through time and, particularly, in relation to alternative modes of developmer

(c) The development of effective means for the improvement of health, an especially for the reduction of maternal, foetal, infant and early childhood mortality;

(d) The study of experiences of countries which have major programmes of internal migration with a view to developing guidelines that are helpful to pc makers of those countries and of countries that are interested in undertaking similar programmes;

(e) Projections of demographic and related variables including the development of empirical and hypothetical models for simulating possible futur trends;

(f) The formulation, implementation and evaluation of population policie including: methods for integrating population inputs and goals in development plans and programmes; means for understanding and improving the motivations of people to participate in the formulation and implementation of population programmes; study of education and communication aspects of population policy; analysis of population policies in their relationship to other socio-economic development policies, laws and institutions, including the possible influences the economic system on the social, cultural and economic aspects of population

policies; translation into action programmes of policies dealing with the socio-economic determinants of fertility, mortality, internal migration and distribution, and international migration;

(g) The collection, analysis and dissemination of information concerning human rights in relation to population matters and the preparation of studies designed to clarify, systematize and more effectively implement those human rights;

(h) The review and analysis of national and international laws which bear directly or indirectly on population factors;

(i) The assessment and improvement of existing and new methods of fertility regulation by means of research, including basic biological and applied research; the evaluation of the impact, both in short-term and long-term effects, of different methods of fertility regulation on ethical and cultural values and on mental and physical health; and the assessment and study of policies for creating social and economic conditions so that couples can freely decide on the size of their families;

(j) The evaluation of the impact of different methods of family planning on the health conditions of women and members of their families;

(k) The interrelationships among patterns of family formation, nutrition and health, reproductive biology, and the incidence, causes and treatment of sterility;

(l) Methods of improving the management, delivery and utilization of all social services associated with population, including family welfare and, when appropriate, family planning;

(m) Methods for the development of systems of social, demographic and related economic statistics in which various sets of data are interlinked, with a view to improving insight into the interrelationships of variables in these fields;

(n) The interrelations of population trends and conditions and other social and economic variables, in particular the availability of human resources, food and natural resources, the quality of the environment, the need for health, education, employment, welfare, housing and other social services and amenities, promotion of human rights, the enhancement of the status of women, the need for social security, political stability, discrimination and political freedom;

(o) The impact of a shift from one family size pattern to another on biological and demographic characteristics of the population;

(p) The changing structure, functions and dynamics of the family as an institution, including the changing roles of men and women, attitudes towards and opportunities for women's education and employment; the implications of current and future population trends for the status of women; biomedical research on male and female fertility, and the economic, social and demographic benefits to be derived from the integration of women in the development process;

(q) Development of social indicators, reflecting the quality of life as well as the interrelations between socio-economic and demographic phenomena, should be encouraged. Emphasis should also be given to the development of socio-economic and demographic models.

79. National research requirements and needs must be determined by Governments and national institutions. However, high priority should be given, wherever possible, to research that has wide relevance and international applicability.

80. National and regional research institutions dealing with population and related questions should be assisted and expanded as appropriate. Special efforts should be made to co-ordinate the research of those institutions by facilitating the exchange of their research findings and the exchange of information on their planned and ongoing research projects.

(c) Management, training, education and information

81. There is a particular need for the development of management in all fields related to population, with national and international attention and appropriate support given to programmes dealing with its promotion.

82. A dual approach to training is recommended: an international programme for training in population matters concomitant with national and regional training programmes adapted and made particularly relevant to conditions in the countries and regions of the trainees. While recognizing the complementarity of these two approaches, national and regional training should be given the higher priority.

83. Training in population dynamics and policies, whether national, regional or international, should, in so far as possible, be interdisciplinary in nature. The training of population specialists should always be accompanied by relevant career development for the trainees in their fields of specialization. Training should deal not only with population variables but also with interrelationships of these variables with economic, social and political variables.

84. Training in the various aspects of population activities, including the management of population programmes should not be restricted to the higher levels of specialization but should also be extended to personnel at other levels, and, where needed, to medical, paramedical and traditional health personnel, and population programme administrators. Such training should impart an adequate knowledge of human rights in accordance with international standards and an awareness of the human rights aspect of population problems.

85. Training in population matters should be extended to labour, community and other social leaders, and to senior government officials, with a view to enabling them better to identify the population problems of their countries and communities and to help in the formulation of policies relating to them.

86. Owing to the role of education in the progress of individuals and society and the impact of education on demographic behaviour, all countries are urged to further develop their formal and informal educational programmes; efforts should be made to eradicate illiteracy, to promote education among the youth and abolish factors discriminating against women.

87. Educational institutions in all countries should be encouraged to expand their curricula to include a study of population dynamics and policies, including, where appropriate, family life, responsible parenthood and the relation of population dynamics to socio-economic development and to international relations. Governments are urged to co-operate in developing a world-wide system of international,

regional and national institutions to meet the need for trained manpower. Assistance to the less developed countries should include, as appropriate, the improvement of the educational infrastructure such as library facilities and computer services.

88. Governments are invited to use all available means for disseminating population information.

89. Governments are invited to consider the distribution of population information to enlighten both rural and urban populations, through the assistance of governmental agencies.

90. Voluntary organizations should be encouraged, within the framework of national laws, policies and regulations, to play an important role in disseminating population information and ensuring wider participation in population programmes, and to share experiences regarding the implementation of population measures and programmes.

91. International organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, should strengthen their efforts to distribute information on population and related matters, particularly through periodic publications on the world population situation, prospects and policies, the utilization of audio-visual and other aids to communication, the publication of non-technical digests and reports, and the production and wide distribution of newsletters on population activities. Consideration should also be given to strengthening the publication of international professional journals and reviews in the field of population.

92. In order to achieve the widest possible dissemination of research results, translation activities should be encouraged at both the national and international levels. In this respect, the revision of the Multilingual Demographic Dictionary <sup>1/</sup> and its publication in additional languages are strongly recommended.

93. The information and experience resulting from the World Population Conference and the World Population Year relating to the scientific study of population and the elaboration of population policies should be synthesized and disseminated by the United Nations.

(d) Development and evaluation of population policies

94. Where population policies or programmes have been adopted, systematic and periodic evaluations of their effectiveness should be made with a view to their improvement.

95. Population measures and programmes should be integrated into comprehensive social and economic plans and programmes and this integration should be reflected in the goals, instrumentalities and organizations for planning within the countries. In general, it is suggested that a unit dealing with population aspects be created and placed at a high level of the national administrative structure and that such a unit be staffed with qualified persons from the relevant disciplines.

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<sup>1/</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. 58.XIII.4.

## D. Recommendations for implementation

### 1. Role of national Governments

96. The success of this Plan of Action will largely depend on the actions undertaken by national Governments. To take action, Governments are urged to utilize fully the support of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

97. This Plan of Action recognizes the responsibility of each Government to decide on its own policies and devise its own programmes of action for dealing with the problems of population and economic and social progress. Recommendations, in so far as they relate to national Governments, are made with due regard to the need for variety and flexibility in the hope that they may be responsive to major needs in the population field as perceived and interpreted by national Governments. However, national policies should be formulated and implemented without violating, and with due promotion of, universally accepted standards of human rights.

98. An important role of Governments with regard to this Plan of Action is to determine and assess the population problems and needs of their countries in the light of their political, social, cultural, religious and economic conditions; such an undertaking should be carried out systematically and periodically so as to promote informed, rational and dynamic decision-making in matters of population and development.

99. The effect of national action or inaction in the fields of population may, in certain circumstances, extend beyond national boundaries; such international implications are particularly evident with regard to aspects of morbidity, population concentration and international migration, but may also apply to other aspects of population concern.

### 2. Role of international co-operation

100. International co-operation, based on the peaceful coexistence of States having different social systems, should play a supportive role in achieving the goals of the Plan of Action. This supportive role could take the form of direct assistance, technical or financial, in response to national and regional requests and be additional to economic development assistance, or the form of other activities, such as monitoring progress, undertaking comparative research in the area of population, resources and consumption, and furthering the exchange among countries of information and policy experiences in the field of population and consumption. Assistance should be provided on the basis of respect for sovereignty of the recipient country and its national policy.

101. The General Assembly of the United Nations, the Economic and Social Council, the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Fund for Population Activities and other competent legislative and policy-making bodies of the specialized agencies and the various intergovernmental organizations are urged to give careful consideration to this Plan of Action and to ensure an appropriate response to it.

102. Countries sharing similar population conditions and problems are invited to consider jointly this Plan of Action, exchange experience in relevant fields and

elaborate those aspects of the Plan that are of particular relevance to them. The United Nations regional economic commissions and other regional bodies of the United Nations system should play an important role towards this end.

103. There is a special need for training in the field of population. The United Nations system, Governments and, as appropriate, non-governmental organizations are urged to give recognition to that need and priority to the measures necessary to meet it, including information, education and services for family planning.

104. Developed countries, and other countries able to assist, are urged to increase their assistance to developing countries in accordance with the goals of the Second United Nations Development Decade and, together with international organizations, make that assistance available in accordance with the national priorities of receiving countries. In this respect, it is recognized, in view of the magnitude of the problems and the consequent national requirements for funds, that considerable expansion of international assistance in the population field is required for the proper implementation of this Plan of Action.

105. It is suggested that the expanding, but still insufficient, international assistance in population and development matters requires increased co-operation; the United Nations Fund for Population Activities is urged, in co-operation with all organizations responsible for international population assistance, to produce a guide for international assistance in population matters which would be made available to recipient countries and institutions and be revised periodically.

106. International non-governmental organizations are urged to respond to the goals and policies of this Plan of Action by co-ordinating their activities with those of other non-governmental organizations, and with those of relevant bilateral and multilateral organizations, by expanding their support for national institutions and organizations dealing with population questions, and by co-operating in the promotion of widespread knowledge of the goals and policies of the Plan of Action, and, when requested, by supporting national and private institutions and organizations dealing with population questions.

### 3. Monitoring, review and appraisal

107. It is recommended that monitoring of population trends and policies discussed in this Plan of Action should be undertaken continuously as a specialized activity of the United Nations and reviewed biennially by the appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, beginning in 1977. Because of the shortness of the intervals, such monitoring would necessarily have to be selective with regard to its informational content and should focus mainly on new and emerging population trends and policies.

108. A comprehensive and thorough review and appraisal of progress made towards achieving the goals and recommendations of this Plan of Action should be undertaken every five years by the United Nations system. For this purpose the Secretary-General is invited to make appropriate arrangements taking account of the existing structure and resources of the United Nations system, and in co-operation with Governments. It is suggested that the first such review be made in 1979 and be repeated each five years thereafter. The findings of such systematic evaluations should be considered by the Economic and Social Council

with the object of making, whenever necessary, appropriate modifications of the goals and recommendations of this Plan.

109. It is urged that both the monitoring and the review and appraisal activities of this Plan of Action be closely co-ordinated with those of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade and any new international development strategy that might be formulated.

## Chapter II

### RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### A. Resolutions

##### Resolution I. Rural development

###### The World Population Conference,

Taking into account the fact that in a large part of the developing countries a high proportion of the population lives in rural areas, frequently scattered in small localities, and does not participate fully in the processes of social and economic change,

Bearing in mind the fact that the levels of productivity and consumption in such rural areas are still very low and that essential health, educational and social security services are usually little developed, a fact which explains in part the prevalence among rural populations of traditional attitudes favourable to large families,

Having regard to projections of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations indicating that in many developing countries, despite a continuing decline in relation to total population, the number of agricultural inhabitants is expected to increase in absolute figures at least until the last decade of the present century,

Taking also into account that certain countries, on the other hand, have large rural areas which are of low population density or in process of depopulation and which, for their better development, are in need of substantial additions to their labour force,

Considering that the demographic experience of the developed countries and of some developing countries indicates that changes in the attitude of the family to demographic behaviour, especially with regard to marriage, the birth of the first child, the spacing of children and desired family size, are related to sustained improvement in basic living conditions, among them increases in agricultural productivity and especially in farmers' income under more equitable and efficient systems of land tenure,

Considering also that the prospective world demand for food-stuffs makes it advisable to promote agricultural output, particularly in the developing countries, and that such increased output would help to raise the volume of employment in rural areas,

Considering further that, aside from increasing the productivity of areas under cultivation, the food production capacity for the growing population in developing countries can be raised through utilization of fertile lands, which have as yet not been brought into cultivation,

Considering further that the modernization of agriculture through appropriate technologies, as opposed to traditional farming methods, would serve to increase and conserve agricultural resources and to protect the environment,

Taking also into account the fact that many developing countries especially those with very high rates of population increase have started programmes to modify patterns of demographic behaviour,

1. Recommends to developing countries that in working out a policy of social and economic development, they give preferential attention to the following:

(a) They should carry out in rural areas intensive programmes of economic and social improvement, with appropriate technical and financial support, aimed at achieving a diversified agricultural development that would increase agricultural output and income for the inhabitants, promote higher levels of education, permit an effective expansion of social services and entail measures for the protection of the environment and the conservation of agricultural resources, thus ensuring a better balance between rural and urban living conditions;

(b) For those purposes they should adopt and intensify programmes of agrarian reform and rural development conducive to the creation of appropriate systems of land tenure and of organizing production and marketing in keeping with the characteristics of each country;

(c) They should promote rural programmes designed to concentrate the inhabitants of sparsely populated areas in efficient and accessible units of production and consumption for which basic social services and the assistance necessary to raise welfare and productivity could be provided;

(d) They should extend, as soon as possible, social welfare programmes and services to rural areas and, through the health and education services, the guidance and services necessary so that the population of such areas may be in a position to decide on the number and spacing of their children;

(e) To the extent necessary the educational systems should be adapted to the needs of rural development and not be centred on a model of urban civilization;

(f) They should introduce increasingly in rural areas industries for the processing of agricultural products and other manufacturing industries with a view to providing regular employment for the rural population and raising the levels of education and training;

(g) They should promote settlement in those rural areas which are able and willing to receive population, with a view to relieving population pressure in areas or countries which find the economic and social absorption of their labour forces difficult;

(h) They should carry out studies on the relationship between population changes and changes in rural conditions in different socio-economic contexts;

2. Recommends to the international community that:

(a) It should intensify international co-operation for the implementation of

the above programmes by providing know-how and technology as well as long-term financial assistance;

(b) It should collaborate closely to create, during the forthcoming World Food Conference, the bases for carrying out coherent and effective programmes to raise agricultural production in order to meet the growing consumption demands for food forecast by demographic projections and the need to raise nutrition levels;

3. Recommends to Governments that they should, in co-operation with relevant organizations of the United Nations system, and in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Development Programme, create new production areas so that a better international distribution and deconcentration of agricultural productivity can be reached and more basic food can be made available at reasonable prices for the developing countries in need;

4. Recommends to the developed countries that they should carry out, as they deem appropriate, policies of regional development to stimulate the repopulation of rural areas affected by major labour-force migration to labour centres;

5. Recommends to the competent bodies of the United Nations that, in the review of progress in the Second Development Decade, they should pay due attention to the need further to encourage agricultural production, especially in the developing countries.

## Resolution II. Socio-economic factors in demographic change

### The World Population Conference,

Considering that the basis for effective political action in the field of population and socio-economic development is full knowledge of the factors involved and their interrelationship,

Conscious of the need to expand knowledge in this field, inter alia, of the interrelations between demographic change and social and economic development in an historical perspective, the distribution of income, international trade and technological change and to develop further new means of analysis, and to improve the statistical basis including data collection in the socio-economic field,

Stressing that the over-all socio-economic policy envisaged presupposes wider knowledge in the fields of economics, education, social welfare and health,

1. Welcomes the efforts undertaken so far in these fields by international organizations, for instance the programme of research on human reproduction undertaken by the World Health Organization and the world employment programme of the International Labour Organisation;

2. Calls upon the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other international organizations and national research organizations and institutions to continue and to expand their research of the socio-economic aspects of demographic change in order to facilitate integrated action by Governments with respect to these problems;

3. Calls upon the international agencies to assist in the development of indigenous research talent and institutions within the developing countries themselves;

4. Calls upon all Member States of the United Nations to co-operate with the international organizations in these endeavours and to extend all possible assistance according to their capacity.

Resolution III. Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States

The World Population Conference,

Bearing in mind the conclusions of the Symposium on Population and Development, held at Cairo, 1/ to the effect that population policies must be an integral part of, and not a substitute for, development policies,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1672 (LII) of 2 June 1972 which stresses that economic and social progress is the common and shared responsibility of each nation and the entire international community,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, which noted that in order to obtain a more closely linked economic development there must be norms for a more just international order governing economic relations between States,

Taking note also of General Assembly resolution 3082 (XXVIII) of 6 December 1973, reaffirming the urgent need to establish, through prompt elaboration of a Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, norms of universal application for appropriate regulation of international economic relations,

Reiterating that, in accordance with resolution 3082 (XXVIII), the United Nations General Assembly will, at its twenty-ninth session, be called upon to consider a draft Charter, constituting a valuable contribution to the task of codification and development of norms governing international economic relations,

Recommends that Governments of States Members of the United Nations should lend maximum support to the formulation of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States which will be considered by the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session, as a means of contributing effectively to the creation of a new international economic order and to the implementation of the principles and objectives of the World Population Plan of Action.

Resolution IV. Status of women

The World Population Conference,

Recognizing that the promotion of the status of women is an integral factor in the development process,

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1/ E/CONF.60/CBP/1, chap. IV.

Recognizing that socio-economic development is curtailed without the active participation of women in all fields of life since they represent half of the population of the nations,

Recognizing that women play a crucial role in the rearing and education of future generations,

Recognizing that there are often cultural and legal restraints which prevent women from achieving full equality in all aspects of society,

Recognizing that many societies are not appropriately organized to enable women to participate fully in employment and public life,

Urges countries:

(a) To eliminate all social practices and legislative measures which discriminate on grounds of sex;

(b) To take effective measures in the fields of education, training, employment, political and cultural life to ensure equal opportunities for men and women;

(c) To provide the necessary social services for the full participation of women in employment and public life;

(d) To integrate women in the planning, implementation and evaluation of development policies;

(e) To aim at the equal participation of women and men in all policy-making and administrative processes.

Resolution V. For a more just world

The World Population Conference,

Believing that the human being is the supreme value of the world and its population the most precious treasure of every country,

Convinced that population, its needs and aspirations, are today and in the long term one of the major issues, with deep national and international consequences, of vital interest for every State in the world,

Examining in this spirit the basic problems of the human condition, the existing situation in the field of population in the world, the political, economic and social causes which have engendered it and the remedies which need to be carried into effect without any delay,

Deeply concerned about the fact that, as a result of historical factors, many peoples find themselves in a state of flagrant under-development, a great many of the inhabitants of the world in conditions of malnutrition, disease, illiteracy, low life expectancy and other calamities which greatly impede the normal development of the population over vast areas of the earth,

Recalling that the ultimate objective of development, which is to bring about sustained improvement in the well-being of the individual and bestow benefits on all, requires increased co-operation on the part of Governments, international organizations, particularly the United Nations, where efforts to accelerate economic and social development and population policies should go hand in hand,

Reaffirming once again our firm belief, strengthened by the age-long experience of mankind, that no people can be truly free and independent if they do not acknowledge and respect the freedom and independence of other peoples,

Noting with deep concern that hotbeds of tension and conflict caused by the use of force and the threat of force in inter-State relations, the arms race, primarily in the nuclear field, and the huge military expenditure it involves greatly jeopardize the peoples and their material and spiritual assets and constitute an ever heavier burden on world population,

Greatly concerned with the gaps between the developed and the developing countries, the inequities and injustices still existent in international economic relations, the obstacles and barriers which still stand in the way of their mutually advantageous collaboration, which add further serious difficulties to the task of the peoples already facing the complex problems of their own social and economic development,

Emphasizing that in the specific conditions of today's under-developed countries the discrepancies and inequalities among regions of the world exert a negative influence on all States, including the developed ones, and bring about in turn new differences, disturbances and crises in international economic relations,

Believing that an efficient political and humane demographic policy requires energetic actions, in the spirit of human solidarity, national equity and international justice, with a view to liquidating all the aforementioned causes and the causes which generated and perpetuated them,

Considering that the population of the developing countries is basically young population which needs a more just, equal and humane world and calls for social change,

Considering the higher status which women are acquiring, thus contributing towards the creation of a fuller human consciousness,

Considering that the rejuvenating changes taking place in the world together with the assertion of the peoples' will to live freely and as sovereign States and to embark on the way of self-reliant economic and social development, the intensification of the struggle of democratic progressive forces for the liquidation of anachronistic manifestations in international life and outdated domestic structures, and because freedom, justice and social equity facilitate the transition to practical actions to these ends,

Firmly determined to approach in a new, constructive and efficient spirit, in keeping with the imperatives of the present historical stage, the problems of the world population in the effort to contribute to their solution according to the aspirations of mankind to build, through the contribution and for the benefit of all peoples, peace, security and economic and social progress all over the world,

Acting in keeping with the goals and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, designed to advance the socio-economic progress of all nations, and in conformity with the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, the international covenants on human rights as well as the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order adopted by the General Assembly in its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI), taking into account the preparatory work undertaken towards the formulation of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States,

1. Solemnly proclaims its firm determination to act to create a more equitable world, based on the principles of full equal rights, the observance of national independence and sovereignty, the non-interference in internal affairs, the mutual advantage, the non-use of force or threat of force, the right of every people to free development in keeping with its aspirations and, in this spirit, adopts the following declaration:

(a) That, as an integral part of the efforts to shape a more equitable world the solving of problems concerning population implies the liquidation of under-development, the elimination of gaps between the industrially advanced States and those lagging behind, thus ensuring the economic and social progress of all peoples;

(b) That the population policy of every State is an organic component of its over-all policy of economic and social development and that the formulation of this policy, depending on the concrete historical, political, economic and social situation, is an indivisible and inalienable attribute of the sovereignty of States;

(c) That the improvement of living conditions and, by and large, the solution of population problems make it imperative to respect the inalienable right of each and every country to be the master of its own national resources, its raw materials and other natural resources, so that such resources may be utilized for the country's economic and social progress with due respect to the need to improve international economic co-operation;

(d) That a decisive role in the process of development should be played by the people's own efforts to implement industrialization and development programmes, thus leading to speedy economic development, to turn fully to account the material and human potential, in keeping with their own interests in progress and well-being, by the modernization of social structures and the achievement of equity on a national plane;

(e) That an important factor in solving population questions is, at the same time, to expand international co-operation within the framework of a new economic order, to set up just relationships, which should eliminate any manifestation of inequity and discriminatory practices, co-operation which should lessen discrepancies and close gaps, thus ensuring the active and advantageous participation of every country in the international division of labour;

(f) That the efficient support of the developing countries, with a view to solving demographic problems, involves, first of all, the concentrated effort of the international community, in the spirit of human solidarity and international

equity, so that more countries may more easily follow the path of harmonious economic and social development;

(g) That international co-operation in science and technology, ensuring effective access of all peoples to scientific and technological gains, is an outstanding objective capable of strongly stimulating economic and social progress and thereby contributing to the solution of fundamental population questions;

(h) That sponsoring and implementing programmes of wide scope, on the scale of the whole earth, the developing countries having priority, so that the spectres of starvation, disease and illiteracy may disappear, so that national personnel may be trained and the population's education and cultural standards improved, offer humane solutions to population problems in the spirit of genuine international solidarity;

(i) That to solve demographic questions requires, first and foremost, peace and security, the extinction of the hotbeds of war and negotiated political solution of conflicts, putting an end to the arms race and converting military allocations to civilian purposes, promoting a new type of relationship between States, based on the principles of international law;

(j) That the practical and efficient approach, in accordance with the supreme interests of every nation and of the whole international community, to political, economic and social questions - on the solution of which the settlement of population problems depends - can and must take place, with all the States participating in the proceedings with full equal rights;

(k) That countries, having accepted a specific financial responsibility to assist the developing countries and given that population policies must be integrated into over-all socio-economic development programmes, must make every effort to meet their targets for official development assistance;

(l) That it is in the interest of all peoples that policies be established and pursued aiming at restoring, protecting and enhancing the human environment and pursuing a foresighted husbandry of non-renewable and renewable natural resources;

2. Expresses its confidence that the efforts made and the results achieved at the World Population Conference at Bucharest will be continued and expanded in the future, in accordance with the interests of peace and the progress of all peoples;

3. Stresses its firm conviction that the United Nations system can and must make an increased contribution to solving the pressing problems which are at present of concern to all mankind and that the United Nations system can and must become an efficient instrument in present-day efforts to build a more just world.

## Resolution VI. Socio-economic factors and demographic change

### The World Population Conference,

Considering that sustained socio-economic development is necessary to create conditions conducive to effective improvements in the quality of life of man and change in demographic patterns,

Considering further that development is a composite of numerous interrelated factors, including education, health improvement, industrialization, urbanization and rural development, a just distribution of income, promotion of the status of women, political stability and higher levels of per capita income,

Recognizing the need to determine the essential minimal levels of each development component needed to bring about changes in demographic patterns, (for example, what level of education, what type of women's employment, what pattern of urbanization) and to take these elements into account in shaping policies,

Considering also that the study of the socio-economic factors in those countries where rapid demographic change has taken place in the recent past makes an important contribution to the understanding of the interrelations between population and development,

1. Recommends that Governments of Member States, the United Nations and its specialized agencies intensify research on the impact of different combinations of components of socio-economic development policies on demographic behaviour and trends and, as suggested in the report of the Symposium on Population and Development, 2/ held at Cairo on the consequences of population trends on socio-economic and environmental variables;

2. Recommends that developing countries in formulating their development policies accord priority to programmes that maximize socio-economic progress thus affecting demographic trends in the manner desired;

3. Recommends that the United Nations system enhance its assistance in the field of development so as to accelerate development and desired demographic change;

4. Recommends that, in particular, international assistance should allow for greater allocations to education and vocational training in developing countries since educational progress can greatly accelerate social changes in such countries;

5. Recommends that the United Nations and its specialized agencies should assist countries in building up their social and health infrastructures and should promote assistance in the field of family planning, integrated in their social and economic planning, to those countries that request it;

6. Recommends that the United Nations, its specialized agencies and its other agencies, developed countries and those which have important resources and provide aid in the field of population should do so in close co-operation and co-ordination with the other development agencies.

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2/ E/CONF.60/CBP/1.

Resolution VII. Food production

The World Population Conference,

Considering that a considerable proportion of the world's population is living in regions of precarious food supply, that hundreds of millions of inhabitants are undernourished and that millions are faced with possible starvation,

Considering that weather conditions in several important food-growing areas have been unfavourable, so that grain crops in 1974 may not even equal 1973 grain production, with production further threatened by the scarcity of fertilizer in many parts of the world, even at present higher prices, and by adverse terms of trade faced by many countries that must import food,

Considering that the assistance being granted to the developing countries is insufficient in comparison with the potentialities of the arable land to be developed to meet the ever growing food needs of an expanding world population,

Recognizing that the solution of the problem of population growth depends largely on a balance between the size of the world's population and the world's production of food-stuffs and volume of available resources and that world grain stocks are lower than in many years so that even greater malnutrition and possible starvation now threaten the world,

1. Urges all Governments to participate fully in the United Nations World Food Conference to be held in Rome in November 1974, to give serious consideration to assigning higher priority in their own countries to food production and fertilizer production and do everything possible to increase the production and appropriate distribution of both food and fertilizer in the remainder of 1974 and throughout the rest of the decade, and to support policies that will improve the terms of trade for food-importing countries;

2. Recommends that the competent United Nations specialized agencies intensify world food programmes in order to foresee and remedy world food shortages, and that they encourage and support the introduction into developing countries of technical knowledge and an acceleration of agricultural production, diversification and processing of agricultural products and of fertilizers.

Resolution VIII. Towards a more equitable distribution of world resources

The World Population Conference,

Considering that a more equitable utilization of world resources is of critical importance in trying to find solutions to world population problems, and

Considering that some countries and groups within countries consume a markedly disproportionate share of those resources,

Urges those countries and groups within countries consuming an excessive share of the world's resources to take steps to reduce this disproportionate

consumption and thereby assist the global effort to ensure a more equitable utilization of those limited resources, taking care not to take action which would affect adversely the ability of developing countries to promote their own development.

Resolution IX. Interrelationships between population, development, resources and environment

The World Population Conference,

Recalling the adopted World Population Plan of Action, 3/

Emphasizing that this Plan of Action must be considered as an essential component of a system of strategies which, taken together, constitute the international community's over-all strategy for the promotion of economic development and the quality of life,

Recognizing that the preservation of the human environment and available natural resources is a multidimensional problem, of which population dynamics is one of the important elements,

Recognizing also that present-day population dynamics is correlated with food supply and the need for expansion and improvement in food production and distribution,

Recognizing also the need for improved analyses of the occurrence of natural hazards resulting from global climatic changes and other causes,

Aware that only highly aggregated and simplified global models have been put forward relating population to resource availability and environmental carrying capacity,

Conscious also of the advantages of initiating comprehensive studies on disaggregated national and regional levels,

Aware of the importance of a world network of country studies which relate national demographic trends to trends in national resource use and environmental impact,

1. Recommends that the relevant existing data be systematically collected and analysed, resulting in conclusions and recommendations which call for generous co-operation from States Members of the United Nations;
2. Recommends that facilities for central research services be provided in a co-ordinated manner within the United Nations system taking into account the role of the United Nations Environment Programme with the aim, inter alia, of working out a synthesis of available collected knowledge at national and regional levels in order to assist Member States and the international community in their efforts to cope with the multidimensional and complex problems of population-development-resources-environment;

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3/ See part one, chap. I of the present report.

3. Emphasizes the need for this work to draw upon the expertise within as well as outside the United Nations system.

Resolution X. Food and fertilizer shortages

The World Population Conference,

Recognizing that millions of people are undernourished and many even go hungry,

Recognizing that population growth is adding 2 per cent annually to the world's population, that is about 75 million a year, with food needs rising in consequence,

Recalling reports that weather conditions in many important food-growing areas have been unfavourable and grain crops in 1974 may not even equal the 1973 grain production,

Recognizing that world grain stocks are lower now than in many years and that there is an acute scarcity of fertilizer in many parts of the world even at the present high prices,

Recommends that all Governments planning to participate in the forthcoming United Nations World Food Conference consider seriously how existing and prospective food and fertilizer shortages can best be overcome and stocks replenished by national efforts and regional and international co-operation.

Resolution XI. Regional co-operation

The World Population Conference

1. Stresses the importance of regional co-operation, as well as other forms of international co-operation among Governments, to deal with and to avoid environmental deterioration and to improve the quality of life in all areas, in conformity with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant United Nations resolutions and with full respect for the legitimate right of peoples to self-determination and in the context of normal relations between States of the regions;

2. Notes the harmful effects of all pollution crossing international boundaries as well as the destructive environmental effects resulting from the occupation of territories by force and the massive displacement of peoples;

3. Recommends the use of technological expertise to improve, maintain or enhance the regional and international environment and prevent pollution to the greatest extent possible.

Resolution XII. Population and the status of women

The World Population Conference,

Recognizing that the promotion of the status of men and women towards full equality in society and in the family should be both a determining factor and an end result of development,

Recognizing that the status of women is related to economic development and social trends as well as to the size and composition of the family and that the promotion of the status of women improves the quality of life of the family and society,

Recognizing the special needs and conditions of women and their families in developing societies and in rural and tribal areas,

Recalling the Declaration on Social Progress and Development proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969, by which it confirmed that parents have the right to determine freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children, and that families should be provided with the knowledge and the means necessary to enable them to exercise this right,

Recognizing that the exercise of the right of parents to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children is closely related to the extent to which women are integrated into the social, economic, cultural and political process of development of the societies in which they live,

Noting with satisfaction General Assembly resolution 3010 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1849 (LVI) of 16 May 1974, proclaiming the year 1975 International Women's Year with the theme "Equality, Development and Peace" and Economic and Social Council resolution 1851 (LVI) of 16 May 1974 in which it recommends that the subject of the status and role of women in society be included in the agenda of the General Assembly at its thirtieth session as a separate agenda item,

Noting with concern the persistent vicious cycle of low education and employment status in many countries,

1. Urges Governments:

- (a) To make equality of women and men an integral part of their development efforts especially in the fields of education, health, employment, political, socio-economic and cultural life and family life;
- (b) To abolish all discrimination on the grounds of sex in law and practice;
- (c) To inform women on all socio-economic levels of their rights and responsibilities;
- (d) To involve women at every stage and every level in the planning and implementation of development programmes, including programmes related to population dynamics and policies;

(e) To consult and involve non-governmental organizations in these efforts as considered appropriate;

2. Requests United Nations organs and the specialized agencies to give special consideration to the impact of development efforts and programmes on the improvement of the status of women, especially in connexion with the review and appraisal of the International Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade and the deliberations of the special session of the General Assembly, in 1975, devoted to development and international co-operation.

Resolution XIII. The rural family

The World Population Conference,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and, in particular, Article 55, which provides that "the United Nations shall promote higher standards of living, full employment, and conditions of economic and social progress and development",

Recalling the purposes and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade and, in particular, paragraphs 65 to 77 thereof relating to human development and the expansion and diversification of production,

Convinced that, as most of the world's population is rural, special attention must be given, in the family policies of States and in efforts by the international community, to changes in rural structures which prevent the emancipation of the rural family and to promoting the solution of its specific needs and problems,

Taking into account the changes which have occurred in recent decades and the processes which are now taking place in rural family structures and their impact on population and the development of human society as a whole,

Conscious of the close relationship between the transformation of traditional agrarian structures and the modification of rural family units,

Bearing in mind the responsibilities incumbent on society for the protection of the family and the family's responsibilities vis-à-vis society.

Fully convinced that, in order to be efficient and humanitarian, population policy must, at the national level, be an integral part of a comprehensive programme of economic and social development,

Emphasizing that it is the right and duty of every State, by virtue of its national sovereignty, to formulate and implement policies likely to promote the well-being of the family and suited to its specific conditions and development

programmes - a principle already embodied in various international documents, in particular in the Stockholm Declaration on the Human Environment 4/ and the Declaration of Population Strategy for Development adopted by the second Asian Population Conference, 5/

Considering also that, while respecting the sovereign right of States to decide their own family policy, the international community can by the formulation of certain general principles help each State to find efficient optimum solutions, support the individual efforts of States and mobilize resources and public opinion for the solution of population problems in the spirit of serving the interests of all peoples,

1. Recommends that in national population policies and, in particular, those of the developing countries, special attention should be given to rural family policy and to the formulation and implementation of a complex of economic and social measures calculated to meet the specific needs of the rural family, and to ensure that each nation enjoys a harmonious demographic development;

2. Considers that to that end it is necessary, inter alia:

(a) To orient the main effort towards programmes for the structural modernization of agriculture and other forms of rural activity and towards the restructuring of the rural environment; furthermore, to have in view encouragement and assistance for the introduction of science and technology, the adoption of forms such as community and co-operative development and other measures designed to liberate the peasant family from some of its tasks as a labour unit, the introduction of all kinds of facilities calculated to ease the burden on women, assistance in the equitable marketing of agricultural produce, and the direction of migration in accordance with the needs and possibilities of each country;

(b) To ensure that the policy of the transformation of rural families takes account of the general trend to transition from the large family model to the nuclear family model and that it adapts relevant programmes to the specific requirements of the latter model and to the well-being of its members, having regard to the specific conditions of each region or country, by strengthening family ties through the extension and development of the fundamental principles of equality, respect, freedom and love among the members of a family;

(c) To ensure that such policy takes due account of traditions and practices relating to marriage and the birth and education of children, of regulations and traditions concerning systems of inheritance and the handing down of possessions, and of the need to protect the aged and that it respects the fundamental rights of national minorities;

(d) To integrate family protection - in a manner consistent with the links that exist between agricultural production cycles and the stages of the family cycle - into differentiated programmes of assistance for the development of agriculture and the support of peasant households;

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4/ Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (United Nations publication, Sales No.E.73.II.A.14), chap. I.

5/ E/CN.11/L.342.

(e) To improve progressively the status of women belonging to rural families through systematic measures designed, on the one hand, to liberate women from certain traditional domestic chores and lighten their work, and, on the other, to train them to do highly skilled work, and to improve and, above all, subsequently perfect their education and occupational

(f) To take appropriate steps to improve the health of the rural population and to support action designed to protect the mother and child;

3. Requests the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and their organs, and other international organizations periodically to review national and international efforts to give all families - rural and urban - equal opportunities to develop normally and achieve their advancement.

#### Resolution XIV. Rural populations

##### The World Population Conference,

Recognizing the beneficial effect of development in general on population problems,

Recognizing the prevalence of excessive morbidity, malnutrition and mortality in most developing countries and their adverse effect on the family in particular and population trends in general,

Conscious of the fact that women and children, who constitute about 70 per cent of most rural populations in developing countries, are the most vulnerable groups and the main target of development.

Recommends that all nations give a higher priority to, and that the specialized agencies pay special attention to the following, as a matter of urgency:

(a) The provision of adequate, potable water supplies;

(b) Local food production for appropriate nutrition;

(c) The establishment and improvement of essential health services, which include preventive medicine, health and nutrition education, antenatal and delivery service, immunization and family planning with special attention to rural areas;

(d) Education and training of local personnel and research in the above areas;

(e) The introduction of labour-intensive activities and social welfare programmes that promote self-help in matters of housing and food production.

Resolution XV. Population and research

The World Population Conference,

Recognizing that knowledge of demographic phenomena in all their aspects concerning the family is insufficient, especially of their interrelations with social and economic dynamics,

Aware that a better understanding of the various social and economic variables that interact with family functions and structures is important for the formulation, evaluation and implementation of appropriate population policies and for enhancing the value of the family in society as well as of its elements,

1. Recommends that the international organizations concerned, and all Governments establishing long-range programmes of research, consider the research priorities set forth in the World Population Plan of Action;
2. Recognizes the importance of international co-operation and of the role to be played in the field of research by the United Nations, through its appropriate bodies;
3. Suggests that, within the United Nations system, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities provide adequate financial assistance to national and international research programmes, for which purpose it is recommended that the Fund devote an appropriate percentage of its allocations to research;
4. Requests that all international co-operation in the field of research be undertaken in full agreement with the objectives and strategies of national population policies;
5. Suggests that the United Nations bodies should support national and international programmes which deal specifically with bio-medical research on fertility and its variations, both normal and pathological, and research on the interaction between fertility and demographic variables and socio-economic factors;
6. Requests that, within the above-mentioned framework, studies should be carried out on the genetic effects of different family sizes and of population dynamics.

Resolution XVI. Population policies

The World Population Conference,

Considering that population policies should be adopted by each country only as one of the elements promoting general development, the objective of which is maximum well-being and an increasingly better quality of life, individually and collectively, for its inhabitants,

Considering that population policies, where they exist, should be consistent with such universal realities as social and economic development, the juridical, political, social and cultural equality of women, respect for the rights of parents and children, including adoptive parents and children, the strengthening

of family ties, the right of parents to transmit life to and to determine consciously and responsibly the number and spacing of their children, the dissemination of appropriate information on population problems, social and scientific aspects of questions relating to population and the family, pre-marital education and family planning, scientific research in those fields, related health care, increased intellectual and material resources and their appropriate distribution, changes of system among States in the economic order, greater social justice etc.,

Taking into account the fact that, according to the public statements of the great majority of the representatives of the States participating in the present Conference, it is the right of each nation to determine its own population policy in the unrestricted exercise of its sovereignty,

Considering that the normative and operational aspects of such population policy must be adapted to the social, cultural, political and economic realities existing in each country and even in each region within national frontiers, by appropriate planning of demographic variables,

Recommends:

(a) That programmes should be established and promoted to provide guidance, information and services in order that individuals and couples may determine the number and spacing of the children they desire through educational means and health care, both in the public sector and through non-governmental channels approved by national Governments, care being taken to ensure that they are carried out with absolute respect for the fundamental rights of the human being, that they preserve the dignity of the family, and that no coercive measures are used;

(b) That population development should be influenced through educational systems, public health, vocational and technical training and child welfare and that efforts should be made to obtain the participation of the community in the solution of the problems that affect it;

(c) That all population policies and programmes depend on the conditions in each country and fall within its sovereignty, with absolute respect for human rights and the relevant United Nations declarations;

(d) That emphasis should be placed on considerations relating to the repercussions of population policies on the quality of human life, each country having the sovereign right to establish or not to establish its qualitative and quantitative targets and the order of their priority, in accordance with human rights;

(e) That national sovereignty, human dignity and human rights should be fully respected in any programme comprising experimentation regarding methods relating to fertility. Such methods should first be approved by the Governments both of the country of origin and of the country in which they are used.

Resolution XVII. The family and development

The World Population Conference,

Considering that the importance of the family and of the role of women in all societies demands the support of any proposal or solution which aims at improving and affirms the rights and responsibilities of all members of the family as individuals, without any discrimination on the grounds of sex, with emphasis on the care and well-being of children,

Considering that limiting the size of the family cannot in itself solve the problems related to the emancipation of women and the well-being of the family,

Considering that any policy for improving the status of women and of the family in general results essentially from an economic, social and cultural development capable of ensuring education and health for all and of raising the income and bettering the living conditions of the most underprivileged,

Considering that development is directly linked to the transformation of international economic relations and to the establishment of a new economic order, which is an essential condition for resolving population and development problems,

Considering that any approach to solving the problems of poverty, disease, malnutrition and famine in the world solely by reducing the population is not only unjust in that it seriously affects human dignity but also ineffectual, since the cause of the population problem lies not only in the number of individuals, but also in the existing inequitable international economic structures, which are aggravated by the existence of relations of dependence and exploitation,

1. Considers that, in order to create throughout the world a just society in which families can realize their full potentialities, it is necessary:

(a) To reject all solutions that ignore these realities and encourage an approach which would consolidate the inequalities in the world and retard progress in the countries of the third world and in the entire world;

(b) To reaffirm the need to promote at the world level a new economic order, in accordance with the final decisions as adopted by the General Assembly at its sixth special session, which would:

- (i) Eliminate the barriers and obstacles to development encountered in trade and financial relations or in the industrial development of the third world;
- (ii) Ensure the control and just exploitation of their natural resources for their own development, in particular, by their exercise of full sovereignty over their natural resources;
- (iii) Put an end to the waste and overconsumption which certain developed countries practise, in order to preserve the reproducible and non-reproducible resources of the world;

2. Reaffirms likewise that each sovereign State may determine its own priorities and the appropriate solutions for its economic and social development and population problems;

3. Recommends that the couple and the individual should be allowed full freedom to choose in a responsible manner the number and spacing of their children. For the exercise of this basic human right of really being able to choose, it is necessary for States to respect these decisions by appropriate measures of assistance and information;

4. Advocates the need to promote measures and policies intended to improve and protect the health of men, women and children.

#### Resolution XVIII. Decolonization

##### The World Population Conference,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and all other resolutions adopted by the United Nations bodies on this subject, including in particular Economic and Social Council resolution 1892 (LVII) of 1 August 1974.

Noting with satisfaction the statement of the representative of Portugal on 26 August 1974 and the declaration of the President of Portugal concerning the promulgation of a decree by the Council of State of Portugal recognizing the right to independence of the peoples of the colonial Territories concerned and the acceptance by the Government of Portugal of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) as well as all other relevant decisions and resolutions of the United Nations with regard to Territories under Portuguese colonial domination,

Taking into account that colonialism has impeded the socio-economic development of the Territories under Portuguese domination and has led to depopulation,

Mindful of the imperative necessity to accelerate the process of decolonization,

Noting the lack of any proper demographic and population data on the Territories still under colonial domination,

1. Requests the Government of Portugal to accelerate the granting of full independence to all the Territories still under its colonial domination;

2. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations and all organizations within the United Nations system to undertake all necessary measures in order to ensure that proper demographic and population data of these Territories is available and to prepare a comprehensive emergency plan of action to assist the peoples of the Territories concerned in their economic and social development upon their accession to independence.

Resolution XIX. Policies of apartheid in South Africa,  
Namibia and Southern Rhodesia

The World Population Conference,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 2671 D (XXV) of 8 December 1970, 2775 H (XXVI) of 29 November 1971, 2923 F (XXVII) of 13 December 1972 and 3151 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973,

Taking into account General Assembly resolution 2919 (XXVII) of 15 November 1972, on the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination,

Firmly convinced that apartheid and racial discrimination in all its forms and manifestations are a total negation of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the objectives of the World Population Conference,

Gravely concerned that the practice of the policy of apartheid in South Africa, Namibia and Southern Rhodesia leads to a serious deterioration in the quality of life and levels of living of the population, particularly as a result of:

- (a) Compulsory and forced removal of entire black communities from their historical areas of settlement to arid localities;
- (b) Unlawful interference, through the system of labour camps and forced labour, with the basic right of couples and families to live together;
- (c) Denial of the basic right of black people to international travel;
- (d) Denial of all basic freedom rights under the so-called "Suppression of Communism Act";
- (e) The inferior "Bantu" educational system;
- (f) Poorer-quality houses and dwellings for the black people;
- (g) Unemployment and underemployment among the blacks, and white migration to South Africa due to what they call the "Jobs Reservation Act";
- (h) Unequal distribution of national income which has led to the poverty of black people;
- (i) Impeding socio-economic development;
- (j) Impeding the national population growth;
- (k) Remarkably high rates of morbidity and mortality;
- (l) Lack of proper censuses and demographic data;
- (m) Illegal and unwarranted public floggings of black citizens.

Strongly convinced that the practice of apartheid constitutes a crime against humanity and in particular a crime of genocide,

Conscious that the eradication of apartheid and racial discrimination in South Africa, Namibia and Southern Rhodesia is in the interest of all humanity,

Reaffirming that the policies and actions of the illegal minority régimes in South Africa and Southern Rhodesia have created and continue to pose a serious threat to international peace and security,

Noting with satisfaction the role of the United Nations and its Special Committee on Apartheid and their efforts in promoting concerted international action against apartheid and racial discrimination:

1. Condemns the minority régimes in South Africa, Namibia and Southern Rhodesia for repeated acts of aggression and inhumanity against the peoples of those areas and their continued defiance of the resolutions of the United Nations;
2. Considers that the struggle of the oppressed peoples of South Africa, Namibia and Southern Rhodesia by all available means for the total eradication of apartheid is legitimate and deserves the support of the international community;
3. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations and all executive heads of organizations within the United Nations system to intensify their efforts in the world struggle against apartheid and racial discrimination;
4. Requests the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to undertake special studies on the effects of apartheid on the population of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia, and to present its report to the United Nations Special Committee on Apartheid;
5. Calls upon all Governments which have not yet done so to ensure the political, military and economic isolation of the régimes in South Africa, Namibia and Southern Rhodesia.

Resolution XX. Payment of travel costs and other related expenses to representatives of national liberation movements

The World Population Conference,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1892 (LVII) of 1 August 1974 and in particular paragraph 2 (d),

Requests the General Assembly to defray all travel costs and other related expenses of representatives of the national liberation movements who have participated in the World Population Conference.

Resolution XXI. Expression of thanks

The World Population Conference,

Recognizing the importance of the international activities within the United Nations system aimed at solving the pressing problems of population in the world as well as the urgency to find adequate solutions,

Convinced that the World Population Conference which took place at Bucharest from 19 to 30 August 1974 represents a major contribution to the efforts of the international community to find appropriate solutions to the problems of population,

Expresses its deep appreciation to the President of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Nicolae Ceausescu, and to the Government and the people of the Socialist Republic of Romania for making possible the holding of the Conference at Bucharest and for the generous hospitality and great contribution to the successful completion of the work of the Conference.

## B. Recommendations

### Recommendation I. Study of the problems of aging populations and of youth

1. The World Population Conference recommends that great importance should be attached to the phenomenon of aging. Owing to the decline in fertility and possible medical progress against cancer and the other diseases of old age, aging will sooner or later affect all nations more or less intensely. It will be important to study carefully the social and economic consequences and the repercussions on morale, particularly with regard to a sense of vitality and progress.
2. The Conference considers that it would be likewise necessary to study the potential that exists in the developing areas of the world which are characterized by a high proportion of young people.

### Recommendation II. Demographic centres and the training of researchers

The World Population Conference recommends:

(a) That the United Nations-Romania Demographic Centre, which is to be engaged in study and research work on population and development, and other established United Nations demographic centres, should include in their thematic research and training programmes as well as in their professional activity, the questions about the interrelationships of population, resources and the environment;

(b) That the promotion of education and training of research workers, and of giving them specialization and the capability of approaching in a multidisciplinary manner the questions pertaining to the interrelationship of population, resources and the environment;

### Recommendation III. United Nations Conference-Exposition on Human Settlements

The World Population Conference, recognizing the importance of housing and the environment for the development of the population and the role of demographic factors in the programming and planning of housing, expresses the desire that the

United Nations Conference-Exposition on Human Settlements, to be held at Vancouver in 1976, should take into consideration in its programme of work the conclusions of the World Population Conference, especially with regard to the possible effects of increasing population on housing and sanitary facilities, human health factors, the environment and eco-systems.

Recommendation IV. Symposium on Population, Resources  
and Environment

The World Population Conference decides that the report of the Symposium on Population, Resources and Environment held at Stockholm 6/ be annexed to the basic document considered by the Second Committee under agenda item 9 of the Conference, entitled "Population, resources and the environment". 7/

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6/ E/CONF.60/CBP/3.

7/ E/CONF.60/5.

Part two

CONSTITUTION OF THE CONFERENCE



## Chapter III

### PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

1. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1484 (XLVIII) of 3 April 1970 on the Third World Population Conference, 1/ approved a recommendation of the Population Commission that a World Population Conference be convened in 1974 under the auspices of the United Nations. In accordance with the terms of the same resolution, the Conference, which was to be the first global conference of Governments on population, was to consider "basic demographic problems, their relationship with economic and social development, and population policies and action programmes needed to promote human welfare and development".
2. By resolution 1672 (LII) of 2 June 1972 on population and development, the Council assigned to the Population Commission the additional function of serving as the intergovernmental preparatory body for the Conference. The Commission was also to act in that capacity for World Population Year, the year 1974 having been designated as such by the General Assembly in its resolution 2683 (XXV) of 11 December 1970.
3. The Council had further requested in resolution 1672 B (LII) that the Secretary-General appoint within the Department of Economic and Social Affairs a Secretary-General for the Conference and for the World Population Year activities specifically related to the Conference, including the symposia on population and development, human rights, the family and resources and environment. The Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities was designated as having responsibility for preparations for the World Population Year.
4. In October 1972, the Secretary-General of the United Nations appointed Antonio Carrillo Flores of Mexico to be Secretary-General of the Conference.
5. The Population Commission met in three special sessions in its capacity as intergovernmental preparatory body, as follows: first special session, 7-15 August 1972; second special session, 19-30 March 1973; third special session, 4-15 March 1974. The Commission at its seventeenth session, 29 October-9 November 1973, also considered the preparatory work for the Conference and the Year in addition to its regular functions.
6. At its fifty-fourth session in 1973 and at its fifty-sixth session in 1974, the Economic and Social Council considered the recommendations of the Population Commission on the preparations for the Conference. These concerned the organization and management of the Conference, consultations with Governments including regional consultations, the draft rules of procedure, the draft annotated provisional agenda and proposed time-table, administrative and financial implications, parallel and

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1/ The two earlier World Population Conferences, held at Rome in 1954 and at Belgrade in 1965, consisted of scientific meetings of experts participating in their personal capacity. For the summary reports of the Conferences, see United Nations publications, Sales Nos. 55.XIII.8 and 66.XIII.5, respectively.

associated activities, and the substantive preparations, including four symposia, a draft World Population Plan of Action, preliminary versions of other basic documents and the status of background papers.

7. At its fifty-fourth session, the Economic and Social Council accepted with appreciation the invitation extended by the Government of Romania to hold the World Population Conference at Bucharest in August 1974.

8. The Population Commission had recommended an agenda for the Conference with the following substantive items: recent population trends and future prospects; population change and economic and social development; population, resources and the environment; population and the family; and a draft World Population Plan of Action.

9. On the recommendation of the Commission, five basic Conference documents were prepared corresponding to the substantive items of the provisional agenda. Those documents, as far as possible, took into account the findings of the four symposia which had been held as follows: the Symposium on Population and Development (Cairo, 4-14 June 1973); the Symposium on Population and the Family (Honolulu, 6-15 August 1973); the Symposium on Population, Resources and Environment (Stockholm, 26 September-5 October 1973); and the Symposium on Population and Human Rights (Amsterdam, 21-29 January 1974). In those meetings, critical areas were examined at a technical level by selected groups of experts.

10. The Draft World Population Plan of Action was prepared by the Secretary-General with the assistance of the Advisory Committee of Experts on the World Population Plan of Action. The suggestions of Governments, the Population Commission, various United Nations bodies and a variety of technical studies were taken into account. The Advisory Committee met three times: in June 1972, July 1973 and February 1974.

11. The Draft Plan was also discussed with representatives of Governments at a series of five regional consultations held in 1974 at San José, Costa Rica (15-19 April); Bangkok (7-10 May); Addis Ababa (13-16 May); Damascus (21-23 May); and Geneva (29-31 May).

12. In addition to the basic Conference documents, a series of selected background papers, which included the symposia reports, were prepared and circulated to Governments before the Conference. Of these, 35 were in the languages of the Conference and 18 in the original language only. The background papers were selected in consultation with a review committee for background and symposia papers of the Conference, after a total of 107 papers prepared for the Conference and the symposia had been examined.

13. Invitations to participate in the Conference were sent to all States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency. In addition, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam was invited to take full part in the Conference, and the Government of Papua New Guinea was invited to participate as an observer, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1835 (LVI) of 14 May 1974. Pursuant to that resolution, "representatives of the liberation movements now recognized by the Organization of African Unity and/or by the League of Arab States" were invited to participate without the right to vote.

14. The specialized agencies and IAEA were invited to be represented. The regional development banks and intergovernmental organizations were invited to be represented by observers. Those non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council which had stated that they wished to be represented by observers were also invited to the Conference.

15. The Economic and Social Council at its organizational session for 1974 decided that the report of the World Population Conference would be included as an item on the agenda of the Council's resumed fifty-seventh session (decision 1 (LVI)). This was to enable the report to be considered by the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session and to be considered further by the Council at its fifty-eighth session. In resolution 1835 (LVI), the Council considered that the results of the Conference would "constitute an important contribution to the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly devoted to development and international economic co-operation called for in Assembly resolution 3172 (XXVIII) of 17 December 1973, and thus to the Assembly itself".



Part three

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONFERENCE



## Chapter IV

### ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

16. The United Nations World Population Conference was held at Bucharest, Romania from 19 to 30 August 1974.

#### A. Attendance

17. The representatives of the following 136 States invited in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1672 B (LII) took part in the Conference: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Dahomey, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany (Federal Republic of), Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Holy See, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Khmer Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Republic, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Viet-Nam, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Western Samoa, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

18. In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1835 (LVI) an observer for the Government of Papua New Guinea participated in the Conference.

19. Representatives of the following national liberation movements invited in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1835 (LVI) also took part in the Conference: The African National Congress of South Africa, the National Liberation Front of Angola, the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Liberation Front of the Somali Coast.

20. The Secretary-General of the United Nations was present at the inaugural meeting of the Conference. The Conference was attended by representatives from the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the regional economic commissions, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the World Food Conference and the World Food Programme.

21. Representatives of the following specialized agencies also attended: the International Labour Organisation, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Health Organization and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

22. Observers from the following 11 intergovernmental organizations participated in the Conference: the African, Malagasy and Mauritian Common Organization; the Asian Development Bank; the Commission of the European Economic Communities; the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance; the Council of Europe; the Inter-American Development Bank; the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration; the League of Arab States; the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; the Organization of African Unity and the Organization of American States. Representatives of 109 international non-governmental organizations invited to the Conference also participated as observers.

#### B. Opening of the Conference and election of the President

23. The Conference was opened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations. In his statement the Secretary-General recalled that at the special session of the General Assembly in April 1974 he had identified six primary issues which demanded immediate attention by the international community. These were mass poverty, food supplies, the utilization of energy, military expenditures, the world monetary system and the unprecedented rate of population growth. With the virtual certainty that the world's population would double in the next generation or so it was clear that the next 35 years could be the most challenging in the history of mankind. The one overriding problem, created by the rapid pace of technological and political change, was how to improve the quality of human life.

24. The World Population Conference should be viewed not in isolation, but as one of an extended series of important international events which together could determine the course of the United Nations in the rest of the century. He particularly referred to the International Conference on Human Rights held at Teheran in 1968, the United Nations Conference on the Environment held in Stockholm in 1972, the special session of the General Assembly on raw materials and resources in April of this year, the World Food Conference to be held in Rome in November and the Conference on Human Settlements to be held in Vancouver in 1976. Each of these events emphasizes a particular aspect of the closely interconnected set of problems which confront the world. The global nature of these problems made complex demands on the United Nations system, and impelled it to take the central position.

25. The World Population Plan of Action emphatically recognized the prerogatives of national sovereignty and fundamental human rights. Although it addressed itself to the overwhelming new factor of rapid population growth, it dealt equally with problems of mortality and morbidity, subfecundity, internal and international migration, family formation and the status of women. It suggested that States formulate explicit population policies and anticipate the greater demands that would result on resources available through international assistance. Finally, the Plan called for improved and expanded data collection and analysis, and for more extensive demographic research.

26. The Plan was inevitably limited in scope because it dealt with but one part of the interconnected problems which had to be solved if mankind were to achieve

a real improvement in the quality of life. But the Conference would consider population matters in a wide context and especially in that of socio-economic development. Its discussions would be affected by a variety of related concerns, particularly the need for a new international economic order. The main concern of the Conference was not with mere numbers but with human well-being and social justice.

27. At its first meeting the Conference heard an address by His Excellency Mr. Nicolae Ceausescu, President of the Socialist Republic of Romania. He extended, on behalf of the State Council, the Government and himself, cordial greetings to all the participants. This Conference was designed to debate one of the fundamental questions of mankind's future and was of special importance under current international circumstances. "We call upon all heads of State, all Governments and peoples", he declared, "to do everything for the achievement of a world of co-operation and peace, where every nation would be able to develop freely and benefit fully from the gains of world civilization."

28. Demographic policy must take into account the historical, economic and social conditions in each country and be based on concrete reality, as the demographic map of the contemporary world presented a great variety of situations. Every State had the sovereign right to promote that demographic policy and those measures which it considered most suitable, consonant with its national interests, without any outside interference.

29. In addressing population questions, Mr. Ceausescu said that one should necessarily proceed from the fact that man is the determining factor in economic and social progress. Hence, the entire organization of society and the general policy of States must have as their supreme goal man's welfare and the guarantee of his freedom and dignity, and the participation of the masses in making their own history. Demographic policy should take account of the need to ensure a normal ratio among age groups in order to maintain permanently a nation's youth and vitality, its creative energy and power to think. In pursuing this goal it was continuously necessary to develop productive forces. The growth of food production, the modernization of agriculture, and the development and improvement of industry demanded sustained efforts from every country. At the same time, it was necessary to pay greater attention to protecting and preserving nature and the environment which, in the conditions of modern industrial civilization, are factors of decisive importance for the evolution of mankind - both for the lives of our contemporaries and for future generations. Population questions must be analysed in close connexion with the evolution of international relations, bearing in mind the fact that unequal and inequitable relations of domination and oppression are still maintained nationally and internationally.

30. The fact that some two thirds of the world's population live in underdeveloped or developing countries, and that the gap separating many of these countries from the economically advanced States has widened instead of narrowing, was a tragic reality of the world today. More than ever before, Mr. Ceausescu declared, firm actions were necessary to base international relations on the principles of equality and respect for national sovereignty and the establishment of a new economic order.

31. Noting the increasing discussion in the world today of our planet's possibilities of supporting the expected future numbers of people, Mr. Ceausescu

rejected the pessimistic thesis which held that subsistence resources will soon be exhausted and that a general food crisis will develop should the present rate of population growth be maintained. Scientific surveys and the development programmes of numerous countries had shown that the world still possessed huge unused reserves and vast regions still exist on our planet where resources have not yet even been explored. Success in meeting future requirements depended, however, on more intensive development of the productive forces in every country and the maximum use by all people of their resources. This called for a more equitable distribution of wealth among peoples and the access of all nations to contemporary science and technology. An essential condition for solving the population question was the liquidation of underdevelopment, and the creation of equality and active co-operation among all continents and States.

32. He cited the extinction of tensions still existing in the world as a condition of primary importance for pooling all nations' efforts towards achieving economic and social prosperity. On this point, a cardinal problem of today's world was to free mankind from the burden of excessive military expenditure. Another condition was the ending of colonialism and neo-colonialist practices. The movement towards détente must be strengthened and in this respect the consolidation of co-operation, security and peace in Europe was particularly important. This was in the interest of all peoples, because world peace is indivisible.

33. Mr. Ceausescu said that Romania considers that the World Population Conference should find ways for furthering active co-operation among nations, in the spirit of full equality, towards the greater use of the gains of contemporary science and technology for the progress of the whole human society. The United Nations and other international bodies should play an ever more active role in solving the issues facing mankind today. Progressive forces everywhere should work for the democratization of international relations, for the achievement of disarmament and the allocation of a portion of the resources thus released to the economic and social development of the countries lagging behind, the eradication of food shortages, the elimination of illiteracy, the improvement of medical assistance and the protection of the environment. In this way, better living conditions could be created for the whole population of the earth.

34. Romania, he said, has become master of its own destiny and has achieved considerable advances in the past 30 years. Romania resolutely works for the broad development of international co-operation with all States in the spirit of peaceful coexistence. Romania considers that the World Population Conference should work out ways of further developing active co-operation among nations in the spirit of full equality for the happiness of people everywhere.

35. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 19 August 1974, the Conference elected by acclamation His Excellency Mr. George Macovescu (Romania), as President of the Conference. Addressing the Conference, Mr. Macovescu said that the Conference represented a new manifestation of the role the United Nations was called upon to play in the solution of basic problems of humanity. Thus, the subject of population had been added to the great debates initiated by the United Nations, side by side with those on development, industrialization, natural resources, environment and food.

36. The President referred to the wide participation in the Conference, which included representatives of States Members of the United Nations, of other national Governments, national liberation movements, specialized agencies of the United

Nations system and numerous non-governmental organizations. Reflecting the political and social configuration of the world today, this wide participation provided an essential condition for concerted action by the international community in devising a strategy in which man and his needs, his material and cultural development, must be the focal point.

37. It was natural, the President said, for each nation to have its own peculiarities and distinctive personality within the large family of nations. However, there existed a series of fundamental problems common to all. The Conference aimed precisely at identifying these problems, examining their interrelationships with economic and social development and laying the foundations of sound international co-operation in the field of population.

38. The President stressed the need for an international climate of peace and security as an essential condition for providing the world's population with a dignified and civilized life. The very nature of the difficult problems with which the Conference had to deal offered sufficient reason for the deployment of all efforts in this direction as well as the creation of an international climate in which the principles of equal rights and respect for national sovereignty were strictly observed.

39. At its 1st plenary meeting, the Conference heard an address by the Secretary-General of the Conference. He emphasized that the political nature of the World Population Conference made it radically different from the previous international meetings on population held at Geneva in 1927, in Rome in 1954 and at Belgrade in 1965.

40. It was evident, in demographic matters he said, that there were many unanswered questions, but in spite of this, and despite the fact that many countries did not have population policies, no one questioned the value of holding this Conference. Demographic matters, in general, were passing into the area of governmental responsibility and there was no doubt that they were a necessary component of development policy.

41. Every country should diagnose its own problems and determine what action it should take. The task of the international community was to promote research, gather and interpret data and to co-operate with those who needed and asked for help; anything else would be an intolerable imposition.

42. In the past there had been resistance to the involvement of the United Nations in population questions on anything but purely statistical or scientific matters, and there had been misgivings that the organization might be used as an instrument which could impose policies incompatible with human dignity and the diversity of contemporary societies.

43. These fears were allayed by the recognition at the International Conference on Human Rights held at Teheran in 1968 of the right to free and responsible parenthood. It was now seen as the duty of the State to provide guidance and educational, health and other services to facilitate the exercise of this right. But the question remained of how people could be motivated to exercise their rights under conditions of poverty, high infant mortality and morbidity. It was because the existence of such conditions prevented responsible parenthood that the World Population Plan of Action gave the highest priority to the protection of those already born, regardless of demographic consequences.

44. In view of the rapid growth of the world's population, it was understandable why there was such wide recognition of the need for more rapid economic and social development. But different objective conditions led to differences in approach. In many countries of Asia, attempts to reduce rates of population growth have been recognized as a necessary part of development efforts; in parts of Africa, Europe and Latin America demographic facts were different, and consequently attitudes were also different. Yet in spite of such differences, a world consensus was possible as evidenced by the favourable reception given to the World Population Plan of Action at all five pre-Conference regional consultations. This was possible because the most important measures for the implementation of population policies were justified from a human point of view, independently of their demographic consequences; hence the importance of the declaration on fundamental human rights at Teheran, and the efforts to improve the social, cultural, and political status of women.

45. The World Population Plan of Action was essentially a systematic presentation of the ways countries could try to influence a number of population questions within the framework of their own integrated development programmes. To define and implement these programmes was the sovereign right of States. The Conference could help if it approved, by consensus, recommendations to facilitate political action where necessary. But any action would be effective only by reaching the basic unit of all societies - the family.

46. The Conference would undoubtedly deal with the problem of the wide disparity between developed and developing countries in the consumption of food and natural resources. The struggle for a fairer international economic order must continue. The greatest effort would have to be made by countries whose populations would continue to grow for many decades to come. In view of insufficient resources of food, technology and capital, these countries should try to design their own models for progress, and to the extent possible, their own technology.

47. The effects of population policies were usually not evident for a long period, but they resulted in immediate human benefits not reflected in demographic variables. The World Population Conference was being held for love of life, not for fear of it.

#### C. Adoption of the rules of procedure

48. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 August 1974, the Chairman of the Population Commission, the intergovernmental preparatory body for the Conference, presented the recommendations formulated at the pre-Conference consultations, held at Bucharest from 15 to 17 August 1974. The Conference adopted the provisional rules of procedure approved by the Economic and Social Council (E/CONF.60/2), with the following amendments:

(a) In rule 6, it increased the number of Vice-Presidents from "not more than 30" to "31";

(b) It added two new rules, numbered 10 and 11, dealing with the composition and functions of the Bureau of the Conference. The subsequent rules were renumbered accordingly.

49. As thus amended, the rules of procedure of the Conference were issued in document E/CONF.60/10.

50. At its 6th plenary meeting, on 22 August 1974, the Conference adopted, upon the recommendation of the Bureau, a further amendment to its rules of procedure, by adding a new rule, numbered 58, entitled "Observers for the International Youth Population Conference". As explained by the President, the recommendation of the Bureau was based on an understanding reached in the Population Commission. Rule 58 was issued as document E/CONF.60/10/Add.1.

D. Election of officers other than the President

51. At its 2nd plenary meeting, the Conference elected the 31 Vice-Presidents from the following States:

Argentina	Kenya
Australia	Mexico
Cuba	Nigeria
Czechoslovakia	Pakistan
Ecuador	Senegal
Egypt	Sri Lanka
France	Sudan
Gabon	Sweden
Germany, Federal Republic of	Thailand
Greece	Tunisia
Guinea	Turkey
Indonesia	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Iran	United States of America
Iraq	Uruguay
Jamaica	Yugoslavia
Japan	

52. It also elected P. B. Desai (India) as Rapporteur General.

53. The Conference also elected Carlos Sanz de Santamaria (Colombia) as Chairman of the First Committee, David Ovens (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) as Chairman of the Second Committee, Estefania Aldaba-Lim (Philippines) as Chairman of the Third Committee and Oubouzar Ali (Algeria) as Chairman of the Working Group on the World Population Plan of Action.

54. In accordance with the rules of procedure of the Conference, the Committees elected their own vice-chairmen and rapporteurs as follows:

First Committee: A. Delperee (Belgium), Vice-Chairman;  
Kweku T. de Graft-Johnson (Ghana), Rapporteur

Second Committee: Simeon Hongo Ominde (Kenya), Vice Chairman;  
Masihur Rahman Khan (Bangladesh), Rapporteur

Third Committee: Victor Morgan (Costa Rica), Vice-Chairman;  
Ester Boserup (Denmark), Rapporteur

Working Group on the World Population Plan of Action: Fook Kee Wan (Singapore), Vice-Chairman; Nikola Naumoa (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman; Wendy Dobson (Canada), Rapporteur

E. Adoption of the agenda

55. The Conference, at its 2nd plenary meeting, adopted the following agenda (E/CONF.60/1):

1. Opening of the Conference and election of the President
2. Adoption of the rules of procedure
3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
4. Establishment of committees and other sessional bodies
5. Election of officers other than the President
6. Credentials of representatives to the Conference:
  - (a) Appointment of the Credentials Committee
  - (b) Report of the Credentials Committee
7. Recent population trends and future prospects
8. Population change and economic and social development
9. Population, resources and the environment
10. Population and the family
11. World Population Plan of Action
12. Adoption of the report of the Conference

F. Establishment of sessional bodies

56. In accordance with rule 4 of the rules of procedure, the Conference, at its 2nd plenary meeting, established a Credentials Committee composed of the following States: China, Greece, Japan, Nicaragua, Senegal, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America and Uruguay.

57. In accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure, the Conference at its 2nd plenary meeting established three main committees of the whole and a working group of the whole to study the substantive items of its agenda.

58. It allocated to the plenary the following items:

Opening of the Conference and election of the President (agenda item 1)

Adoption of the rules of procedure (agenda item 2)

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work (agenda item 3)

Establishment of committees and other sessional bodies (agenda item 4)

Election of officers other than the President (agenda item 5)

Credentials of representatives to the Conference (agenda item 6)

(a) Appointment of the Credentials Committee

(b) Report of the Credentials Committee

Recent population trends and future prospects (agenda item 7)

Adoption of the report of the Conference (agenda item 12)

59. It allocated to the First Committee the following item:

Population change and economic and social development (agenda item 8)

60. It allocated to the Second Committee the following item:

Population, resources and the environment (agenda item 9)

61. It allocated to the Third Committee the following item:

Population and the family (agenda item 10)

62. It allocated to the Working Group on the World Population Plan of Action the following item:

World Population Plan of Action (agenda item 11)

63. The reports of the sessional bodies and an account of the action taken in plenary on those reports and on other matters are given in chapter VI.

## Chapter V

### SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL DEBATE

#### A. General context of the debate

64. The general debate, including item 7 of the agenda, entitled "Recent population trends and future prospects" was conducted in 12 plenary meetings, from 20 to 27 August 1974. For its consideration of the item, the Conference had before it a basic document entitled "Recent population trends and future prospects" (E/CONF.60/3). The Conference was addressed by the representatives of 105 Member States, 2 national liberation movements, 16 United Nations bodies, 7 intergovernmental organizations and 7 non-governmental organizations. A representative of the International Youth Population Conference also addressed the Conference in plenary. All speakers expressed their gratitude and appreciation to President Nicolae Ceausescu and the Government and people of the Socialist Republic of Romania, to the President of the Conference, and to the Secretary-General of the Conference.

65. Many speakers commended the spirit and ideal of the motto of World Population Year "One World For All", and accepted that while this was not at present a reality, it was the goal to which the world Organization and all nations might constantly aspire. There was widespread agreement that population questions could not, and should not, be considered in isolation from the complex of interrelated problems which confronted mankind, and they must be seen in the context of the issues raised at the Conference on the Human Environment, held at Stockholm in 1972, the recent sixth special session of the General Assembly and the forthcoming United Nations conferences devoted to food, the International Women's Year and human settlements. Many speakers spoke of the need for a coherent and voluntary global strategy between nations to comprehend and resolve these problems, but in which the key factor remained the individual sovereign State.

66. Many speakers referred to certain imperatives which must provide the essential basis for the consideration of population and related questions. These included the necessity to preserve peace between nations, the maintenance and improvement of the fundamental human rights of the individual and his environment, and the fact that population policies must be based upon clear recognition of the sovereignty of nations in their pursuit of measures defined and directed according to their own social, cultural and political priorities. The need for increased international co-operation was, however, stressed by many speakers, who pointed out that the demographic and related processes of nations often had repercussions which went far beyond national boundaries and had major global implications. This consequently made United Nations leadership and guidance essential. Some speakers pointed out that the primary way of solving the present population problem was by changing the old and unequal international relationships, establishing a new international economic order, and developing national economies and culture. Several speakers agreed that the fundamental question was the improvement of the quality of life, but it was also clear that to transform this concept into reality could not be achieved by uniform definition or application.

67. Among the most significant general considerations mentioned by speakers were that, in this most intimate and sensitive of subjects, the basic rights of the individual to regulate his personal behaviour and control his own destiny within his

society must be respected, and that the rights of children to protection and development must be enhanced. The elimination of economic inequities, the creation of true equality of status between the sexes, the need to eliminate discrimination - based on race, ethnicity, colour or religion - the promotion of social justice and equality of opportunity were also emphasized as crucial elements in population questions by virtually all speakers.

68. Frequent reference was made throughout the debate to the need to bring women into more prominent roles in all areas of society, the status of women being one of the most crucial factors affecting reproductive patterns. Several speakers referred to the importance of International Women's Year, and the forthcoming Conference to be held at Bogotá in 1975. Much stress was laid on the importance of providing women with their full share of education and employment opportunities and enabling them to participate in the public life of the community. Many speakers said that such developments would eventually promote a lowering of fertility by altering the attitude that reproduction was the main function of women and their only source of security. As several speakers emphasized it was only when woman's status was improved that she could practise her human right of deciding freely and responsibly, together with her husband, upon the number and spacing of her children.

#### B. Global population problems

69. There was a general recognition by speakers of the realities of the world demographic situation which had made this unprecedented intergovernmental World Population Conference essential. The rate of growth of the world's population had accelerated over the last few decades to a degree unparalleled in the history of the planet, and this fact had complex and important implications for the future which were not confined to any single nation or geographical area. It was also generally recognized that this process would probably continue for several decades. Many speakers also noted that while the rate of population growth was tending to stabilize in most developed countries, in developing countries it was comparatively very much higher and constituted a major factor in their development strategies.

70. These trends were viewed by many speakers with grave concern in the light of the known resources of the planet and present shortages. On the other hand several others argued that population growth was desirable - and indeed essential - to the achievement of social advance. Most speakers, however, recognized that the problems created by world population growth warranted careful consideration by all nations. There were considerable differences put forward by speakers in their explanations of the recent accelerated population growth. Some ascribed it to the significant recent decrease in mortality - particularly infant mortality - which had not been accompanied by any comparable decrease in fertility. But this interpretation was held by many speakers to be wholly inadequate. They held that the causes were considerably more complex. Many wished to approach the question in a far wider historical and social context and argued that the international economic order, which continued to be inequitable and exploitative in character, lay at the root of the problem. In short, these speakers argued, the problem was less one of population growth than of the effects of social and economic injustice, and that the latter should receive the priority attention of Governments and of the international community. Some speakers said that understanding of the factors which created population increases, particularly in poor countries, was still very limited and required greater research and knowledge.

71. It was also emphasized on several occasions that global population questions cannot be considered separately from environmental factors. In the light of the growing imbalance between population and resources and the newly emerging problem of pollution, a re-examination of patterns of consumption of food, mineral resources and energy was called for. It was stated, for example, that while only one third of the world's population lived in developed countries, they accounted for the consumption of 60 per cent or more of the world's resources. The precious resources of the planet were thus being used increasingly to satisfy the non-essential needs of rich countries, while satisfaction of the basic needs of poor countries was becoming more difficult. Therefore, it was argued by many speakers, some adjustments in these patterns were essential, taking into consideration the true needs of countries, the prospects of technological development and the need to divert some of the resources and technology towards promoting the development process in poor countries. Moreover, the widening gap between rich and poor countries was seen by some as posing a serious moral problem, and it was felt that the time had come to apply concepts of human rights in the sharing of the earth's resources by present and future generations.

72. At the heart of this debate lay differences among delegates both on the nature and causes of world population problems and on the priorities which should be established by the United Nations in seeking a more equitable international order in which resources would be adequate for the demands of present and future generations. Some speakers said that these resources, particularly of food, which was particularly stressed, were inadequate now, and could not expand sufficiently to meet the requirements of an ever-increasing world population if present trends continued. Others denied that there was in reality a problem of a shortage of basic global resources and argued that the present situation arose from the severe imbalances in consumption and wealth between the developed and developing world. Others, while accepting the validity of this argument, stressed that there was none the less a real and urgent present problem which required immediate action, and that the goals of development and limitation of population growth were absolutely indivisible. Some speakers said that at present there were still many countries that had population problems, and that these were specifically reflected in unemployment, poverty, hunger and high death rates. These were mainly due to aggression and exploitation of imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism.

73. Some speakers expressed strong objections to the proposition that any international body, or any Government, should attempt to create standards and policies which could be repugnant to societies and individuals which had different histories, faiths, traditions and aspirations. These were wholly their own concern, and were based upon fundamental principles evolved over many generations. In this context, widely varying views were expressed about the relevance and practicality of the proposed World Population Plan of Action, many speakers accepting it in principle while expressing reservations on certain proposals, while some criticized both its content and its underlying premises. But while all speakers accepted the absolute right of individual nations to interpret the over-all global situation, control their own policies and take full account of national, social and religious diversities, many - including representatives of United Nations specialized agencies and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations - argued that the problems created by massive global population growth required a global strategy. All speakers emphasized that the basic decision and action must be that of the individual and that no assessment of population problems could infringe upon his inalienable human rights. There was also a universal agreement even among those delegates who advocated birth control that this practice represented only one part of any comprehensive and effective population policy.

74. Other areas in which international co-operation would be required were also mentioned by many speakers. These included population education, contraceptive technology, storage of food, desalination of water, development of mineral and energy resources, control of pollution and studies of the consequences of genetic changes. The need for continued and intensified involvement of international organizations in all forms of assistance to developing countries was mentioned by numerous speakers.

### C. National experience and assessments

75. Each speaker described to the Conference the demographic situation in his own country and the social and human implications. These clearly emphasized the very considerable differences which existed among individual nations, but particularly between developing countries on the one hand and the developed countries on the other. As many speakers pointed out, the developed countries, having completed their "demographic transition", found themselves in a situation of relative equilibrium between mortality and fertility rates. Their problems related not so much to the growth of population as to the structure of population and its geographical distribution. They pointed out that, in general, the demographic pyramid in these countries had a narrow base with a relative preponderance - compared with the developing countries - of old people.

76. It was also noted by several speakers that, as a result of the high technological levels attained by the most industrialized countries, the process of education and training for employment was lengthy. The resulting disparity between physical maturity and social maturity created a number of social problems. Furthermore, the high content of technological skill in their domestic labour force often created a need for employment of temporary immigrants for less skilled work, a point which was of considerable concern to many speakers.

77. Another feature of industrial nations was their excessive urban concentration which, coupled with high consumption levels, created problems of environmental pollution not merely in the physical sense but also in the sociological sense. Some speakers pointed to the evidence of social change and stress in the field of marriage and family in these countries. It was suggested that the concept of marriage was perhaps undergoing far-reaching changes in the course of industrialization. Several speakers from developing countries expressed the strong view that they should avoid such consequences in their own demographic development.

78. In the developing countries, as many speakers emphasized, the demographic pyramid had a much broader base, indicating a preponderance of children and young people in the population. In many of these countries, a significant feature of the demographic structure was a comparatively low female to male ratio. These structural characteristics arose from the recent acceleration in population growth and a relatively slower reduction of female mortality. Labour force participation rates were in general lower than those in the developed countries, particularly for women. As many delegates pointed out, these countries commonly had low levels of urbanization, but they did exhibit trends towards excessive concentration in the larger cities. These demographic features are associated with low levels of economic development and continuing resilience of social structures. Most speakers pointed to the prevalence of acute poverty in the rural as well as urban areas. Recent decreases in mortality were attributed to control of communicable diseases, but it was generally noted that mortality rates, particularly infant and maternal mortality rates, were still very high in many areas.

79. It was clear from the debate that the demographic situation differed widely among the regions in which developing countries are located. In many developing countries of Asia, population densities were high and the ratio of natural resources to population was low. There was, thus, a situation described by some speakers as overpopulation and by others as under-development. In Latin America, in contrast, the ratio of natural resources to population was comparatively much higher, and so high rates of population growth were not viewed by many speakers as posing a serious problem. In some of the Latin American countries there did, however, exist a problem of emigration, particularly of qualified and skilled manpower. In the countries of Africa, some speakers said, the resource base was comparatively small but was far less exploited. Particularly notable here was the problem of rural to urban migration which in some cases assumed the form of international migration. Most speakers attributed these demographic factors to lack of economic and social development, particularly evident in subsistence levels of living, illiteracy, lack of social services including health, education and social welfare. The primary concern of the speakers was related to these economic and social factors.

#### D. Future prospects

80. Against a general background of accelerating population growth rates, most speakers considered it very likely that population in the developing countries would continue to grow for several decades. Some speakers said that mortality levels would further decline until they reached the levels already attained in the developed countries. Many speakers suggested that fertility was bound to decline, but the timing and tempo of this decline were contingent upon forces of social and economic development. Several developing countries were already taking steps having a direct bearing on fertility, while others did not consider it necessary to do so in view of their favourable resource base.

81. Each country viewed its own future demographic evolution against the background of its social and economic capacities. These prospects were viewed with considerable concern by the representatives of many developing countries, particularly many of those from Asia. The concern there arose from the imbalances between the more rapid demographic processes and the slower pace of social and economic development. Other developing countries could regard demographic growth trends without great concern, as they considered that population growth was likely to improve the balance between population and resources. All countries wanted in fact to optimize the relationship between population and resources. In general the different countries viewed future demographic trends in the light of the need to optimize the process of economic and social development. Some speakers maintained that, given the necessary will and wisdom, the future of mankind could be made infinitely bright.

82. It was also noted by several speakers that the population age structure in developing countries was not likely to improve in the near future. The dependency ratio in particular would continue for some time to be high. There was also the question of population growth creating difficulties in solving problems of employment and underemployment. Many speakers argued that a decent level of living and freedom from want of life's basic necessities would create the climate of security essential for changing fatalistic and passive attitudes and for encouraging individuals to develop a greater sense of responsibility towards children, the family and society. Other elements of social change which were mentioned as being

likely to favour a reduction in the birth rate included agrarian reform and the elimination of child labour.

83. Several speakers said that the question of population distribution would also remain difficult over the next few decades. The rural-urban migration which had assumed considerable proportions in most developing countries was likely to continue. Manifold problems had emerged in relation to urbanization, and they would probably remain intractable for some time to come. In connexion with urbanization, it was also noted by some speakers that problems of environmental pollution were already emerging in developing countries.

84. Reference was made by many speakers to the important role of young people and the need for them to be actively involved in the formulation of development policies relating to population. A statement was addressed to the Conference which referred to the International Youth Population Conference. It included proposals for an international research centre for youth problems, a possible charter of youth rights and responsibilities, and volunteer programmes involving young people in the elimination of illiteracy and in health programmes.

#### E. Population policies and programmes

85. Many speakers referred to policy measures which Governments were taking in order to influence demographic processes. It was evident that several countries were still in the process of developing definitive approaches to situations that had not yet been adequately studied and analysed. The important role of the United Nations in assisting national policies and programmes, especially with regard to demographic research, including surveys and censuses, was mentioned by many speakers. The World Population Plan of Action was commended by many speakers as providing a wide variety of policy options and as a flexible framework for international co-operation.

86. Differences in policies between developed and developing countries obviously related to differences in the character of the problems they faced. In developed countries, policies were usually indirect, aimed at influencing demographic variables through measures relating to socio-economic factors. These included those relating to marriage, family formation, education, employment and the role and status of women. Several speakers emphasized the need for a comprehensive immigration policy, and emphasized the desirability of planned and assisted migration as opposed to spontaneous movements, and the need for developing countries to take measures to reduce the "brain drain". Other representatives appealed to the international community to put an end to forced emigrations which had deprived people of their homes and property, causing much human misery.

87. The socio-economic effects of importing labour and skilled manpower from the developing to the developed world was stressed by many speakers. Several referred to problems created by affluence and suggested that more than environmental measures were necessary. Efforts were needed to curb consumption, particularly of non-renewable resources. The disparity in consumption levels between developed and developing countries was noted by many speakers. A transfer of resources to developing countries was suggested by many, especially of capital, technology and technical knowledge which would contribute significantly to moderating population growth by influencing fertility and mortality patterns in the latter countries.

88. In developing countries policies sought to deal simultaneously with a great variety of problems. They attempted to influence population trends through measures directly affecting mortality, fertility and migration. There was in general an attempt to integrate these policies and programmes with those for social and economic development. All speakers emphasized the point that population policies were part of the development effort and could not substitute for it. The reduction of mortality, especially infant mortality, was a high priority in all nations.

89. Many speakers said that policies designed to reduce fertility in their countries were not based on neo-Malthusian premises. A few speakers said that they disapproved of continued propagation of birth control by international organizations in their countries. Policies which aimed at influencing fertility directly were not considered by some speakers to be promising, because fertility behaviour was conditioned by traditional social structures and the prevailing socio-economic milieu.

90. Many speakers emphasized the necessity to evolve broad-based social and economic policies if fertility trends were to be affected. They said that where family planning was considered necessary in a given context of economic and social development, it was imperative to integrate it fully into development plans. It was also seen as an important means to improve maternal and child health. It was necessary, however, to take steps against the possibility that selective acceptance of family planning within a population would lead to further accentuation of social and economic disparities. There was, however, a general consensus that regulation of fertility and family formation was an inalienable right of individuals and couples and that they should be given all possible help in exercising this right responsibly. Full knowledge of the means to prevent births of unwanted children was necessary for the exercise of the right to free and responsible parenthood.

91. In developing countries the major concern with migration trends focused on the movement from rural to urban areas. Direct policy measures in this regard were constrained by the need to preserve and protect the fundamental human right of freedom of movement. Measures were being undertaken to promote rural economic development and foster the growth of new urban centres removed from existing metropolitan concentrations. A number of speakers pointed to the need for dealing effectively with the problems of refugee populations resulting from aggressions and wars.

92. Most developing countries faced acute problems in raising living standards and improving the economic performance of existing populations, and felt the need for urgent measures to expand educational facilities, employment opportunities and social services. Several speakers maintained that in societies concerned by high rates of population growth, the best contraceptive was social and economic development. Industrialization with its concomitant change in the employment pattern of societies were considered important, as was social change leading to improvement of the status of women and broadening of their participation in social and economic life. There was need to establish juridical norms to ensure social equality. Many speakers emphasized that it was essential to orient development policies to the task of reducing inequalities of income.

F. United Nations Secretariat and United Nations Fund  
for Population Activities

93. A large number of speakers expressed warm appreciation for the work of the United Nations Secretariat on population matters, the preparatory work undertaken by the Population Commission of the Economic and Social Council with the assistance of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and particularly for the achievements of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities. It was noted that the Fund had supported population activities in a great number of countries in the developing world, and had financed or helped to finance more than 900 projects. The number of donor countries had increased from 5 to 67 during the past five years. The Executive Director of the Fund pointed out that some \$500 million would be needed for the period 1974-1977 to respond to the most urgent requirements of developing countries. Many speakers, in referring to the activities of the Fund in their countries, expressed the hope that the momentum generated in the past five years would not be allowed to weaken through lack of funds to meet the urgent short-term and long-term needs of developing countries. Some speakers said their Governments were actively considering increasing their contributions to the Fund.

G. Representation of national liberation movements and Governments

94. In the course of the general debate, several speakers welcomed the presence at the Conference of the representatives of national liberation movements, but many also pointed out that their participation at the Conference was not universal, as a number of countries and peoples were not represented. Some also drew attention to the fact that no invitation had been sent to the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet-Nam, which they argued was not consistent with the spirit of the Paris Agreement of 1973. 1/ One representative who opposed the suggestion that the People's Revolutionary Government be invited, said that the issue had been already decided by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1835 (LVI). Speaking on a point of order, another representative directed the attention of the Conference to a resolution adopted by a special meeting of the representatives of the Governments constituting the Bureau of the Non-Aligned Nations, which had met at Bucharest on 22 August 1974, to the effect that the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet-Nam ought to have been invited to participate in the Conference.

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1/ Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Viet-Nam, signed in Paris in 1973.

## Chapter VI

### REPORTS OF THE SESSIONAL BODIES AND ACTION TAKEN IN PLENNARY

#### A. Population change and economic and social development

##### Report of the First Committee

95. The Conference, at its 2nd meeting, on 19 August 1974, allocated to the First Committee, item 8 of the agenda, entitled "Population change and economic and social development".
96. The Committee considered this item at its 1st to 10th meetings, from 20 to 27 August 1974.
97. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the basic Conference document entitled "Population change and economic and social development" (E/CONF.60/4 and Corr.1). In addition, the Committee had before it the following background documents: "Report of the Symposium on Population and Development" (E/CONF.60/CBP/1) and World Economic Survey, 1973, part one, "Population and development" (E/5486). 1/
98. The Committee recalled that, as stated in paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV) on the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, "The ultimate objective of development must be to bring about sustained improvement in the well-being of the individual and bestow benefits on all". There was general agreement that population and social and economic development were closely interrelated. Demographic trends were affected by socio-economic development and, in turn, affected economic growth and social progress. These mutual relations were highly complex. Some of the representatives stressed that the question of population and development should not only be viewed from the point of view of the nation, but also from global, regional and family perspectives. It should also be examined and interpreted in a historical and cultural perspective and with due regard for the great diversity of conditions among countries.
99. Most representatives also emphasized that the main problem was underdevelopment. Development was the primary cause of the decline in death rates, particularly infant and maternal mortality. It was also development that brought about changes in motivations and attitudes associated with a decline in fertility. It was stressed by some representatives that rapid population growth was not the main cause of poverty and deprivation, and concern about population trends should not lead to the neglect of the critical issue of development. Lower population growth did not automatically ensure a more rapid development. A number of countries, particularly those with vast natural resources, would require larger populations in order to realize their development potential. It was felt that the

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1/ Issued subsequently as a United Nations publication, Sales No. E.74.II.C.1.

international community and especially the developed countries had a duty to help the less developed countries in their development efforts. Some of the representatives were of the opinion that resources now being spent on armaments and arms research would substantially accelerate development if they were spent in assisting developing countries.

100. It was stressed that the human being was not only a consumer, but more importantly, also a producer, and that people should be regarded as the most valuable resource. It was therefore pointed out by some representatives that the obstacles to development should not be sought in population growth but in problems of a socio-economic order - the remnants of feudalism and colonialism and the continuation of the old economic structure of international dependence and unequal relations.

101. A number of representatives, while recognizing that the critical problem was development and not population, expressed concern about current and prospective population trends and their implications for social and economic development. High rates of population growth in many developing countries and the characteristics associated with this growth might hamper development in a number of these countries. The moderation of these rapid rates of growth could assist nations to achieve development goals more easily. This did not necessarily imply that nations should aim at a smaller population size, but merely that they should approach their desired populations at a more modest pace. Other representatives expressed concern at the possibility that the population, having stabilized in their countries, might decrease, with attendant social and economic consequences. Recognizing that population policies, and in particular the policies for moderating fertility and population growth, could not solve the problems of development, the view was expressed that such policies, in conjunction with an intensified development effort, could make a significant contribution to their solution. Population policies should be an integral part of, but never a substitute for, development policies. Therefore policies and programmes designed to influence population trends, composition and distribution should go hand in hand with socio-economic development policies. By the same token such criteria would have to be applied to international assistance for those countries which request aid in family planning. Decisions on the number and spacing of children were recognized as a fundamental human right of couples and, irrespective of their effects on demographic trends, family planning programmes were important elements in health policies and the emancipation of women.

102. Population problems in relation to economic and social development should be considered not only in terms of growth but also in relation to population distribution, rural-urban migration and urbanization. Population projections prepared by the United Nations indicate that there would be increasing demand for food, employment and social services in general. More attention should, therefore, be given to food production and agriculture development, including land reform, use of appropriate technology and adequate employment opportunities, and rural development through agro-based industries. Large-scale settlement schemes, provided sufficient financial resources were available, and the establishment of towns of intermediate size and of satellite towns, were among the measures to be considered for the control of excessive urban and metropolitan growth.

103. A number of representatives suggested that one effective way of helping countries to solve problems arising from rapid population increase was to encourage international migration from those countries to countries that had

labour shortages. Most of the representatives stressed the need for receiving countries to accord better treatment to migrant labourers and guarantee their civil rights.

104. Many representatives underlined the importance of socio-economic development in influencing demographic variables. Several representatives stressed the need to create a new international economic order as a pre-condition for the improvement of the demographic situation in the world. Special emphasis was placed on the effects of improvements in the status of women and effective promotion of equal opportunities for both sexes, as integral factors in, and fundamental conditions for, development and the reduction of fertility. Similarly, progress in education, health, and creation of adequate employment opportunities were among the basic goals of development, and also important factors conducive to a decline in fertility. Some representatives stressed the importance of a better insight into these relationships.

105. Noting the prospects of continued rapid population growth and urbanization in many developing countries, a number of representatives stressed that sufficient allowance should be made for relevant population variables in the formulation of development plans and policies. Development strategies should be shaped to accommodate both the built-in momentum of population growth and the long time required to affect population trends. Special emphasis should be placed on promoting socio-economic development among the poorer sections, which usually have higher birth rates.

106. Considerable progress, some representatives noted, had been made in the knowledge of the interrelations between population and development. Future research in this area should endeavour to become more policy-oriented. It was suggested that special attention might be given in this connexion to the study of those countries where fertility had declined rapidly in the recent past, the analysis of population change and socio-economic development in a historical perspective, and social and economic problems of the aging of populations, particularly as regards "sense of vitality and progress-mindedness".

## I

107. At the 3rd meeting, the representative of Mexico introduced a draft resolution entitled "Rural development" (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.1) which was subsequently introduced, at the 8th meeting, in revised form by the representative of Mexico, on behalf of Argentina, Colombia, Cuba, Ghana, Guinea, Italy, Mexico, Sweden and Uruguay (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.1/Rev.1), the text of which read as follows:

### "The World Population Conference,

"Taking into account the fact that in a large part of the developing countries a high proportion of the population lives in rural areas, frequently scattered in small localities, and does not participate fully in the processes of social and economic change,

"Bearing in mind the fact that the levels of productivity and consumption in such rural areas are still very low and that essential health, educational and social security services are usually little developed, a fact which explains in part the prevalence among rural populations of traditional attitudes favourable to large families,

"Having regard to projections of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations indicating that in the developing countries, despite a continuing decline in relation to total population, the number of agricultural inhabitants is expected to increase in absolute figures at least until the last decade of the present century,

"Taking also into account that certain countries, on the other hand, have rural areas which are of low population density or in process of depopulation and which, for their better development, are in need of substantial additions to their labour force,

"Considering that the demographic experience of the developed countries and of some developing countries indicates that changes in the attitude of the family to demographic behaviour, especially with regard to marriage, the birth of the first child, the spacing of children and desired family size, are related to sustained improvement in basic living conditions, among them increases in agricultural productivity and especially in farmers' income under more equitable and efficient systems of land tenure,

"Considering also that the prospective world demand for food-stuffs makes it advisable to promote agricultural output, particularly in the developing countries, and that such increased output would help to raise the volume of employment in rural areas,

"Considering further that the modernization of agriculture through appropriate technologies, as opposed to traditional farming methods, would serve to increase and conserve agricultural resources and to protect the environment,

"Taking also into account the fact that many developing countries have started programmes to modify patterns of demographic behaviour in response to social demands and as a means of reducing very high rates of population increase,

"1. Recommends to developing countries:

"(a) That they should carry out in rural areas intensive programmes of economic and social improvement, with appropriate technical and financial support, aimed at achieving a diversified agricultural development that would mean greater income for the inhabitants, promote higher levels of education, permit an effective expansion of social services and entail measures for the protection of the environment and the conservation of agricultural resources, thus ensuring a better balance between rural and urban living conditions;

"(b) That for those purposes they should adopt appropriate systems of land tenure and of organizing production, in keeping with the characteristics of each country;

"(c) That they should promote rural programmes designed to concentrate the inhabitants of sparsely populated areas in efficient and accessible units of production and consumption for which basic social services and the assistance necessary to raise productivity can be provided;

"(d) That they should extend, as soon as possible, social welfare programmes and services to rural areas and, through the health and education services, the guidance and services necessary so that the population of such areas may be in a position to decide on the number and spacing of their children;

"(e) That they should introduce increasingly in rural areas industries for the processing of agricultural products and other manufacturing industries with a view to providing regular employment for the rural population and raising the levels of education and training;

"(f) That they should promote settlement in those rural areas which are able and willing to receive population, with a view to relieving population pressure in areas or countries which find the economic and social absorption of their labour force difficult;

"(g) That they should carry out studies on the relationship between population changes and changes in rural conditions, in different socio-economic contexts;

"2. Recommends to the international community that:

"(a) It should intensify international co-operation for the implementation of the above programmes by providing know-how and technology as well as long-term financial assistance;

"(b) It should collaborate closely to create, during the forthcoming World Food Conference, the bases for carrying out coherent and effective programmes to raise agricultural production in order to meet the growing food consumption demands for food forecast by demographic projections and the need to raise nutrition levels;

"3. Recommends to the developed countries that they should carry out, as they deem appropriate, policies of regional development to stimulate the repopulation of rural areas affected by major labour-force migration to labour centres;

"4. Recommends to the competent bodies of the United Nations that, in the review of progress in the Second Development Decade, they should pay due attention to the need further to encourage agricultural production, especially in the developing countries."

108. Further, the representative of Mexico, on behalf of the sponsors, accepted the draft amendments submitted by Guatemala and the Netherlands (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.1/Rev.1/Add.1), by which:

(a) The following paragraph would be inserted between the sixth and seventh paragraphs of the preamble:

"Considering further that, aside from increasing the productivity of areas under cultivation, the food production capacity for the growing population in developing countries can be raised through utilization of fertile lands, which have as yet not been brought into cultivation",

(b) The following new operative paragraph between operative paragraphs 2 and 3:

"Recommends to Governments that they should, in co-operation with relevant organizations of the United Nations system, and in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Development Programme, create new production areas so that a better international distribution and deconcentration of agricultural productivity can be reached and more basic food can be made available at reasonable prices for the developing countries in need."

109. At the same meeting, Ecuador, Mali, the Netherlands, Romania and the Sudan joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution, as amended.

110. After an exchange of views and a number of suggestions to amend the revised draft resolution, as amended, the sponsors agreed to the following revisions:

(a) In the third preambular paragraph, the replacement of the words "in the developing countries" by the words "in many developing countries";

(b) In the fourth preambular paragraph, the replacement of the words "have rural areas" by the words "have large rural areas";

(c) The revision of the last preambular paragraph to read as follows:

"Taking also into account the fact that many developing countries especially those with very high rates of population increase have started programmes to modify patterns of demographic behaviour.";

(d) In operative paragraph 1, the replacement of the words "To developing countries:" by the following text: "To developing countries in working out a policy of social and economic development, that they give preferential attention to the following:";

(e) In operative paragraph 1 (a), the replacement of the words "a diversified agricultural development that would mean greater income for the inhabitants", by the words, "a diversified agricultural development that would increase agricultural output and income for the inhabitants";

(f) In operative paragraph 1 (b), the insertion after the words "they should adopt," of the words "and intensify programmes of agrarian reform and rural development conducive to the creation of"; and the insertion after the words "organizing production", of the words "and marketing";

(g) In operative paragraph 1 (c) the replacement of the words "to raise productivity can be provided", by the words "to raise welfare and productivity could be provided,";

(h) The insertion of a new operative paragraph 1 (e) to read as follows:

"That to the extent necessary the educational systems be adapted to the needs of rural development and not be centred on a model of urban civilization,";

(i) The renumbering of operative paragraphs 1 (e), (f) and (g), as 1 (f), (g) and (h) respectively.

111. At the same meeting, the representative of Uruguay formulated a reservation with regard to operative paragraph 1 (b), as amended, and as orally revised, expressing her delegation's preference for the original text of the paragraph.

112. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted without a vote, as draft resolution I, the revised draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.1/Rev.1), as amended and as orally revised. For action by the Conference, see paragraph 146 (a) below, and for the final text of the draft resolution, see part one, chapter II, resolution I.

## II

113. At the 4th meeting, the representative of Sweden introduced a draft resolution, entitled "Socio-economic in demographic change" (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.4) on behalf of Ecuador, Malaysia and Sweden, the text of which read as follows:

"The World Population Conference,

"Considering that the basis for effective political action in the field of population and socio-economic development is full knowledge of the factors involved and their interrelationship,

"Conscious of the need to expand knowledge in this field and to further develop new means of analysis, and to improve the statistical basis including data collection in the socio-economic field,

"Stressing that the over-all socio-economic policy envisaged presupposes wider knowledge in the fields of medicine, education and social welfare,

"1. Welcomes the efforts undertaken so far in these fields by international organizations, including the programme of research on human reproduction undertaken by the World Health Organization;

"2. Calls upon the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other international organizations to continue and to expand their analysis of the socio-economic aspects of demographic change in order to facilitate integrated action by Governments with respect to these problems;

"3. Calls upon all Member States of the United Nations to co-operate with the international organizations in these endeavours and to contribute financially or otherwise according to their capacity."

114. At the 5th meeting, after an exchange of views and a number of suggestions to amend the draft resolution, the representative of Malaysia, on behalf of the sponsors, submitted the following revisions:

(a) In the second preambular paragraph, the insertion, after the words "Conscious of the need to expand knowledge in this field", of the words "inter alia, of the interrelations between demographic change and social and economic development, in an historical perspective, the distribution of income, international trade and technological change";

(b) In the third preambular paragraph, the replacement of the words "medicine, education and social welfare", by the words "economics, education, social welfare and health";

(c) In operative paragraph 1, the replacement of the word "including", by the words "for instance"; and the addition at the end of the paragraph of the phrase "and the world employment programme of the International Labour Organisation";

(d) In operative paragraph 2, after the words "international organizations", the insertion of the words "and national research organizations and institutions"; and the replacement of the word "analysis" by the word "research";

(e) The insertion of a new operative paragraph 3, reading as follows:

"Calls upon the international agencies to assist in the development of indigenous research talent and institutions within the developing countries themselves";

(f) The renumbering of former operative paragraph 3 as 4; and the replacement in that paragraph of the words "contribute financially or otherwise" by the words "extend all possible assistance".

115. At its 6th meeting, the Committee adopted without a vote, as draft resolution II, the draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.4) as orally revised. For action by the Conference, see paragraph 146 (a) below, and for the final text of the draft resolution, see part one chapter II, resolution II.

### III

116. At the 7th meeting, the representative of France introduced a draft recommendation entitled "Study of the problems of old age and youth" (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.5), which read as follows:

"Great importance should be attached to the phenomenon of aging. Owing to the decline in fertility and possible medical progress against cancer and the other diseases of old age, aging will sooner or later affect all nations more or less intensely. It will be important to study carefully the economic consequences and the repercussions on morale, particularly with regard to a sense of vitality and progress."

117. After an exchange of views and a number of suggestions to amend the draft recommendation, the representative of France agreed to insert, before the words "economic consequences", the words "social and", and to add the following second paragraph:

"Likewise, it would be necessary to study the potential that exists in the developing areas of the world which are characterized by a high proportion of young people."

118. The Committee then adopted without a vote, as draft recommendation I, the draft recommendation (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.5) as orally revised. For action by the Conference, see paragraph 146 (c) below, and for the final text of the draft recommendation, see part one, chapter II, recommendation I.

#### IV

119. At the 7th meeting, the representative of Mexico introduced a draft resolution, entitled "Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States" (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.2), and after an exchange of views, orally revised the text of the operative paragraph by replacing the words "to the draft Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States" by the words "to the formulation of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States".

120. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted without a vote, as draft resolution III, the draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.2) as orally revised. For action by the Conference see paragraph 146 (a) below, and for the final text of the draft resolution, see part one, chapter II, resolution III.

#### V

121. At the 7th meeting, the representative of Egypt introduced, on behalf of Canada, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, Indonesia, Italy, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, a draft resolution entitled "Status of Women" (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.6).

122. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted without a vote, as draft resolution IV, the draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.6). For action by the Conference, see paragraph 146 (a) below, and for the final text of the draft resolution, see part one, chapter II, resolution IV.

#### VI

123. At the 8th meeting, the representative of Romania introduced a draft resolution, entitled "For a more just world" (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.10), which read as follows:

"The World Population Conference

"Believing that man is the supreme value of the world and its population the most precious treasure of every country,

"Convinced that population, its needs and aspirations, are today and in the long term one of the major issues, with deep national and international consequences, of vital interest for every State and for all the world,

"Examining in this spirit the basic problems of the human condition, the existing situation in the field of population in the world, the political, economic and social causes which have engendered it and the remedies which need to be carried into effect without any delay,

"Deeply concerned about the fact that, as a result of the policy of oppression and domination in its different forms of manifestation, many people find themselves in a state of flagrant under-development, a great many of the inhabitants of the world live in conditions of malnutrition, disease, illiteracy, premature mortality and other calamities which greatly impede the normal development of the population over vast areas of the earth,

"Reaffirming once again our firm belief, strengthened by the age-long historical experience of mankind, that no people can be truly free and independent, if it does not acknowledge and respect the freedom and independence of other peoples,

"Noting with deep concern that hotbeds of tension and conflict caused by the use of force and the threat of force in inter-State relations, the arms race primarily in the nuclear field, and the huge military expenditure it involves, greatly jeopardize the peoples and their material and spiritual assets and constitute an ever heavier burden on world population,

"Greatly concerned with the gaps between the developed and developing countries, the inequities and injustices still existent in international economic relations, the obstacles and barriers which still stand in the way of their mutually advantageous collaboration, which add further serious difficulties to the task of the peoples already facing the complex problems of their own social and economic development,

"Emphasizing that in the specific conditions of today's under-development, the discrepancies and inequalities in one or another region of the world exert a negative influence on all States, including the big, developed ones, and bring about in their turn new differences, disturbances and crises in international economic relations,

"Believing that an efficient political and humanistic demographic policy requires energetic actions, in the spirit of human solidarity, national equity and international justice, with a view to liquidating all the aforementioned evils and the causes which generated and perpetuated them,

"Considering that the rejuvenating changes taking place in the world today, the assertion of the people's will to live freely and as sovereign States and to embark on the way of self-reliant economic and social development, the increase of the struggle of democratic progressive forces for the liquidation of anachronistic manifestations in international life and outdated domestic social structures and because freedom, justice and social equity facilitate the transition to practical actions to these ends,

"Firmly determined to approach in a new, constructive and efficient spirit, in keeping with the imperatives of the present historical stage, the problems of population in the effort to contribute to their solution according to the aspirations of mankind to build, through the contribution and for the benefit of all peoples, peace, security and economic and social progress all over the world,

"Acting in keeping with the goals and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, aimed at advancing the socio-economic progress of all nations, and in conformity with the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, the international covenants on human rights as well as the Declaration for the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,

"1. Solemnly proclaims its firm determination to act to create a more equitable world, based on the principles of full equal rights, the observance of national independence and sovereignty, the non-interference in internal affairs, the mutual advantage, the non-use of force or threat with force, the right of every people to free development in keeping with its aspirations and, in this spirit, adopts the following declaration:

"(a) That, as an integral part of the efforts to shape a more equitable world the solving of problems concerning population implies the liquidation of under-development, the elimination of gaps between the industrially advanced States and those lagging behind, thus ensuring the economic and social progress of all peoples;

"(b) That the population policy of every State is an organic component of its over-all policy of economic and social development and that the formulation of this policy, depending on the concrete historical, political, economic and social situation, is an indivisible and inalienable attribute of State sovereignty;

"(c) That the improvement of living conditions and, by and large, the solution of the population problems makes it imperative to respect the sacred right of each and every country to be the master of its own national resources, its raw materials and other natural resources so that such resources may be utilized for the country's economic and social progress;

"(d) That a decisive role in the process of development should be played by the peoples' own efforts to implement industrialization and speedy economic development, for fully turning to account the material and human potential, in keeping with their own interests of progress and well-being, by the modernization of social structures and the achievement of equity on a national plane;

"(e) That an important factor in solving the population questions is, at the same time, to expand international co-operation, within the framework of a new economic order, to set up just relationships, which should eliminate any manifestation of inequity and discriminatory practices, relationships which should lessen discrepancies and close gaps, thus ensuring the active and advantageous participation of every country in the international division of labour;

"(f) That the efficient support of the developing countries, with a view to solving the demographic problems, involves, first of all, the concentrated effort of the international community, in the spirit of human solidarity and international equity, so that more countries may more easily follow the path of harmonious economic and social development;

"(g) That international co-operation in the fields of science and technology, ensuring effective access of all the peoples to scientific and technological gains, is an outstanding objective capable of strongly stimulating economic and social progress and thereby solving the population questions;

"(h) That sponsoring and implementing programmes of wide scope, on the scale of the whole earth, the developing countries having priority, so that

the ghost of starvation, of diseases and illiteracy may disappear, so that national personnel may be trained and the population's education and cultural standards may be improved, offer humane solutions to the population problems in the spirit of genuine international solidarity;

"(i) That to solve demographic questions requires, first and foremost, peace and security, the extinction of the hotbeds of war and the political solution of conflicts by means of negotiations, putting an end to the arms race and converting military allocations to civilian purposes, implementing disarmament and, first of all, nuclear disarmament, promoting a new type of relationship between States, based on the principles of international law;

"(j) That the practical and efficient approach, in accordance with the supreme interests of every nation and of the whole international community, to political, economic and social questions - on the solution of which the very settlement of the population problems depends - can and must take place, with all the States participating in the proceedings with full equal rights;

"2. Expresses its confidence that the efforts made and the results achieved at the World Population Conference at Bucharest will be continued and developed in the future, in accordance with the interests of peace and progress of all peoples;

"3. Stresses its firm conviction that the United Nations can and must make an increased contribution to solving the pressing problems which are at present of concern to the whole of mankind and that the United Nations can and must become an efficient instrument in present-day efforts to build a more just world."

124. At the same meeting, after an exchange of views and a number of suggestions to amend the draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.10), the representative of Romania, on behalf of Algeria, Colombia, Ecuador, Guinea, Mexico, the Philippines and the Sudan, who had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, orally proposed the following revisions:

- (a) In the first preambular paragraph, the replacement of the word "man" by the words "the human being";
- (b) In the second preambular paragraph, the replacement of the words "and for all" by the word "in";
- (c) In the fourth preambular paragraph, the replacement of the phrase "the policy of oppression and domination in its different forms of manifestation," by the words "historical factors"; and the replacement of the words "premature mortality" by the words "low life expectancy";
- (d) The insertion after the fourth preambular paragraph, of the following text:

"Recalling that the ultimate objective of development, which is to bring about sustained improvement in the well-being of the individual and bestow benefits on all, requires increased co-operation on the part of Governments and international organizations, particularly the United Nations, where efforts to accelerate economic and social development and population policies should go hand in hand";

(e) The deletion in the former fifth, now sixth preambular paragraph, of the word "historical",

(f) The replacement in the former eighth, now ninth preambular paragraph, of the words "in one or another region", by the words "among regions"; and the deletion of the word "big";

(g) The replacement in the former ninth, now tenth preambular paragraph, of the word "humanistic" by the word "humane";

(h) The insertion, after the new tenth preambular paragraph, of the following two new preambular paragraphs:

"Considering that the population of the developing countries is basically a young population which needs a more just, equal and humane world and calls for social change,

"Considering the higher status which women are acquiring, thus contributing towards the creation of a fuller human consciousness,"

(i) In the former twelfth, now fifteenth preambular paragraph, the insertion after the words "as well as the Declaration", of the words "and the Programme of Action as adopted by the General Assembly at its sixth special session"; and the addition, at the end of the paragraph of the words, "taking into account the preparatory work undertaken towards the formulation of the Charter on Economic Rights and Duties of States";

(j) In operative paragraph 1 (c), the replacement of the word "sacred" by the word "inalienable"; and the addition at the end of the paragraph of the phrase "with due respect to the need to improve international economic co-operation";

(k) In operative paragraph 1 (d), the insertion after the words "industrialization and" of the words "development programmes, thus leading to";

(l) In operative paragraph 1 (g), the replacement of the words "solving the" by the words "contributing to the solution of the fundamental";

(m) In operative paragraph 1 (i), the deletion, of the words "implementing disarmament and, first of all, nuclear disarmament";

(n) The addition, of two new operative paragraphs, 1 (k) and 1 (l), reading as follows:

"(k) That countries, having accepted a specific financial responsibility to assist the developing countries and given that population policies must be integrated with over-all socio-economic development programmes, must make every effort to meet the target for official development assistance;

"(l) That it is in the interest of all peoples that policies be established and pursued aiming at restoring, protecting and enhancing the human environment and pursuing a foresighted husbandry of non-renewable and renewable natural resources;"

(o) In operative paragraph 3, the insertion, after the words "United Nations", of the word "system".

125. At the same meeting, the representative of Argentina said that his delegation would not introduce the draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.3), sponsored by Uruguay, as most of the views expressed therein were covered by the draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.10), as orally revised.

126. At the same meeting the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland withdrew his suggestion to add an additional operative paragraph with the understanding that it would be reflected in the report. The suggested amendment read as follows:

"Reaffirms that the right of each couple to freely and responsibly decide upon the number and spacing of their children, is a basic human right, an integral part of family and social welfare and essential for the health of mothers and children."

127. At the same meeting, a number of representatives formulated their reservations with regard to the non-inclusion in the draft resolution of the amendment suggested by the representative of the United Kingdom. The Committee then adopted without a vote, as draft resolution V, the draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.10) as orally revised. For action by the Conference, see paragraph 146 (a) below, and for the final text of the draft resolution, see part one, chapter II, resolution V.

## VII

128. At the 7th meeting, the representative of Egypt introduced and orally revised a draft resolution entitled "Socio-economic factors and demographic change" (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.11). Subsequently, at the 8th meeting in the light of a number of suggestions to amend the draft resolution, he introduced and orally revised a revised text (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.11, Rev.1), on behalf of Canada, Ecuador and Egypt, which read as follows:

### "The World Population Conference,

"Considering that sustained socio-economic development is necessary to create the conditions conducive to effective improvements in the quality of life of man and the change in demographic patterns,

"Considering further that development is a composite of numerous interrelated factors, including education, health improvement, industrialization, urbanization and rural development, a just distribution of income, a high proportion of employed women, political stability, as well as higher levels of per capita income,

"Recognizing the need to determine the essential minimal levels of each development component to bring about changes in demographic patterns (for example, what level of education, what type of women's employment, what pattern of urbanization and so forth) and to take these elements into account in shaping policies,

"1. Recommends that Governments of Member States, the United Nations and its specialized agencies intensify research on the impact of different

combinations of components of socio-economic development policies on demographic behaviour and trends and, as suggested in the Report of the Symposium on Population and Development, held at Cairo, on the consequences of population trends on socio-economic and environmental variables;

"2. Recommends that developing countries in formulating their development policies accord priority to programmes that maximize socio-economic progress thus affecting demographic trends in the manner desired;

"3. Recommends that the United Nations system enhance its assistance in the field of development so as to accelerate development and desired demographic change;

"4. Recommends that, in particular, international assistance should allow for greater allocations to education and vocational training in developing countries since educational progress can greatly accelerate social changes in such countries;

"5. Recommends that the United Nations and its specialized agencies should assist countries in the field of family planning and assist such countries in building up their social and health infrastructure;

"6. Recommends that the United Nations and its specialized agencies, as well as other agencies providing aid in the field of population should do so in close co-operation and co-ordination with the other development agencies."

129. At the same meeting, the representative of Japan orally proposed an amendment to insert after the second preambular paragraph, a new preambular paragraph to read as follows:

"Considering also that the study of the socio-economic factors in those countries where fertility has undergone a rapid decline in the recent past makes an important contribution to the understanding of the interrelations between population and development."

130. After an exchange of views and a number of suggestions to amend the draft resolution, the representative of Egypt orally proposed the following revisions:

(a) In the second preambular paragraph, the replacement of the words "a high proportion of employed women", by the words "promotion of the status of women";

(b) The insertion of the amendment proposed by Japan (see paragraph 129 above) as the fourth preambular paragraph instead of the third; and in the same paragraph, the replacement of the words "fertility has undergone a rapid decline" by the words "rapid demographic change";

(c) In subparagraph (e), the deletion of the phrase "in the field of family planning and assist such countries"; and the addition of the following text at the end of the paragraph:

"and should promote assistance in the field of family planning, integrated in their social and economic planning, to those countries that request it";

(d) In subparagraph (f), the insertion after the words "other agencies", of the words, "developed countries and those which have important resources".

131. The representative of Bulgaria formulated a reservation with regard to subparagraph (e), stating that his delegation would have preferred the following text:

"That the United Nations and its specialized agencies should assist countries in the formulation of their population policies and in building up their social and health infrastructure."

The representatives of Brazil, Czechoslovakia, Mongolia, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, stated their support of the Bulgarian formulation of subparagraph (e) and formulated reservations with regard to subparagraph (e) of the draft resolution, as amended and orally revised.

132. Further, the representative of Algeria formulated a reservation with regard to subparagraph (d) of the draft resolution.

133. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted without a vote, as draft resolution VI, the revised draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.11/Rev.1), as orally amended and revised. For action by the Conference, see paragraph 146 (a) below, and for the final text of the draft resolution, see part one, chapter II, resolution VI.

#### VIII

134. At the 7th meeting, the representative of Chad introduced a draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.7). After an exchange of views, the representative of Chad withdrew it, in order to consult with other delegations with a view to submitting a revised draft resolution.

135. At the 9th meeting, the representative of the United States of America introduced, and orally revised, on behalf of Bangladesh and Chad a draft resolution, entitled "Food production" (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.12), which read as follows:

"The World Population Conference,

"Considering that a considerable proportion of the world's population is living in regions of precarious food supply, that hundreds of millions of inhabitants are undernourished and millions are faced with possible starvation,

"Considering that weather conditions in several important food growing areas have been unfavourable so that grain crops in 1974 may not even equal the 1973 grain production, and production is further threatened by the scarcity of fertilizer in many parts of the world, even at present higher prices, and by the adverse terms of trade faced by many countries that must import food,

"Recognizing that the solution of the problem of population growth depends largely on a balance between the size of the world's population and the world's production of food-stuffs and volume of available resources and

that world grain stocks are lower than in many years so that even greater malnutrition and possible starvation now threatens the world,

"Considering that the assistance being granted to the developing countries is insufficient in comparison with the potentialities of the arable land to be developed to meet the ever growing food needs of an expanding world population,

"1. Urges all Governments to participate fully in the United Nations World Food Conference to be held in Rome in November 1974, to give serious consideration to giving higher priority in their own countries to food production and fertilizer production and do all possible to increase the production and appropriate distribution of both food and fertilizer in the remainder of 1974 and throughout the rest of the decade, and support policies that will improve the terms of trade for food importing countries,

"2. Recommends that the competent United Nations specialized agencies intensify world food programmes in order to foresee and remedy world food shortages, and that they encourage and support the introduction in developing countries of technical knowledge for local processing of agricultural products."

136. At the same meeting, the representative of Jamaica orally proposed, on behalf of Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago, amendments to the draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.12), as orally revised, which would insert, after the fourth preambular paragraph, two new preambular paragraphs, reading as follows:

"Considering that a more equitable utilization of world resources is of critical importance in trying to find solutions to world population problems, and

"Considering that some developed countries consume a markedly disproportionate share of these resources,".

Further, the amendments would insert a new operative paragraph 3, reading as follows:

"3. Urges that the developed countries take steps to reduce their disproportionate consumption of world resources and thereby assist the global effort to ensure a more equitable utilization of these limited resources."

137. At the same meeting, a number of representatives expressed their preference for the introduction of the oral amendments proposed by Jamaica, as a separate draft resolution. The representative of Jamaica agreed on behalf of the sponsors (see para. 140 below), and withdrew the oral amendments.

138. After an exchange of views and a number of suggestions to amend the draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.12), as orally revised, the representative of the United States further orally revised the draft resolution as follows:

(a) By reversing the order of the third and fourth preambular paragraphs;

(b) By replacing, in operative paragraph 2, the words "for local processing of agricultural products", by the words "and acceleration of agricultural production, diversification and processing of agricultural products and of fertilizers".

139. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted without a vote, as draft resolution VII, the draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.1/L.12) as orally revised. For action by the Conference, see paragraph 146 (a) below, and for the final text of the draft resolution see part one, chapter II, resolution VII.

## IX

140. At the 9th meeting the representative of Jamaica orally proposed a draft resolution on behalf of Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago, and after an exchange of views and a suggestion to amend the text, revised the proposed draft resolution by inserting, in the second paragraph of the preamble and in the operative paragraph, the words "and groups within countries" after the word "countries".

141. At the same meeting, the Netherlands joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution the text of which read:

"The World Population Conference,

"Considering that a more equitable utilization of world resources is of critical importance in trying to find solutions to world population problems, and

"Considering that some countries and groups within countries consume a markedly disproportionate share of these resources,

"Urges those countries and groups within countries consuming an excessive share of the world's resources to take steps to reduce this disproportionate consumption and thereby assist the global effort to ensure a more equitable utilization of these limited resources."

142. The Committee then adopted without a vote, as draft resolution VIII, the orally proposed draft resolution as orally revised. For further amendment and action by the Conference, see paragraph 146 (b) below, and for the final text of the draft resolution, see part one, chapter II, resolution VIII.

143. At its 10th meeting, the Committee considered its draft report.

144. At the same meeting, it decided, without a vote, to reconsider draft resolution VIII, and by 41 votes to 4, with 8 abstentions, it decided to retain the word "Urges" in the operative paragraph.

145. The Committee, then adopted its draft report, as orally amended, without a vote.

## ACTION BY THE CONFERENCE

146. At its 15th meeting, on 28 August 1974, the Conference took note of the report of the First Committee and adopted its recommendations as follows:

(a) Draft resolutions I to VII were adopted without a vote. For the final texts, see part one, chapter II, resolutions I to VII respectively;

(b) In connexion with draft resolution VIII, the representative of Jamaica, on behalf of Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, the Netherlands and Trinidad and Tobago, orally introduced an amendment by which the following text would be added at the end of the operative paragraph:

"taking care not to take action which would affect adversely the ability of developing countries to promote their own development".

The Conference adopted the amendment without a vote. Draft resolution VIII was adopted, as amended, without a vote. For the final text, see part one, chapter II, resolution VIII;

(c) Draft recommendation I was adopted without a vote. For the final text, see part one, chapter II, recommendation I.

## B. Population, resources and the environment

### Report of the Second Committee

147. The Conference, at its 2nd meeting, on 19 August 1974, allocated to the Second Committee item 9 of the agenda, entitled "Population resources and the environment".

148. The Committee considered this item at its 1st to 9th meetings, from 20 to 27 August 1974.

149. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the basic Conference document entitled "Population, resources and the environment" (E/CONF.60/5 and Corr.1). In addition, the Committee had before it the following background documents: "Documentation for the Conference: general disclaimer" (E/CONF.60/8); "Documentation for the Conference: note by the Secretary-General of the Conference" (E/CONF.60/9); "Recent population trends and future prospects" (E/CONF.60/3); "Report of the Symposium on Population, Resources and the Environment" (E/CONF.60/CBP/3); "Report of the Symposium on Population and Human Rights" (E/CONF.60/CBP/4); "Demographic trends in the world and its major regions, 1950-1970" (E/CONF.60/CBP/14); "World and regional population prospects" (E/CONF.60/CBP/15); "World population and food supplies: looking ahead" (E/CONF.60/CBP/19); "World and regional labour force prospects to the year 2000" (E/CONF.60/CBP/31); "On the use of models as instruments in formulating population policies" (E/CONF.60/BP/12).

150. The Second Committee examined the problem of population, resources and the environment in their manifold and complex interrelationships (as set out in basic Conference document (E/CONF.60/5), the report on the Symposium on Population, Resources and the Environment held at Stockholm (E/CONF.60/CBP/3), and related background documents) with the aim of securing the elimination of poverty, the promotion of economic and social development and improvement in the quality of life for all mankind, the achievement of which calls for international understanding and co-operation.

151. There was general agreement that higher standards of living and associated investments in education and health together made possible the changes in social attitudes which had important influences on the rate of population growth.

152. The Committee felt strongly that more emphasis should be placed in the World Population Plan of Action on the relationship between resources, the environment and population, and on the relationship between population growth and the demands that this imposed on natural resources and the environment. The Committee therefore emphasized in its recommendation to the Working Group on the World Population Plan of Action the importance of giving adequate consideration to natural resources and the quality of the environment, with special emphasis on the supply and distribution of food throughout the world.

153. The Committee agreed unanimously that the most obvious and very large waste of resources occurred in massive expenditures on armaments. Support was expressed for United Nations resolutions concerning the reduction of military budgets and the channelling of the resources thus saved to the promotion of development.

Representatives agreed that a major contribution to the conservation of the world's mineral resources could be achieved by a determined attack on their wasteful use and it was pointed out that in some countries the recycling of resources was already yielding significant economies. The Committee was also aware of the extent to which further scientific and technological advances could provide for a more economic use of resources and the development of substitutes for scarce resources. Several representatives pointed out that if material consumption in the developed countries were to be reduced in an effort to conserve basic resources, there would not only be a reflection on price levels and a reduction in the demand for raw materials entering international trade but also a reduction in the ability of developed countries to transfer resources to developing countries in order to assist their development. Although this view did not gain universal acceptance, the Committee urged that the necessary action to conserve resources and reduce waste in the richer countries should be taken with constant concern for the effects of this action on the ability of the poorer countries to develop their resources.

154. In its debate, the Committee took note of the very wide variety of national demographic, social and economic conditions, of the complexity of the relationships existing between population, resources and the environment, and the fact that national population policies were and could only be the responsibility of individual national Governments, as President of Romania, Nicolae Ceausescu, reminded the Conference in his opening address. The Committee felt that the basic document E/CONF.60/5 could have been more specific about these complex issues and their impact on particular regions and countries.

155. The debate concentrated on two major aspects of the problem. First, the supply and use of natural resources - minerals, water, land and energy; and secondly the protection of the environment, distinguishing between the deterioration of the environment in all its aspects, and the problems of the evolving nature and pattern of human settlements.

#### Natural resources

156. The Committee was by no means in agreement on any quantitative assessment of the magnitude of the world's remaining natural resources. The views of the representatives on the rate at which the finite resources of the world were being consumed ranged from the pessimistic to the optimistic. Some representatives felt that technological possibilities were underestimated. Others considered that it was dangerous to assume that advances in technology could solve the problem. For example, some representatives emphasized the complexity of estimating the future adequacy of water resources, and viewed the problem of climatic change as one of great concern because of the recent widespread occurrence of floods, droughts and other natural disasters in different parts of the world.

157. During the debate, many representatives emphasized that there were limits to the productive capacity of natural resources, particularly with respect to agriculture and fisheries, arising from both natural and institutional constraints. Many representatives were more concerned with the more urgent problem of utilizing known physical resources than with finite limits to resources. They emphasized the pressing need of many developing countries for more capital and other economic inputs to enable them to develop their natural resources and raise their standards of living, and thought that high rates of population growth would impede this

process. Others felt that, with the appropriate economic and political organization, production could rise ahead of population. Some representatives regarded further population growth as a prerequisite to a more effective exploitation and utilization of natural resources, believing that better education and training and the further development of research and technological progress would solve the problems of poverty and malnutrition and achieve the desired raising of the standards of living and the quality of life of the peoples of developing countries. Other representatives took the view that the demands on available resources for human advancement were already of such magnitude that further unlimited population growth could only inhibit, if not prevent, social and economic development. Some representatives urged that long-term efforts should be devoted to reducing population growth and improving the quality of life. Some favoured patterns of development stressing the use of readily available materials, local skills and human resources.

158. The Committee, recognizing the complexity of the relationships between population and resources and the wide diversity of national circumstances - for example those of land-locked and mountainous areas and countries - concluded that there was no single solution to the demographic problems facing the world. In some developing countries additional population growth could contribute to the planned development of national resources while in others with acute resource problems and inadequate institutional and social structures, a policy designed to reduce present rates of population growth should constitute an integral part of national programmes for social and economic advancement. In the view of some representatives the absence of such policies could well lead to serious crises including acute food shortages and consequent rises in mortality and morbidity rates.

159. There was a consensus in the Committee that, with sensible use, the earth's mineral and energy resources appear, from available information, to be potentially adequate at present to cover the necessities of the world's growing population. However, the Committee also recognized that, in various regions of the world, serious shortages of vital supplies are evident today. The reasons for this included the wasteful use of resources, absence of appropriate international, regional and national policies, inadequate socio-economic institutions, and unsound ecological and technological practices, as well as increasing demand.

#### Food supplies

160. The inadequacy of the world's food supplies was considered the most urgent problem in the short term, and the ability to maintain an increase in the world's food production adequate to meet the needs of the projected population was questioned. In many of the more heavily populated developing countries, fresh water, agricultural land, forests and fisheries were almost fully utilized. The Committee took note in the report entitled "World population and food supplies: Looking ahead" (E/CONF.60/CBP/19) that world grain reserves had now fallen to less than four weeks supply - the lowest level in two decades - at a time when the sharply rising prices of both energy and fertilizers and in some cases the physical availability of supplies had greatly reduced the ability of farmers in developing countries to secure higher output.

161. In some developing countries the increase in the cost of these necessary inputs during the last year has absorbed the total net transfer of resources from

the developed countries. In these countries, therefore, the basic economic concept of the green revolution is being undermined by the rising costs of inputs. This problem is compounded by the difficulty of ensuring an adequate distribution of food to those areas in greatest need, and by the acute consequences of recent floods, droughts and other natural hazards.

162. Recognizing the urgency of this problem, the Committee decided to recommend to the plenary that action should be taken now to ensure that the issues discussed by the World Population Conference should be fully reflected in the deliberations of the World Food Conference, to be held in Rome, in November 1974 (see paras. 176-179 below).

#### Deficiencies in knowledge

163. The Committee, noting the conflicting range of estimates concerning such vital and interrelated issues as the future population-carrying capacity of the world, the extent of the remaining mineral resources, the feasible rate at which food production could be increased, the national and international consequences for the environment of further pollution, the nature of technological advances and the degree of international progress towards a more equitable distribution of the world's basic resources, concluded that concerted action on a national and international scale is urgently required for the more systematic monitoring of trends and the promotion of research into this whole complex of relationships between population, resources and the environment.

164. There was general recognition in the Committee that the facts of the problem were not sufficiently understood. Realizing this, the Committee recommended to the plenary the adoption of a draft resolution and a draft recommendation which stressed the importance of international co-operation in limiting the deficiencies in knowledge, emphasizing the need for more systematic collection and analysis of data, with the help of central research services provided within the United Nations system, in order to produce a synthesis of this information for the benefit of all Member States; and urging that research carried out in demographic centres established jointly by the United Nations and its Members, as well as national institutions, should give greater attention to the interrelationships between population, resources and the environment.

#### Protection of the environment

165. The Committee expressed concern regarding the growing problem of pollution of land, water and air, which was no respecter of national frontiers. They recognized that damage to the natural environment occurred in both developed and developing countries. The Committee, while noting special problems such as those arising from the misuse of pesticides and from the accumulation of radio-active waste, attached great importance to the role which good planning could play in minimizing pollution, and to the need for regional and other forms of international co-operation, for adequate monitoring and for more co-ordinated research to combat the potentially adverse environmental effects of an increased demand for the world's resources resulting from certain aspects of population and economic growth.

166. The Committee therefore recommended the promotion of regional, as well as other forms of international co-operation in efforts to improve the environment.

## Settlement

167. Of the other environmental consequences of continuing high rates of population growth and social and economic development, the Committee emphasized in particular the serious problems arising from increasing urbanization and the need to provide basic housing, health and social services. Because settlement patterns would continue to vary from country to country reflecting individual national geographical, social, economic, and demographic circumstances, it was difficult to generalize about the optimum size of towns in the complex urban hierarchies. Effective local administration and co-ordinated local, regional, and national physical planning were essential both for development of agro-industrial centres big enough to provide the requisite social infrastructure for more scattered rural populations and for the controlled growth of new developing provincial towns as a counter-attraction to unrestricted metropolitan growth. The expected magnitude of urban expansion will require major policy decisions and large investment programmes to maintain and improve the quality of urban life.

168. Recognizing the importance of this question, the Committee recommended to the plenary that the United Nations Conference-Exposition on Human Settlements to be held at Vancouver in November 1976 should take full account of the deliberations and conclusions of the World Population Conference (see paras. 190-192 below).

169. The Committee realized that on most of the major issues discussed, all of which are of direct concern to the World Population Conference, further international support for action will have to be generated by the decisions taken at other forthcoming United Nations Conferences - in particular those on food, human settlements and environmental protection. It also realized that the fundamental issues of environmental protection discussed by the Committee are the proper continuing concern of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The Committee therefore stressed the importance of the population issues which are directly relevant to the conduct of these future conferences. This view is fully reflected in the draft recommendations and draft resolutions recommended to the plenary for adoption.

## I

170. At the 5th meeting, the Chairman introduced a text which had been drafted in the course of informal consultations, relating to the subject of population, resources and environment, for submission to the Working Group of the Conference, for inclusion in the World Population Plan of Action. The text read as follows:

"In the national formulation of population goals and policies, consideration must be given to the supplies and characteristics of natural resources and to the quality of the environment and particularly to all aspects of food supply including productivity of rural areas; the demand for vital resources increases with growing population and with growing per capita consumption; attention must be directed to the just distribution of resources and to the minimization of wasteful aspects of their use throughout the world."

171. At the same meeting, following interventions by the representatives of Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany, Poland, the Union of Soviet Socialist

Republics and the United States of America, the Chairman orally revised the text by inserting the words "together with other economic and social factors" between the words "consideration must be given" and "to the supplies and characteristics".

172. At the same meeting, the Committee decided without a vote to transmit the text with the revision suggested by the Chairman to the Working Group for inclusion in the World Population Plan of Action.

## II

173. At the 7th meeting, the representatives of Sweden, on behalf of Bangladesh, Ecuador, Finland, Kenya and the Netherlands, introduced a revised draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.2/L.1/Rev.1), and stated that Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, Jamaica and Norway were also sponsors. The text read as follows:

"The World Population Conference,

"Recalling the adopted World Population Plan of Action,

"Emphasizing that this Plan of Action must be considered as an essential component of a system of strategies which, taken together, constitute the international community's over-all strategy for the promotion of economic development and the quality of life,

"Recognizing that the preservation of the human environment and scarce natural resources is a multidimensional problem, of which population dynamics is one of the important elements,

"Recognizing also that present-day population dynamics is correlated with limited world food supply and the need for rapid increase of food production,

"Recognizing further the possibility of increasing occurrence of natural hazards resulting from global climatic changes,

"Aware that only highly aggregated and simplified global models are so far available to guide policy makers in seeing population in relation to resource availability and environmental carrying capacity,

"Conscious also of the need to look for such comprehensive studies on disaggregated national and regional levels,

"Aware also of the need for a world network of country studies which relate national demographic trends to trends in national resource use and environmental impact,

"1. Recommends that the wealth of existing data of development in the field of population, resources and environment be systematically collected and analysed resulting in well-founded conclusions and recommendations which call for generous co-operation from Member States of the United Nations and the specialized agencies;

"2. Recommends that facilities for central research services be provided in a co-ordinated manner within the United Nations system, taking into account the role of the United Nations Environment Programme, with the aim, inter alia, of working out a synthesis of available collected knowledge at national and regional levels in order to assist Member States and the international community in their efforts to cope with the multidimensional and complex problems of population, development and resources and environment;

"3. Emphasizes the need for this work to draw upon the expertise within as well as outside the United Nations system."

174. Also at the 7th meeting, in light of suggestions made informally and at the meeting by various representatives, the draft resolution was revised by the sponsors as follows:

(a) The title "Interrelationships among population, development, resources and environment" was inserted;

(b) The first two preambular paragraphs were placed in square brackets;

(c) The word "scarce" in the third preambular paragraph was replaced by the word "available";

(d) The fourth preambular paragraph was reworded to read:

"Recognizing also that present-day population dynamics is correlated with food supply and the need for expansion and improvement in food production and distribution";

(e) The fifth preambular paragraph was reworded to read:

"Recognizing also the need for improved analyses of the occurrence of natural hazards resulting from global climatic changes and other causes";

(f) The sixth preambular paragraph was reworded to read:

"Aware that only highly aggregated and simplified global models have been put forward relating population to resource availability and environmental carrying capacity";

(g) In the seventh preambular paragraph, the words "need to look for such" were replaced by the words "advantages of initiating";

(h) In the last preambular paragraph, the words "also of the need for" were replaced by the words "of the importance of";

(i) Operative paragraph 1 was reworded to read:

"Recommends that the relevant existing data be systematically collected and analysed, resulting in conclusions and recommendations which call for generous co-operation from States Members of the United Nations".

175. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted without a vote, as draft resolution I, the revised draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.2/L.1/Rev.1), as further revised. For

action by the Conference, see paragraph 197 (a) below, and for the final text of the draft resolution, see part one, chapter II, resolution IX.

### III

176. At the 7th meeting, the representative of India, on behalf of Bangladesh, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Food and fertilizers shortages" (E/CONF.60/C.II/L.4) and stated that Kenya and Indonesia were also sponsors. The text read as follows:

"The World Population Conference,

"Recognizing that millions of people are undernourished and many even go hungry,

"Recognizing that it is reported that weather conditions in many important food-growing areas have been unfavourable and grain crops in 1974 may not even equal the 1973 grain production,

"Recognizing that population growth is adding 2 per cent annually to the world's population, that is about 75 million a year, and food needs are rising in consequence,

"Recognizing that world grain stocks are lower now than in many years and that there is an acute scarcity of fertilizer in many parts of the world even at the present high prices;

"Recommends that all Governments planning to participate in the forthcoming United Nations World Food Conference consider seriously how existing and prospective food and fertilizer shortages can best be met by national efforts and international co-operation."

177. At the same meeting, the representative of India revised the draft resolution as follows:

(a) In the second preambular paragraph, the words "Recognizing that it is reported" were replaced by the words "recalling reports";

(b) The second and third preambular paragraphs were reversed.

178. At the same meeting, following suggestions by various representatives and a proposal by the Chairman, the Committee agreed to replace, in the operative paragraph, the words "met by national efforts" by the phrase "overcome and stocks replenished by national efforts and regional".

179. The Committee then adopted without a vote, as draft resolution II, the draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.II/L.4), as revised and amended. For action by the Conference, see paragraph 197 (a) below, and for the final text of the draft resolution, see part one, chapter II, resolution X.

180. At the 7th meeting, the representative of Israel introduced a draft resolution, entitled "Regional co-operation" (E/CONF.60/C.II/L.3), the text of which read:

"The World Population Conference

"1. Stresses the importance of regional co-operation between Governments to deal with and to avoid environmental deterioration and to improve the quality of life in populated areas,

"2. Recommends the use of technological know-how to improve, maintain and enhance regional ecosystem and prevent pollution to the greatest extent possible."

181. At the same meeting, following various suggestions and upon proposals by the Chairman, the Committee decided to reword the draft resolution as follows:

"1. Stresses the importance of regional co-operation, as well as other forms of international co-operation among Governments, to deal with and to avoid environmental deterioration and to improve the quality of life in all areas;

"2. Recommends the use of technological expertise to improve, maintain or enhance the regional and international environment and prevent pollution to the greatest extent possible".

182. At the same meeting, the Committee had before it an amendment to the draft resolution proposed by Mali (E/CONF.60/C.2/L.5), by which the following text would be inserted at the end of operative paragraph 1:

"in conformity with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, the relevant United Nations resolutions and with full respect for the legitimate rights of the peoples to exercise their right of self-determination, and in the context of normal relations between States of the regions,".

183. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the amendment without a vote.

184. At the same meeting, the representative of Senegal orally proposed an amendment to the draft resolution. Following suggestions by various representatives and informal consultations, the Committee agreed to insert the following text as operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution:

"Notes the harmful effects of all pollution crossing international boundaries as well as the destructive environmental effects resulting from the occupation of territories by force and the massive displacement of peoples;".

185. The Committee adopted without a vote, as draft resolution III, the draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.II/L.3), as reworded and amended. For action by the Conference, see paragraph 197 (a) below, and for the final text of the draft resolution, see part one, chapter II, resolution XI.

186. At the same meeting, the representatives of Israel and the United States stated that they had not participated in the action taken by the Committee on the draft resolution.

V

187. At the 7th meeting, the representative of Romania, on behalf of Kenya, introduced a draft recommendation for inclusion in chapter III of the Draft World Population Plan of Action, entitled, "Recommendations for action", the text of which read as follows:

"The World Population Conference

"1. Recommends that the United Nations - Romania Demographic Centre, which is to be engaged in the study and research work on population and development, and other established United Nations demographic centres, should include in their thematic research and training programmes as well as in their professional activity, the questions of the interrelationship of population, resources and the environment;

"2. Recommends also the promotion of forming and training of research workers, and of giving them specialization and the capability of approaching in a multidisciplinary manner the questions pertaining to the interrelationship of population, resources and the environment."

188. At the same meeting, upon a proposal by the Chairman, the Committee changed the draft recommendation for inclusion in the Draft World Population Plan of Action to a draft recommendation for submission to the Conference, and agreed to replace the word "forming" in paragraph 2 by the word "education".

189. The Committee then adopted without a vote, as draft recommendation I, the draft recommendation, as amended. For action by the Conference, see paragraph 197 (b) below, and for the final text of the draft recommendation, see part one, chapter II, recommendation II.

VI

190. At the 8th meeting, the representative of Poland, on behalf of Australia, introduced a draft recommendation (E/CONF.60/C.2/L.6 and Corr.1), the text of which was as follows:

"The World Population Conference, recognizing the importance of housing and the environment for the development of the population and the role of demographic factors in the programming and planning of housing, expresses the desire that the United Nations Conference-Exposition on Human Settlements, to be held at Vancouver in 1976, should take into consideration in its programme of work the conclusions of the World Population Conference."

191. At the same meeting, following a proposal by the Netherlands and suggestions by Poland and the Chairman, the Committee agreed to amend the draft recommendation by adding at the end of its text the following words:

"especially with regard to the possible effects of the increasing population on housing and sanitary facilities, human health factors, the environment and ecosystems".

192. The Committee then adopted without a vote, as draft recommendation II, the draft recommendation, as amended. For action by the Conference, see paragraph 197 (b) below, and for the final text of the draft recommendation, see chapter one, chapter II, recommendation III.

## VII

193. At the same meeting, the Chairman read out the text of the following draft recommendation:

"The World Population Conference decides that the conclusions of the Symposium on Population, Resources and the Environment, held at Stockholm, as set out in paragraph 22 of the report of the Symposium (E/CONF.60/CBP/3) be incorporated in, and regarded as part of the basic document (E/CONF.60/5) discussed by the Second Committee under agenda item 9 of the Conference, entitled "Population, resources and the environment."

194. At the same meeting, following interventions by Brazil, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands, Romania and Sweden, the Committee agreed to reword the draft recommendation as follows:

"The World Population Conference decides that the report of the Symposium on Population, Resources and Environment, held at Stockholm (E/CONF.60/CBP/3) be attached as an annex to the basic document (E/CONF.60/5) discussed by the Second Committee under agenda item 9 of the Conference, entitled 'Population, resources and the environment'."

195. The Committee adopted without a vote, as draft recommendation III, the draft recommendation as reworded. For action by the Conference, see paragraph 197 (b) below, and for the final text of the draft recommendation, see part one, chapter II, recommendation IV. Some representatives stated that their agreement to the recommendation did not imply their acceptance of all the conclusions of the Symposium.

196. At the 8th meeting, the Committee adopted its draft report without a vote.

## ACTION BY THE CONFERENCE

197. At its 15th meeting, on 28 August 1974, the Conference took note of the report of the Second Committee and adopted its recommendations as follows:

(a) Draft resolutions I, II and III were adopted without a vote. For the final texts, see part one, chapter II, resolutions IX, X and XI respectively;

(b) Draft recommendations I, II and III were adopted without a vote. For the final texts, see part one, chapter II, recommendations II, III and IV respectively.

198. At the same meeting, the representatives of Albania and China expressed reservations concerning paragraph 153 above relating to military budgets.

199. In an explanation of their votes, the representatives of Brazil and the Holy See expressed reservations on draft resolution III and draft recommendation III respectively.

### C. Population and the family

#### Report of the Third Committee

200. The Conference, at its 2nd meeting, on 19 August 1974, allocated to the Third Committee item 10 of the agenda, entitled "Population and the family".

201. The Committee considered this item at its 1st to 9th meetings, from 20 to 28 August 1974.

202. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the basic Conference document entitled "Population and the family" (E/CONF.60/6). In addition, the Committee had before it the following background documents: "Report of the Symposium on Population and the Family" (E/CONF.60/CBP/2); "Report of the Symposium on Population and Human Rights" (E/CONF.60/CBP/4); "Women's rights and fertility" (E/CONF.60/CBP/5); "Population and the family: overview" (E/CONF.60/CBP/8); "Population policy and the family: the Latin American case" (E/CONF.60/CBP/9); "Study on the interrelationship of the status of women and family planning" (E/CONF.60/CBP/11 and Add.1-3); "The management problem in family planning programmes" (E/CONF.60/CBP/12); "Family planning programmes and fertility in the countries of the ECAFE region" (E/CONF.60/CBP/13 and Corr.1); "Fertility trends in the world" (E/CONF.60/CBP/16); "Population policies and programmes" (E/CONF.60/CBP/21); "Research on the biomedical aspects of fertility regulation and on the operational aspects of family planning programmes" (E/CONF.60/CBP/22); "The role of international assistance in the population fields" (E/CONF.60/CBP/24); "Research needed in the field of population" (E/CONF.60/CBP/28); "Health and family planning" (E/CONF.60/CBP/30); "Report on the Second Inquiry among Governments on Population and Development" (E/CONF.60/CBP/32); and Summaries of background papers for the World Population Conference" (E/CONF.60/CBP/35).

203. The Committee considered that population policies, family policies and family well-being were closely related to economic and social development and to raising the income level of the poor and increasing minimum wages in every country. The central issues at present were improving the quality of life and attaining more equitable living conditions for all peoples. One way of viewing the means and impediments to achieving these goals was from the perspective of the family. Account should also be taken of the demographic, economic, social, and cultural conditions in which families are formed, developed and dissolved.

204. It was acknowledged that while the family is a powerful agent of social change, it is also influenced by change. Thus, although the family and the society derived many benefits from economic and social development, the nature and pace of modernization often exerted pressures upon the family. Impingement of such forces as, for example, urbanization and internal and external migration, caused

the family to be extremely vulnerable and to require support from other institutions. Further, in the transition from high to low fertility, family structure, function and relationships were altered and family members frequently required assistance in dealing with these changes.

205. The Committee concurred with previous assemblies that Governments have the sovereign right to determine family and population policy, while taking due account of human rights, that individuals and couples have a right to education, information and the means of determining freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children, and that children have a right to develop to their full potential in relative conditions of health, and of material and psychological well-being. Such conflicts as may exist between these rights were, in the view of many, to be resolved in favour of the individual. The full and free exercise of these rights could be a reality only where living standards were at an acceptable level.

206. Family well-being was seen by the majority of delegates to encompass a broad spectrum of conditions. Paramount among these was the health of all family members, though stress was placed upon the health of mothers, infants and young children. High infant mortality was especially recognized as a deterrent to fertility decline. Family well-being was influenced even in its formative stage by the age of spouses at marriage, and the options of individuals in respect of both marriage and spouse. The view was expressed that individuals should have freedom of choice in these matters and that the legal age of marriage, particularly of women, should be raised, where it was low.

207. It was widely acknowledged that the ability to determine the number and spacing of children influences family well-being, partly because of the effect upon the health of both mothers and children, and partly because of the impact of reproductive patterns upon relationships among family members and upon opportunities for such members to achieve their full individual potential. It was stressed by many that the goal was to avoid unwanted children. It was widely acknowledged that family planning was accordingly a value in itself, but every country should design its own policies of family planning which might or might not include measures aiming at reducing or increasing family size, depending on the situation in the country. The concept of family planning should therefore include not only access to and knowledge of the means to avoid unwanted pregnancies, but also assistance with subfecundity and infertility, including programmes of adoption.

208. There was agreement that the conscious regulation of fertility was most likely to occur only within a context of economic and social development and that family policies and population policies should therefore be related to policies in other economic and social fields, especially measures designed to improve the status of women and efforts to promote rural development.

209. Several representatives were of the opinion that there was no need in their countries for measures to reduce births; others held such steps to be alien to cultures which placed high value on large families and urged that such family planning measures as were introduced should be compatible with their culture. Some representatives from countries with small populations in relation to natural resources viewed public health services, which include family planning services as a valuable means of reducing child, maternal and infant mortality and morbidity and of having more and healthier children. It was emphasized by many that there

was need for a more diversified policy approach to problems of population and of the family: among measures mentioned were selective migration, more equitable distribution of resources between rural and urban areas, extensive education and communications programmes dealing with all aspects of population and family planning and preparation of prospective spouses for marriage including the education of prospective couples as to the rights and responsibilities of parenthood.

210. The majority of the representatives considered that the right of women to make decisions affecting their own lives and a general improvement in their status were among the most effective means of promoting responsible parenthood. Moreover, elevation of the status of women and their full integration into development on an equal basis with men was a value in itself, as well as an aid to development. Many representatives voiced the opinion that problems concerning the status of women could be solved only if the structure of society is changed in other respects. Several representatives stressed that no change in the role of women would be achieved without altering at the same time the role of men. Education and vocational training of adult women and equal access of girls and boys to educational facilities were among the means of furthering the equality of men and women. The view prevailed that, in addition, highest priority should be accorded to other development and legal measures that would ensure to both women and men the equal opportunity to realize fully their potential at home, in society and in the labour market.

211. Several representatives stressed that family and population policy should make special provision for certain population groups in addition to women. Accordingly, measures should be taken in the fields of health, education, labour and welfare to ensure the rights and well-being of children, including their protection from economic exploitation. Other groups requiring special consideration included teen-agers and young adults. Youth programmes and educational and employment opportunities for boys and girls would aid individual development and, in many cultures, provide alternatives to early marriage. The aged were said to be a particularly vulnerable group. It was therefore desirable, as soon as conditions in a country made it possible, that family and population policies should include social security, health care and measures to ensure the dignity and well-being of the aged, a step that would also eliminate the concerns of old age as a motive for having many children.

212. In the view of some representatives, eradication of unemployment, poverty and other population problems and the improvement of family well-being were possible only in conditions of national sovereignty for all peoples and equity among nations. Many representatives emphasized that population policies are effective in developing regions only if economic and social conditions as well as international economic relations are changed, and that family policy, population policy and economic and social policies are mutually supportive. There was a consensus among the representatives that family planning as a policy is not a substitute for development. Many representatives said that due consideration should be given to the value of the family as well as to the value of its individual members as human beings. Many representatives also considered that education should be accorded equal value with other factors to improve family well-being.

213. In addition to policies in support of the family in general and of women and

other groups in particular it was the view of several representatives that the family and society would also benefit from humane policies in respect of immigrant and migrant workers and their families and from measures to alter the flow of migration to large cities and to preserve the culture of migrant children.

214. Several representatives were of the opinion that there remained wide gaps in knowledge of population factors interrelated with family well-being. One example was the lack of precise knowledge about how fertility is related to family structure and to economic and social development. Another was the need for research on relationships between demographic trends and economic quality.

215. Several representatives noted the need for cost benefit analysis of policy alternatives, for research on family dynamics and their demographic impact, and for empirical evidence of the relationship between levels of infant mortality and patterns of reproductive behaviour. A number of delegates noted the need for more research on fertility. The main stress was placed on the importance of research into the interrelations among the economics, social and cultural realities, as well as the biological factors affecting fertility.

216. Some representatives also observed that there exists a need for international comparative research in these fields and for a sharing of knowledge and skill among countries.

217. At its 5th meeting, the Committee decided to refer the draft resolutions (E/CONF.60/C.3/L.5 and E/CONF.60/C.3/L.6) to the Working Group on the World Population Plan of Action.

218. At the same meeting, the draft resolution, entitled "Food and population" (E/CONF.60/C.3/L.13) was withdrawn since an identical proposal had already been submitted in the Second Committee.

## I

219. At the same meeting, the draft resolutions entitled "Population and the family" (E/CONF.60/C.3/L.2) and "Population and equality of women and men" (E/CONF.60/C.3/L.3), were withdrawn in favour of the draft resolution, entitled "Population and the status of women" (E/CONF.60/C.3/L.14).

220. At the 5th meeting, the representative of India, on behalf of Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, India, Indonesia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, introduced a draft resolution, entitled "Population and the status of women" (E/CONF.60/C.3/L.14), which read as follows:

### "The World Population Conference,

"Recognizing that the promotion of the status of men and women towards full equality in society and in the family should be both a determining factor and end result of development,

"Recognizing that the status of women in society is inseparably related to the size and composition of the family and that its promotion improves the quality of life of the family and society,

"Recognizing the special needs and conditions of women and their families in developing societies and rural and tribal areas,

"Recalling the Declaration on Social Progress and Development proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969, by which it confirmed that parents have the right to determine freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children, and that families should be provided with the knowledge and the means necessary to enable them to exercise this right,

"Recognizing that the exercise of the right of parents to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children is closely related to the extent to which women are integrated into the social, economic, cultural and political life of the societies in which they live,

"Noting with satisfaction Economic and Social Council resolutions 1849 (LVI) of 16 May 1974, proclaiming the year 1975 International Women's Year, and 1851 (LVI) of 16 May 1974, recommending that the subject of the status and role of women in society be included in the agenda of the General Assembly at its thirtieth session as a separate agenda item,

"Noting with concern the persistent vicious cycle of low education and employment status of women in many countries,

"1. Urges Governments:

"(a) To make the equality of women and men an integral part of their development efforts especially in the fields of education, health, employment, political, socio-economic and cultural life and family life;

"(b) To abolish all discrimination on the grounds of sex in law and practice;

"(c) To inform women on all socio-economic levels of their rights;

"(d) To involve women at every stage and every level in the planning and implementation of development programmes, including programmes related to population dynamics and policies;

"(e) To consult and support non-governmental organizations in these efforts;

"2. Requests the United Nations organs and the specialized agencies to give special consideration to the impact of development efforts and programmes on the improvement on the status of women, especially in connexion with the review and appraisal of the International Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade and the deliberations of the special session of the General Assembly, in 1975, devoted to development and international co-operation".

221. At the 5th meeting, Austria and Jamaica joined in sponsoring the draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.3/L.14).

222. At the 6th meeting, the representative of India, on behalf of the sponsors, orally revised the draft resolution to incorporate suggestions made by some delegations. The revisions were as follows:

(a) The replacement of the second preambular paragraph by the following text:

"Recognizing that the status of women is related to the economic development and social trends of society as well as to the size and composition of the family and that the promotion of the status of women improves the quality of life of the family and society";

(b) In the fifth preambular paragraph, the replacement of the word "life" by the words "process of development";

(c) The addition at the end of the sixth preambular paragraph of the words "with the theme 'Equality, Development and Peace'";

(d) The deletion of the words "of women" in the seventh preambular paragraph;

(e) The addition of the words "and responsibilities" at the end of operative paragraph 1 (c);

(f) The replacement in operative paragraph 1 (e), of the word "support" by the word "involve"; and the addition at the end of the paragraph of the words "as they consider appropriate".

223. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted without a vote, as draft resolution I, the draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.3/L.14) as orally revised. For action by the Conference, see paragraph 244 (a) below, and for the final text of the draft resolution, see part one, chapter II, resolution XII.

## II

224. At the 5th meeting, the representative of Romania introduced a draft resolution, entitled "The rural family" (E/CONF.60/C.3/L.7), which read as follows:

"The World Population Conference,

"Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and, in particular, Article 55, which provides that 'the United Nations shall promote higher standards of living, full employment, and conditions of economic and social progress and development',

"Recalling the purposes and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade and, in particular, paragraphs 65 to 77 thereof relating to human development and the expansion and diversification of production,

"Convinced that, as most of the world's population is rural, special attention must be given, in the family policies of States and in efforts by the international community, to the emancipation of the rural family and to the solution of its specific needs and problems,

"Taking into account the changes which have occurred in recent decades and the processes which are now taking place in rural family structures and their impact on the total population and the development of human society as a whole,

"Conscious of the close relationship between the transformation of traditional agrarian structures and the modification of rural family patterns,

"Bearing in mind the responsibilities incumbent on society for the protection of the family and the family's duties vis-à-vis society,

"Fully convinced that, in order to be efficient and humanitarian, population policy must, at the national level, be an integral part of a comprehensive programme of economic and social development,

"Emphasizing that it is the right and duty of every State, by virtue of its national sovereignty, to formulate and implement a democratic family policy suited to its specific conditions and development programmes - a principle already embodied in various international documents, in particular in the Stockholm Declaration on the Human Environment and the Declaration of Population Strategy for Development adopted by the Second Asian Population Conference,

"Considering also that, while respecting the sovereign right of States to decide their own family policy, the international community can by the formulation of certain general principles help each State to find efficient optimum solutions, support the individual efforts of States and mobilize resources and public opinion for the solution of population problems in the spirit of serving the interests of all peoples;

"1. Recommends that in national population policies and, in particular, those of the developing countries, special attention should be given to rural family policy and to the formulation and implementation of a complex of economic and social measures calculated to meet the specific needs of the rural family, and to ensure that each nation enjoys a harmonious demographic development;

"2. Considers that to that end it is necessary, inter alia:

(a) To orient the main effort towards programmes for the structural modernization of agriculture, towards encouragement and assistance for the introduction of modern science, methods and technology, towards the establishment of networks of co-operatives, and towards other measures designed to liberate the peasant family from some of its functions as a labour unit, with consequential effects on its concerns and behaviour;

(b) To ensure that the policy of assistance to rural families takes

account of the universal trend to transition from the large family model to the nuclear-family model and that it adapts relevant programmes to the specific requirements of the latter model;

(c) To take due account in such policy of traditions and practices relating to marriage and the birth and education of children, of regulations and traditions concerning the systems of inheritance and the handing down of possessions, and of the need to protect the aged;

(d) To integrate family assistance - in a manner consistent with the links that exist between agricultural production cycles and the stages of the family cycle - into differentiated programmes of assistance for the development of agriculture and the support of peasant households;

(e) To improve progressively the status of women belonging to rural families through systematic measures designed, on the one hand, to liberate women from certain traditional domestic chores by the introduction of modern appliances and other household facilities, and on the other, to train them to do highly skilled work, and to improve and, above all, subsequently perfect their education and occupational training;

"3. Requests the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and their organs, and other international organizations periodically to review national and international efforts to bring the level of the rural family closer to that of the urban family and, to the extent of their competence and resources, to encourage and support the efforts of States to attain that objective."

225. At the 6th meeting, the representative of Romania orally revised the draft resolution to incorporate the following changes suggested by some delegations:

(a) Not applicable to the English text;

(b) In the third preambular paragraph, the insertion after the words "community, to" of the words "the changes in rural structures which prevent"; and the replacement of the words "to the solution" by the words "to promoting the solution";

(c) In the fourth preambular paragraph, the deletion of the word "total";

(d) In the fifth preambular paragraph, the replacement of the word "patterns" by the word "units";

(e) In the sixth preambular paragraph, the replacement of the word "duties" by the word "responsibilities";

(f) In the eighth preambular paragraph, the replacement of the words "a democratic family policy suited" by the words "policies likely to promote the well-being of the family and suited";

(g) The replacement of operative paragraph 2 (a) by the following text:

"(a) To orient the main effort towards programmes for the structural

modernization of agriculture and other forms of rural activity and towards the restructuring of the rural environment; that it is necessary, furthermore, to have in view encouragement and assistance for the introduction of science and technology, the adoption of forms such as community and co-operative development and other measures designed to liberate the peasant family from some of its tasks as a labour unit, the introduction of all kinds of facilities calculated to ease the burden on women, assistance in the equitable marketing of agricultural produce, and the direction of migration in accordance with the needs and possibilities of each country;"

(h) The replacement of operative paragraph 2 (b) by the following text:

"(b) To ensure that the policy of the transformation of rural families takes account of the general trend to transition from the large family model to the nuclear-family model and that it adapts relevant programmes to the specific requirements of the latter model and to the well-being of its members, having regard to the specific conditions of each region or country, by strengthening family ties through the extension and development of the fundamental principles of equality, respect, freedom and love between the members of a family;"

(i) At the beginning of operative paragraph 2 (c) the replacement of the words "To take due account in such policy" by the words "To ensure that such policy takes due account"; and the addition, at the end of the paragraph, of the words "and that it respects the fundamental rights of national minorities";

(j) In operative paragraph 2 (d), the replacement of the words "family assistance" by the words "family protection";

(k) In operative paragraph 2 (e), the replacement of the words "by the introduction of modern appliances and other household facilities" by the words "and lighten their work";

(l) The addition of a new operative paragraph 2 (f), reading as follows:

"(f) To take appropriate steps to improve the health of the rural population and to support action designed to protect the mother and child";

(m) In operative paragraph 3, the replacement of the passage "bring the level ... attain that objective" by the words "give all families - rural and urban - equal opportunities to develop normally and achieve their advancement".

226. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted without a vote, as draft resolution II, the draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.3/L.7) as orally revised. For action by the Conference, see paragraph 244 (a) below, and for the final text of the draft resolution, see part one, chapter II, resolution XIII.

### III

227. At the 5th meeting, the representative of Ethiopia introduced a draft resolution entitled "Rural populations" (E/CONF.60/C.3/L.11), which read as follows:

"The World Population Conference,

"Recognizing the beneficial effect of development in general on population problems,

"Recognizing that women and children represent the vulnerable groups and thus the focal point of development,

"Recognizing the prevalence of morbidity and mortality excess in many developing countries and their adverse effect on the family, in particular, and population trends, in general,

"Conscious of the fact that women and children constitute about 70 per cent of most rural populations,

"Resolves that all nations give a higher priority to, and that the specialized agencies pay special attention to, the following as a matter of urgency:

- (a) Provision of clean water;
- (b) Local food production for nutrition;
- (c) Establishment of basic health services with special attention to rural areas; and
- (d) Training of personnel and research in these areas."

228. At the 6th meeting, the representative of Ethiopia orally revised the draft resolution to incorporate the following changes suggested by some delegations:

- (a) The deletion of the second preambular paragraph;
- (b) In the original third preambular paragraph, the replacement of the words "morbidity and mortality excess in many developing countries" by the words "excessive morbidity, malnutrition and mortality in most developing countries";
- (c) The replacement of the original fourth preambular paragraph by the following text:

"Conscious of the fact that women and children, who constitute about 70 per cent of most rural populations in developing countries, are the most vulnerable groups and the main target of development";

- (d) The replacement of the operative paragraph by the following text:

"Recommends that all nations give a higher priority to, and that the specialized agencies pay special attention to the following as a matter of urgency:

- (a) Provision of adequate, potable water supplies;

(b) Local food production for appropriate nutrition;

(c) Establishment and improvement of essential health services which include preventive medicine, health and nutrition education, antenatal and delivery service, immunization and family planning, with special attention to rural areas;

(d) Education and training of local personnel and research in the above areas;

(e) Introduction of labour-intensive activities and social welfare programmes that promote self-help in matters of housing and food production."

229. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted without a vote, as draft resolution III, the draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.3/L.11) as orally revised. For action by the Conference, see paragraph 244 (a) below, and for the final text of the draft resolution, see part one, chapter II, resolution XIV.

#### IV

230. At the 6th meeting, the draft resolutions, entitled "Research" (E/CONF.60/C.3/L.40) and "Research on population and the family" (E/CONF.60/C.3/L.10), respectively, were withdrawn in favour of the draft resolution, entitled "Population and research" (E/CONF.60/C.3/L.9).

231. At the same meeting, the Committee took up the consideration of the draft resolution, entitled "Population and research" (E/CONF.60/C.3/L.9) which read as follows:

"The World Population Conference,

"Recognizing that knowledge of the demographic phenomena in all its aspects concerning the family is insufficient, especially of their interrelations with social and economic dynamics,

"Aware that a better understanding of the various social and economic variables that interact with family functions and structures is important for the formulation, evaluation and implementation of appropriate population policies and for the value of the family in society as well as of its elements,

"1. Recommends that the international organizations concerned, and all Governments establishing long-range programmes of research, consider the research priorities set forth in the World Population Plan of Action;

"2. Recognizes the importance of international co-operation and of the role to be played, in the field of research by the United Nations, through its appropriate bodies;

"3. Suggests that, within the United Nations system, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities provide adequate financial assistance to national and international research programmes, for which purpose it is

recommended that the Fund devote an ever-increasing percentage of its allocations to research;

"4. Requests that all international co-operation in the field of research be undertaken in full agreement with the objectives and strategies of national population policies."

232. At the 6th meeting, the representative of the Holy See orally proposed the inclusion of two additional operative paragraphs which read as follows:

"5. Suggests that the United Nations bodies should support national and international programmes, which deal specifically with bio-medical research on fertility and its variations, both normal and pathological, and research on the interaction between fertility and demographic variables and socio-economic factors;

"6. Requests that, within the above-mentioned framework, studies should be carried out on the genetic effects of different family sizes and of population dynamics."

233. At the same meeting, the representative of Brazil, on behalf of the sponsors of the draft resolution, accepted the inclusion of the new additional operative paragraphs proposed by the representative of the Holy See.

234. At the same meeting, the Committee decided, by a vote of 26 to 20, with 13 abstentions, to retain operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution.

235. The Committee then adopted without a vote, as draft resolution IV, the draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.3/L.9) as orally revised. For further amendment and action by the Conference, see paragraph 244 (b) below, and for the final text of the draft resolution, see part one, chapter II, resolution XV.

V

236. At the 6th meeting the representative of Mexico introduced a draft resolution, entitled "Population policies" (E/CONF.60/C.3/L.8) which read as follows:

"The World Population Conference,

"Considering that a population policy should be adopted by each country only as one of the elements promoting general development, the objective of which is maximum well-being and increasingly better quality of life, individually and collectively, for its inhabitants,

"Considering that a population policy should be consistent with such universal realities as modernization, the juridical, political, social and cultural equality of women, respect for the rights of parents and children, the strengthening of family ties, the right of parents to determine consciously and responsibly the number and spacing of their children, the dissemination of appropriate information on population problems, social sciences, pre-marital education and family planning, scientific research in those fields, related health care, increased intellectual and material

resources and their appropriate distribution, changes of system among States in the economic order, greater social justice etc.,

"Taking into account the fact that according to the public statements of the great majority of the representatives of the States participating in the present Conference, it is the right of each nation to determine its own population policy in the unrestricted exercise of its sovereignty,

"Considering that the normative and operational aspects of such population policy must be adapted to the inevitable social, cultural, political and economic realities existing in each country and even in each region within national frontiers, by appropriate planning of demographic variables,

"Recommends:

"(a) That programmes should be established and promoted to provide guidance, information and services to families through educational means and health care, particularly in the public sector or through Government channels, care being taken to ensure that they are carried out with absolute respect for the fundamental rights of the human being, that they preserve the dignity of the family, and that no coercive measures are used;

"(b) That population development should be influenced through educational systems, public health, vocational and technical training and child welfare and that efforts should be made to obtain the participation of the community in the solution of the problems which affect it;

"(c) That the principle should be established that such questions as the minimum age for marriage and the legalization or liberalization of abortion depend on the conditions of each country and fall exclusively within its sovereignty, while respecting, with regard to the latter question, the unanimous Declaration of the Rights of the Child proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 1386 (XIV) of 20 November 1959, to the effect that the child needs "appropriate legal protection before as well as after birth";

"(d) That no quantitative targets should be recommended and no time limits set for the attainment of a specified population level, since what is important is to establish qualitative objectives."

237. In the light of comments and suggestions made by some delegations, the representative of Mexico, at the 7th meeting, orally revised the draft resolution to incorporate the following changes:

(a) In the first preambular paragraph, the replacement of the words "a population policy" by the words "population policies";

(b) The revision of the second preambular paragraph to read:

"Considering that population policies, where they exist, should be consistent with such universal realities as social and economic development, the juridical, political, social and cultural equality of women, respect for

the rights of parents and children, including adoptive parents and children, the strengthening of family ties, the right of parents to transmit life to and to determine consciously and responsibly the number and spacing of their children, the dissemination of appropriate information on population problems, scientific and social aspects of questions relating to population and the family, pre-marital education and family planning, scientific research in those fields, related health care, increased intellectual and material resources and their appropriate distribution, changes of system among States in the economic order, greater social justice etc.";

(c) In the fourth preambular paragraph, the deletion of the word "inevitable";

(d) In subparagraph (a), the replacement of the words "to families" by the words "in order that individuals and couples may determine the number and spacing of the children they desire"; and the replacement of the words "particularly in the public sector or through Government channels" by the words "both in the public sector and through non-governmental channels approved by national Governments";

(e) The replacement of subparagraph (c) by the following text:

"(c) That all population policies and programmes depend on the conditions in each country and fall within its sovereignty, with absolute respect for human rights and the relevant United Nations declarations;"

(f) The replacement of subparagraph (d) by the following text:

"(d) That emphasis should be placed on considerations relating to the repercussions of population policies on the quality of human life, each country having the sovereign right to establish or not to establish its qualitative and quantitative targets and the order of their priority, in accordance with human rights;"

(g) The addition of a new subparagraph (e) reading as follows:

"(e) That national sovereignty, human dignity and human rights should be fully respected in any programme comprising experimentation regarding methods relating to fertility. Such methods should first be approved by the Governments both of the country of origin and of the country in which they are used."

238. The Committee adopted without a vote, as draft resolution V, the draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.3/L.8) as orally revised. For action by the Conference, see paragraph 244 (c) below, and for the final text of the draft resolution, see part one, chapter II, resolution XVI.

## VI

239. At the 7th meeting, the representative of Algeria introduced a revised draft resolution entitled "The family and development" (E/CONF.60/C.3/L.12/Rev.1), which read as follows:

"The World Population Conference,

"Considering that the importance of the family and of the role of women in all societies demands the support of any proposal or solution which aims at improving and affirming the rights of the family and of women,

"Considering that birth control cannot in itself solve the problems related to the liberation of women and the equilibrium of the family,

"Considering that any policy for improving the status of women and of the family in general can result only from an economic and social development capable of ensuring education and health for all and of raising the income and bettering the living conditions of the most underprivileged,

"Considering that development is directly linked to the transformation of international economic relations and to the order governing them, which directly and exclusively benefits the rich countries,

"Considering that any Malthusian approach is not only unjust, in that it seriously affects the dignity of the family, but also ineffectual, since the cause of the population problem lies not in the number of individuals, but in the existing inequitable international economic structures, which are aggravated by the continuation of relations of dependence and exploitation of a neo-colonialist character,

"1. Considers that, in order to create in the countries of the third world a just society in which families can realize their full potentialities, it is necessary to:

"(a) Reject all solutions that ignore these realities and encourage a Malthusian or neo-Malthusian approach which would consolidate the inequalities in the world and retard the progress of the countries of the third world;

"(b) Reaffirm the need to promote at the world level a new economic order which would:

- (i) Eliminate the still numerous barriers and obstacles to development encountered in trade, financial and monetary relations or the industrialization of the third world;
- (ii) Ensure the economic independence of those countries and not impede the control, utilization and just exploitation of their natural resources for their development, in particular, by their exercise of full sovereignty over their natural resources;
- (iii) Put an end to the waste and overconsumption which certain developed countries practise by pillaging and using for commercial purposes the reproducible and non-reproducible resources of the world;

"2. Recommends that couples and individuals should be allowed full freedom to choose the size of their family, it being incumbent on States to respect such decisions and to facilitate all the assistance necessary for their full implementation;

"3. Advocates the need to promote measures and policies intended to improve and protect the physical and mental health of women and children."

240. At the 8th meeting, the representative of Algeria, after informal consultations, orally proposed the following revisions:

(a) In the first preambular paragraph, the replacement of the words "the rights of the family and of women" by the words "the rights and responsibilities of all members of the family as individuals, without any discrimination on the grounds of sex, with emphasis on the care and well-being of children";

(b) The replacement of the second preambular paragraph by the following text:

"Considering that limiting the size of the family cannot in itself solve the problems related to the emancipation of women and the well-being of the family";

(c) In the third preambular paragraph, the replacement of the words "can result only from an economic and social development" by the words "results essentially from an economic, social and cultural development";

(d) In the fourth preambular paragraph, the replacement of the words "to the order governing them, which directly and exclusively benefits the rich countries" by the words "and to the establishment of a new economic order, which is an essential condition for resolving population and development problems";

(e) In the fifth preambular paragraph: the deletion of the word "Malthusian"; the insertion, after the word "approach" of the words "to solving the problems of poverty, disease, malnutrition and famine in the world, solely by reducing the population"; the replacement of the words "the dignity of the family" by the words "human dignity"; the insertion of the word "only" between the words "not" and "in"; the insertion of the word "also" between the words "but" and "in"; the replacement of the word "continuation" by the word "existence"; and the deletion of the words "of a neo-colonialist character";

(f) In operative paragraph 1, the replacement of the words "the countries of the third world" by the words "throughout the world";

(g) In operative paragraph 1 (a), the replacement of the words "a Malthusian or neo-Malthusian approach" by the words "an approach"; and the replacement of the words "the progress of the countries of the third world" by the words "progress in the countries of the third world and in the entire world";

(h) In operative paragraph 1 (b) the insertion of the words "in accordance with the final decisions as adopted by the General Assembly at its sixth special session" between the words "order" and "which";

(i) The replacement of operative paragraph 1 (b) (i) by the following text:

"Eliminate the barriers and obstacles to development encountered in trade and financial relations or in the industrial development of the third world";

(j) In operative paragraph 1 (b) (ii), the replacement of the passage "economic ... utilization" by the word "control"; and the insertion of the word "own" between the words "their" and "development";

(k) The replacement of operative paragraph 1 (b) (iii) by the following text:

"put an end to the waste and overconsumption which certain developed countries practise, in order to preserve the reproducible and non-reproducible resources of the world";

(l) The addition of a new operative paragraph 2, reading:

"2. Reaffirms likewise that each sovereign State may determine its own priorities and the appropriate solutions for its economic and social development and population problems";

(m) The replacement of operative paragraph 3 by the following text:

"3. Recommends that the couple and the individual should be allowed full freedom to choose in a responsible manner the number and spacing of their children. For the exercise of this basic human right of really being, it is necessary for States to respect these decisions by appropriate measures of assistance and information";

(n) In original operative paragraph 3, now paragraph 4, the insertion of the word "men" between the words "of" and "women"; and the deletion of the words "physical and mental".

241. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America formulated a reservation with regard to operative paragraph 1 (b), as orally revised, since his delegation had offered an amendment which was not accepted. The amendment in question was to add the following text to the paragraph:

"provided however that under the principles of sovereignty all Governments who do not agree with the new economic order are free to continue or to a adopt any economic policies they wish".

242. The Committee then adopted without a vote, as draft resolution VI, the draft resolution (E/CONF.60/C.3/L.2/Rev.1) as orally revised. For action by the Conference, see paragraph 244 (c) below, and for the final text of the draft resolution, see part one, chapter II, resolution XVII.

243. At its 10th meeting, the Committee adopted its draft report, as orally amended, without a vote.

## ACTION BY THE CONFERENCE

244. At its 15th meeting, on 28 August 1974, the Conference took note of the report of the Third Committee and adopted its recommendations as follows:

(a) Draft resolutions I, II and III were adopted without a vote. For the final texts, see part one, chapter II, resolutions XII, XIII and XIV respectively;

(b) In connexion with draft resolution IV, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland introduced an oral amendment to operative paragraph 3, by which the words "ever increasing" would be replaced by the word "appropriate". The Conference adopted the amendment. Draft resolution IV was adopted, as amended, without a vote. For the final text, see part one, chapter II, resolution XV;

(c) Draft resolutions V and VI were adopted without a vote. For the final texts, see part one, chapter II, resolutions XVI and XVII respectively.

### D. World Population Plan of Action

#### Report of the Working Group on the World Population Plan of Action

245. The Conference at its 2nd meeting, on 19 August 1974, allocated to the Working Group on the World Population Plan of Action item 11 of the agenda, entitled "World Population Plan of Action".

246. The Working Group considered this item at its 1st to 15th meetings, from 20 to 28 August 1974.

247. For its consideration of the item, the Working Group had before it the basic Conference document entitled "Draft World Population Plan of Action" (E/CONF.60/7). In addition, the Working Group had before it the following background documents: "Documentation for the Conference: general disclaimer" (E/CONF.60/8); "Note by the Secretary-General, World Population Conference, 1974" (E/CONF.60/9); "Recent population trends and future prospects" (E/CONF.60/3); "Report of the Symposium on Population and Human Rights" (E/CONF.60/CBP/4); "Objectives and principles of the World Population Plan of Action" (E/CONF.60/CBP/10); "Population policies and programmes" (E/CONF.60/CBP/21); "The role of international assistance in the population fields" (E/CONF.60/CBP/24); "Activities of the United Nations system in the field of population" (E/CONF.60/CBP/29); and "Reports of the regional consultations preparatory to the World Population Conference" (E/CONF.60/CBP/34).

248. The Deputy to the Secretary-General of the Conference, Director of the Population Division of the United Nations, introduced the Draft World Population Plan of Action.

249. The Working Group agreed to consider the Draft World Population Plan of Action (E/CONF.60/7) chapter by chapter. The Working Group agreed to set a series of deadlines on 20 to 23 August for submission of amendments to chapters I to IV respectively. The Working Group also agreed to organize itself into informal subgroups in order to submit for its consideration consolidated amendments by groups of countries or amendments emanating from informal consultations, taking

into account the amendments submitted. It was noted, however, that this would not preclude the right of individual delegations to retain amendments which they considered were not accommodated during the informal consultations. The Working Group considered the revised text submitted by its subgroups and the changes to the Plan reflect the substance of the discussions as adopted by the Working Group. When a specific amendment or subamendment was not adopted by consensus the Working Group resorted to a vote. This is recorded under the relevant paragraph below.

## I. Background to the Plan

### Paragraph 1

250. The fourth sentence, starting with the words "The declaration", was adopted by 51 votes to 1, with 15 abstentions. For the final text, see part one, paragraph 1. Reservations were made by the representatives of the Federal Republic of Germany and the United States of America.

### Paragraph 2

251. The second sentence, starting with the words "Where trends of population growth", in which amendments were incorporated, was adopted by 31 votes to 21, with 12 abstentions. For the final text, see part one, paragraph 2.

### Paragraph 3

252. The Working Group adopted the third sentence, starting with the words "The inertia of social structures", as orally revised during the discussion, by 38 votes to 35, with 7 abstentions. For the final text, see part one, paragraph 3.

### Paragraph 5

253. In the third sentence, the words "because of economic or biological factors" were adopted by 31 votes to 27, with 16 abstentions. For the final text, see part one, paragraph 6.

### Paragraph 12

254. An amendment integrating the proposed amendments to the last two sentences (E/CONF.60/WG/L.7 and E/CONF.60/WG/L.15), was adopted after the rejection, by 41 votes to 31, with 16 abstentions, of an oral amendment calling for the insertion of the words "distribution and" before the word "utilization" in the penultimate sentence. A roll-call vote was requested by the representative of the Philippines. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Botswana, Burundi, China, Cuba, Dahomey, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, Ghana, Honduras, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Romania, Senegal, Somalia, Tunisia, Turkey, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Yugoslavia, Zaire.

Against: Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Brazil, Burma, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Denmark, France, Germany (Federal Republic of), Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Viet-Nam, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Western Samoa.

Abstaining: Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Guyana, Holy See, Hungary, Italy, Kenya, Nepal, Poland, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

For the final text, see part one, paragraph 13.

## II. Principles and objectives of the Plan

### Paragraph 13

255. The representative of the United States of America made a reservation on paragraph 13 (b), beginning with the words "true development cannot take place", noting that fundamental freedoms were not mentioned in the text. In paragraph 13 (e), an amendment by the representative of Brazil to delete the second part of the sentence beginning with the words "the responsibility of couples" was rejected by 70 votes to 7, with 10 abstentions. Following a procedural question, the Chairman ruled that he would put to a vote the word "couples" and the words "couples and individuals" to determine the preference of the Working Group for the appropriate wording to replace the word "individuals" in the subparagraph. Forty-one were in favour of the word "couples" and 48 were in favour of the words "couples and individuals", with 6 abstentions. The Chairman therefore interpreted that the words "couples and individuals" were the preference of the Working Group and declared them adopted. The amended text of a new paragraph 13 (g), beginning with the words "In the democratic formulation of national population goals and policies", was brought to the attention of the Working Group by the Second Committee. The Working Group revised it and adopted it by 37 votes to 23, with 18 abstentions. A new final subparagraph was proposed by the representative of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic as follows:

"The most important condition for the achievement of these aims is peace, international security and peaceful co-operation among all peoples based on the concepts of equality, justice and respect for sovereign States. The threat of mass annihilation of peoples and the threat of mass destruction of material values created by mankind, and also of the environment are incompatible with the progress of social and economic development."

Following discussion as to the similarity of this proposal to the text adopted as paragraph 13 (b), it was decided by 16 votes to 13, with 39 abstentions to vote on the proposal itself. On a roll-call vote requested by the representative of the German Democratic Republic, the amendment was rejected by 17 votes to 11, with 46 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, Somalia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Against: Albania, Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, China, Guatemala, Ireland, Japan, Liberia, Madagascar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Western Samoa.

Abstaining: Algeria, Argentina, Bahamas, Belgium, Brazil, Burma, Costa Rica, Dahomey, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany (Federal Republic of), Ghana, Holy See, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Norway, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Viet-Nam, Senegal, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, United Republic of Cameroon, Uruguay, Zambia.

Finally, the Working Group considered amending paragraph 13 (h), beginning with the words "The growing interdependence", but on a motion for closure proposed by the representative of the United Kingdom the French language version of the text was adopted by 55 votes to none, with 8 abstentions. For the final text, see part one, paragraph 14.

#### Paragraph 14

256. The text of paragraph 14 (c), starting with the words "To promote socio-economic measures", was adopted by 72 votes to 2, with 6 abstentions, following the rejection by 63 votes to 7, with 6 abstentions, of a subamendment to delete the words "and consequently demographic structures". For the final text, see part one, paragraph 15.

### III. Recommendations for action

#### Population goals and policies

##### Population growth

#### Paragraph 15

257. The Working Group, by 72 votes to 18, with 10 abstentions, deleted the final sentence "These rates, together with other popular variables, should be used for the review and appraisal of this Plan". For the final text, see part one, paragraph 16. The representatives of Sweden and the United States of America made reservations.

#### Paragraph 16

258. The Working Group adopted paragraph 16 by 80 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions. For the final text, see part one, paragraph 17.

### New paragraph

259. The text of a new paragraph to follow paragraph 17, was adopted by consensus following the acceptance of the word "fundamental" to replace the word "radical" by 64 votes to 12, with 8 abstentions. For the final text, see part one, paragraph 19.

### Morbidity and mortality

#### Paragraph 18

260. The Working Group rejected by 48 votes to 47, with 11 abstentions, an amendment to replace the word "massive" by "accelerated", and also rejected by 53 votes to 31, with 3 abstentions, a subamendment to replace the words "in the context of societal change" by the words "within the harmonious development of the society". For the final text, see part one, paragraph 20.

#### Paragraph 19

261. The Working Group rejected by 67 votes to 1, with 14 abstentions, an amendment to replace the second sentence by the following text:

"Although in the past, sustained reductions in fertility have been preceded by reductions in mortality, today the reduction in mortality is also one of the major elements in the decline of fertility".

For the final text, see part one, paragraph 21.

#### Paragraph 22

262. The Working Group rejected by 49 votes to 11, with 11 abstentions, an amendment to replace the word "illegal" by the word "induced", and also rejected by 46 votes to 11, with 10 abstentions, a further amendment to replace the word "abortion" by the word "miscarriage". The Working Group adopted paragraph 22 by 65 votes to none, with 5 abstentions. For the final text, see part one, paragraph 24.

#### Paragraph 25

263. By 41 votes to 34, the Working Group adopted paragraph 25 as amended. For the final text, see part one, paragraph 27.

### Reproduction, family formation and the status of women

#### Paragraph 27

264. The Working Group, by 58 votes to 42, with 1 abstention, accepted paragraph 27 (b), as amended, and rejected by 41 votes to 34, with 12 abstentions, an amendment to add a new paragraph 27 (d). For the final text, see part one, paragraph 29.

#### Paragraph 28

265. The Working Group rejected by 43 votes to 20, with 12 abstentions, an amendment to delete the words "and other programmes designed to raise the quality of family life, and to consider including family planning services in their national health systems". It accepted by 51 votes to 11, with 26 abstentions, a further amendment to add the words "integrating and co-ordinating those services with health and other services designed to raise the quality of family life, including family allowances and maternity benefits, and to consider including family planning services in their official health and social insurance systems". It rejected, by 44 votes to 17, with 25 abstentions, the proposal to delete an additional sentence beginning with the words "As concerns couples". For the final text, see part one, paragraph 30.

#### Paragraph 29

266. Following the rejection by 39 votes to 36, with 7 abstentions, of a subamendment to add the words "consider in addition to direct population policies, implementation of development programmes" after the words "fertility levels", and the rejection by 38 votes to 24, with 11 abstentions, to delete the last sentence, the Working Group adopted paragraph 29 by 51 votes to 10, with 13 abstentions. For the final text, see part one, paragraph 31. The representative of the United States of America expressed his delegation's reservations on the paragraph.

#### Paragraph 30

267. The Working Group rejected by 35 votes to 31, with 7 abstentions, a proposed amendment to the introductory phrase and adopted the paragraph with further amendments without a vote. For the final text, see part one, paragraph 32.

#### Paragraph 31

268. By 38 votes to 22, with 20 abstentions, the Working Group rejected an amendment and a proposed alternative paragraph, and adopted amendments without a vote. For the final text, see part one, paragraph 33.

#### Paragraph 32

269. Following the rejection of an amendment by 43 votes to 10, with 26 abstentions, the Working Group accepted without a vote an alternative paragraph to replace paragraphs 32 and 33. For the final text, see part one, paragraph 34.

#### Paragraph 34

270. The Working Group rejected by 49 votes to 36, with 6 abstentions, a proposal to amend the paragraph to read as follows:

"To reach the projections in paragraph 20 concerning increased expectation of life would require substantial national efforts, by those countries concerned, in the field of socio-economic development and population policies, supported, upon request, by adequate international assistance."

The Working Group then adopted the paragraph by 52 votes to 26, with 11 abstentions. For the final text, see part one, paragraph 36.

#### Paragraph 35

271. Following the rejection by 43 votes to 40, with 8 abstentions, of an amendment to delete the words "by 1985", and the rejection by 39 votes to 38, with 14 abstentions, of a further amendment to add at the end of the paragraph, the sentence "In view of the different circumstances in each country, uniformity of goals for population growth is undesirable", the Working Group adopted paragraph 35 by 57 votes to 19, with 10 abstentions. For the final text, see part one, paragraph 37.

#### Paragraph 38

272. Following the rejection by 51 votes to 12, with 11 abstentions, of an amendment to ensure that the paragraph applied only where such measures "are not inconsistent with the beliefs of the people", the Working Group adopted paragraph 38 with amendments. For the final text, see part one, paragraph 40.

### Population distribution and internal migration

#### New paragraph

273. By 64 votes to 6, with 26 abstentions, the Working Group adopted a new paragraph to precede paragraph 39. For the final text, see part one, paragraph 44.

### International migration

#### Paragraph 44

274. By 100 votes to 3, with 5 abstentions, the Working Group adopted paragraph 44, as amended, by the insertion of the phrase "However, such movements should not be based on racial considerations which are to the detriment of indigenous populations" after the words "voluntary international movements". For the final text, see part one, paragraph 51.

#### Paragraph 46

275. The Working Group adopted by 78 votes to 2, with 24 abstentions, an amendment to insert the words "and should ensure their physical safety and security" after the words "and their families". For the final text, see part one, paragraph 55.

#### Paragraph 51

276. The Working Group rejected by 45 votes to 31, with 10 abstentions, an amendment to replace the words "are invited to explore the possibilities of extending" by the words "should extend to the greatest possible extent". For the final text, see part one, paragraph 60.

## Paragraph 52

277. By 55 votes to 9, with 31 abstentions, the Working Group adopted paragraph 52. For the final text, see part one, paragraph 61.

### Socio-economic policies

#### New paragraphs

278. Three new paragraphs with an amendment to insert in the third paragraph the words "provision of fertilizers and energy and" after the words "with the aim of ensuring", were adopted by the Working Group by 59 votes to 3, with 11 abstentions. For the final text, see part one, paragraphs 68-70.

### Promotion of knowledge and policies

#### Management, training, education and information

#### Paragraph 76

279. The Working Group rejected by 47 votes to 19, with 14 abstentions, an amendment to delete the words "policies and". For the final text, see part one, paragraph 90.

## IV. Recommendations for implementation

### Role of national Governments

#### Paragraph 81

280. By 35 votes to 32, with 15 abstentions, the Working Group adopted an amendment to add the words "and Governments are urged to utilize fully the support of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations" to the first sentence of the paragraph. For the final text, see part one, paragraph 96.

### Role of international co-operation

#### Paragraph 85

281. The Working Group adopted paragraph 85 with amendments, after having rejected, by 35 votes to 14, with 22 abstentions, an amendment to add to the end of the paragraph the following text:

"It is recommended that the United Nations and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, in close co-operation with national Governments, develop a plan of operations in implementation of the policy expressed in this Plan of Action, which should be submitted, not later than 1975, to the Economic and Social Council for its consideration."

For the final text, see part one, paragraph 100.

## Paragraph 88

282. The Working Group adopted by 56 votes to 6, with 6 abstentions, an amendment to insert the words "and other countries able to assist" after the words "developed countries"; it rejected by 41 votes to 14, with 14 abstentions, an amendment to insert the words "urges the developed countries, particularly those who bear responsibility for economic and social backwardness of developing countries" after the words "Second United Nations Development Decade". For the final text, see part one, paragraph 104.

## Monitoring, review and appraisal

### Paragraph 91

283. The Working Group rejected by 44 votes to 6, with 21 abstentions, an amendment to replace the word "reviewed" by the word "studied". The Working Group rejected by 29 votes to 12, with 27 abstentions, a proposal to add a new subparagraph, calling upon the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to support studies of ways to strengthen the family and promote its welfare. For the final text, see part one, paragraph 107.

### Paragraph 92

284. The Working Group rejected by 41 votes to 30, with 12 abstentions, an amendment to replace the amended text of paragraph 92 by the alternative text:

"The United Nations system under the authority of the Secretary-General and Governments of different countries is urged to begin, in 1979, a five-yearly systematic and complete evaluation of progress towards the goals of the present Plan of Action. Findings of such systematic evaluation should be submitted for the consideration of the Economic and Social Council which could, if necessary, make appropriate modifications of the goals and recommendations in the present Plan of Action. Governments are invited to co-operate with the United Nations in this undertaking."

The Working Group rejected by 54 votes to 7, with 20 abstentions, a proposal to insert the words "analytical study and exchange of experience" after the words "A comprehensive". For the final text, see part one, paragraph 108.

285. The Working Group adopted the Draft World Population Plan of Action as amended without a vote. The representative of China reserved his delegation's position on certain parts of the Draft Plan. The representative of the Holy See reserved his delegation's position on the Draft Plan.

## ACTION BY THE CONFERENCE

286. At its 17th meeting, on 30 August 1974, the Conference took note of the report of the Working Group on the World Population Plan of Action. At the same meeting, the Conference adopted by consensus the Draft World Population Plan of Action, as presented by the Working Group. For the final text, see part one, chapter I.

287. The Conference then heard statements by the representatives of India, Canada, Japan, China, United States of America, Algeria, the Holy See, Sweden, Czechoslovakia, Mauritania, Albania, Yugoslavia, Mexico, Morocco, Peru, Tunisia, France, Pakistan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Ireland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The representative of Czechoslovakia spoke on behalf of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Hungary, the German Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

288. The representative of India said there were significant differences in emphasis and substance between the original draft plan and the adopted version. The diverse nature, both of demographic problems and policy measures needed to deal with them, was not recognized. The emphasis on development and recognition of the historical reasons for the present situation in the developing world were welcome.

289. The representative of Canada said that his delegation had accepted the Plan of Action in the spirit of compromise, although some of the changes made in it did not reflect Canadian preferences. Other changes, however, were satisfactory, although not all the good ideas discussed at the Conference had been included. Canada supported the full participation of women in all processes of society, the endorsement of the role of non-governmental organizations, the need to consider problems of natural resources and the environment in the formulation of population policies, concern for the quality of life in sparsely populated rural areas and under conditions of rapid urbanization, and respect for human rights and minority cultures.

290. The representative of Japan considered that the Plan was of immense significance for the future of mankind, but expressed regret that changes in the Plan had obscured the acute awareness in the earlier version that rapid population growth was one of the major obstacles to social and economic development. Reservations were also made with regard to references in the Draft Plan to the Declaration and Programme of Action for the Establishment of a New International Economic Order adopted by the General Assembly at its sixth special session. The Japanese position on this remained the same as that stated at the sixth special session of the General Assembly and at the fifty-seventh session of the Economic and Social Council.

291. The representative of China pointed to several short-comings in the Plan. It did not refer to the problems of unemployment, poverty and other population problems in the developed countries, including the super-Powers. Although the document affirmed the principle of national sovereignty, the attempt to impose targets for reducing population growth was tantamount to interference in the internal affairs of States. In many articles of the Plan, pessimistic views about a "population explosion" remained unchanged. Expressions such as "interdependence" in the Plan could be distorted by the super-Powers to mean that the developing countries must be dependent on them.

292. The representative of the United States of America commended the Plan as an accomplishment of great magnitude, but expressed his delegation's reservations about references to the Declaration and Programme of Action for a New International Economic Order adopted by the General Assembly at its sixth special session. The reservations to the Declaration and the Programme of Action expressed by the United States during the special session of the General Assembly and the fifty-seventh session of the Economic and Social Council remained unchanged. The

United States of America would do its part in providing financial assistance, especially to the lowest income countries, and would seek their progress through international trade, investment and technological transfer.

293. The representative of Algeria said that the Conference constituted a milestone in the increasing awareness among developing countries of global domination by the developed countries. The Conference had given a more complete view of the social and economic prerequisites of a policy to develop human resources.

294. The representative of the Holy See said that the World Population Plan of Action, as finally approved by the Conference, constituted a clear improvement over the initial draft as submitted to the Conference. Above all, the Plan, as approved, placed population problems squarely within the broader context of development policies. It was unfortunate, however, that despite this new perspective the Plan of Action remained in the domain merely of demographic policy instead of serving as a guide to a genuine population policy. The Holy See continued to be concerned about other points, notably the family, respect for life and indiscriminate recourse to means for birth prevention. These were matters on which the Holy See, by its very nature, was unable to compromise. Without denying the value of certain amendments to the Draft Plan, the Holy See could not participate in the consensus that favoured the full text as it now stood.

295. The representative of Sweden expressed satisfaction with the Plan, but said that it would have been useful to have more concrete means to measure the efforts of countries. Family planning policy could not and should not be isolated from socio-economic factors. Sweden recognized the need for a more equitable use of the world's resources and attached special importance to the Plan's recognition of greater interdependence among nations.

296. The representative of Czechoslovakia, speaking on behalf of 10 other socialist States, said that the Plan of Action was clearly based on the perception of the complexity of the world's demographic situation. Demographic trends varied widely because they were caused by socio-demographic factors. It was the sovereign right of countries to solve their own problems, but international co-operation could play an important role. Such co-operation should be based on the principle of peaceful coexistence. Real development was possible only on the basis of full national independence and this required the elimination of colonialism, neo-colonialism, apartheid and all other forms of discrimination. Socialist States supported the call for the establishment of a new international economic order. The present economic difficulties of developing countries were the result of exploitation by imperialist Powers, a process in which socialist countries had no part.

297. The representative of Mauritania wished full success to the Plan of Action and commended the adoption of resolutions on South Africa, Southern Rhodesia, Angola and Mozambique. Mention should also have been made of the situation in Palestine.

298. The representative of Albania said that the Plan should have taken more account of the specific conditions of different countries, especially of the economic and social structure of each country. It did not mention the true causes of a series of acute population problems in developing countries, and principally the aggressive colonialist policies of the two super-Powers and other imperialist Powers. International organizations charged with the implementation of the World Population Plan of Action should liberate themselves from the control of the two super-Powers. Some of the solutions proposed in the Plan were neither just nor effective. The encouragement of emigration and the setting of figures concerning the reduction of fertility levels were matters for each country to decide.

299. The representative of Yugoslavia said that the Plan succeeded in putting population issues in the right context, emphasizing human rights, sovereignty of States and the need for a new international economic order. But implementation of the Plan would be impossible without the elimination of aggression, foreign occupation, colonialism, apartheid and all forms of racial discrimination.

300. The representative of Mexico said that the Plan embodied the principles of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States put forward by the President of Mexico. It could lead to a more equitable world order with respect to the rights of Governments within a framework of world solidarity.

301. The representative of Morocco expressed his delegation's full support for the Plan. Birth control and birth spacing would only supplement measures for social and economic development. The references to youth in the Plan were welcome because the fresh energy of youth augured a happy future.

302. The representative of Peru said that not all delegations were fully satisfied with the Plan but it contained important principles, which needed strengthening. These were on the safeguards of national sovereignty and on the dignity of the individual.

303. The representative of Tunisia said that the solution of population problems should go hand in hand with economic development. Family planning policies need not wait for substantial social and economic development before being implemented; they were an integral part of development policy.

304. The representative of France had reservations on the references in the Plan to the Declaration and Programme of Action for a New International Economic Order adopted by the General Assembly at its sixth special session. The French position on this remained the same as those stated at the special session of the General Assembly and at the fifty-seventh session of the Economic and Social Council. The Plan recognized the impact of education and of cultural factors on population, as well as the importance of research and the dissemination of information.

305. The representative of Pakistan said that the Working Group which had prepared the Plan of Action had been dominated by countries where the problem of population did not exist with the intensity it did in Asia. The amendments to the Plan had been results of compromise, and most of them had been adopted under the stress of physical fatigue and pressure of time. He hoped that the amended Plan would stand the close scrutiny to which it would be subjected.

306. The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic expressed reservations on the last sentence of paragraph 52 of the Plan, recommending that international organizations make available on request technical and financial aid "to facilitate the settlement of people in countries of immigration". If this provision was used by Israel it would complicate the situation in the Middle East.

307. The representative of Ireland had reservations on the wording "the provision of assistance on request" in paragraph 15 of the Plan.

308. The representative of the United Kingdom said that the Plan provided a useful and potentially effective basis for action by Governments, by the United Nations and by all others concerned with population. Practical programmes had now to be formulated in order to implement the Plan.

## E. Report of the Credentials Committee

309. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 August 1974, the Conference, in accordance with rule 4 of the rules of procedure, appointed a Credentials Committee composed of the following States: China, Greece, Japan, Nicaragua, Senegal, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uruguay.

310. The Credentials Committee held three meetings, from 26 to 28 August 1974. At the 1st meeting, Guido Michelin Salomon (Uruguay) was unanimously elected Chairman.

311. The Committee had before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General of the Conference stating that, as of 24 August 1974, credentials issued by the head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs had been submitted, as provided for in rule 3 of the rules of procedure of the Conference, by all participating States except 34. For those 34 States:

(a) The representatives of 13 States were designated in letters or notes verbales from their respective permanent representatives or permanent missions to the United Nations in New York, or from their embassies in Romania;

(b) The representatives of 2 States were designated by their Government authorities other than the authorities specified in rule 3 of the rules of procedure;

(c) The credentials of the representatives of 12 States were communicated by telegrams;

(d) The names of the representatives of 3 States were communicated to the Secretary-General of the Conference only in a letter or cable from the resident representative of the United Nations Development Programme in the respective countries;

(e) In respect of 4 States which were present at the Conference no credentials or other communications concerning their participation in the Conference had been received by the Secretary-General of the Conference.

312. The Chairman proposed that, as an exceptional measure, in view of the short duration of the Conference, the Committee should decide to accept provisionally the communications referred to in subparagraphs (a), (b) and (c) of paragraph 311 above, pending the receipt of the formal credentials of the representatives concerned in due form; and that the representatives of the States referred to in subparagraphs (d) and (e) of paragraph 311 above, participate provisionally in the Conference, in accordance with rule 5 of the rules of procedure of the Conference. The Committee noted that in most instances assurances had been given that full credentials would be transmitted as soon as possible.

313. The representatives of China, Senegal and the United Republic of Tanzania were of the view that the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet-Nam should be invited on the same basis as the Administration in Saigon, in accordance with the spirit and letter of the Paris Agreements which always refer to the two parts of South Viet-Nam. These representatives were of the view that if the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet-Nam was not

invited to the Conference, the Saigon Administration should not be invited either. On the other hand they stressed that the Lon Nol régime should under no circumstances speak on behalf of the Cambodian people. Only the Royal Government of Prince Norodom Sihanouk, which controlled over 90 per cent of Cambodian territory, was empowered to speak on behalf of the Cambodian people.

314. The representative of the United States of America said that the question of the participation of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet-Nam in the World Population Conference was outside the competence of the Credentials Committee. The Economic and Social Council, the convening organ of the Conference, had decided in its resolution 1484 (XLVIII) that all States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies should be invited to attend the Conference. The Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet-Nam did not fall into either of these categories. In resolution 1835 (LVI) the Economic and Social Council had amended the invitation formula for the Conference to include North Viet-Nam but not the Provisional Revolutionary Government. In addition, provision had been made for the participation, without the right to vote, of representatives of national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity and/or by the Arab League. Neither of these organizations recognized the Provisional Revolutionary Government. There was, in his view, no legal way for the Conference to reopen the matter. With regard to the Paris Agreement on Viet-Nam, he drew attention to the fact that article 9 thereof provided that signature of the Agreement did not constitute recognition of any party to the Agreement in any case in which it had not been previously recognized. Moreover, the Conference was not the appropriate forum in which to discuss such political issues for which the General Assembly was the competent organ. He further stated that his Government fully recognized the Government of the Khmer Republic and did not regard Prince Sihanouk's Government as having any of the attributes of a legitimate government. The Khmer Government continued to control Cambodia's capital and the majority of the population. Since the General Assembly, which was the proper forum in which to consider the question of the Khmer Republic's representation, had itself decided to defer the question to its twenty-ninth session, he strongly felt that the Conference should not entertain it.

315. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated, in the name of his Government and also on behalf of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and Yugoslavia, that their Governments did not recognize the validity of the credentials of the representatives of the Republic of Viet-Nam, which was only a puppet régime whose representatives could not act as the lawful representatives of the people of South Viet-Nam. They further considered that the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet-Nam was the true representative of the South Viet-Nameese people and should be invited to the World Population Conference.

316. The representative of Japan pointed out that the task of the Credentials Committee was to examine the credentials of the delegations which had been invited to the Conference, and that those invitations had been issued by the Secretary-General in accordance with the decisions of the Economic and Social Council which was the competent organ which had convened the Conference. As it appeared from the memorandum of the Secretary-General of the Conference that the credentials submitted by the Khmer Republic and the Republic of Viet-Nam satisfied the requirements of rule 3 of the rules of procedure, his delegation considered that those credentials

should be approved. The question of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet-Nam was that of participation and was, therefore, outside the competence of the Credentials Committee. His delegation had, however, no objection to the inclusion in the report of the Committee of the reservations expressed by various members of the Committee.

317. The representative of Uruguay stated that, under rule 4 of the rules of procedure of the Conference, the Committee was not competent to decide which States should participate in the Conference. The Committee should limit itself to an examination of the form of the credentials which were submitted.

318. The Chairman proposed that the Committee adopt the following draft resolution, on the understanding that the views expressed during the Committee's debate would be included in the report of the Conference:

"The Credentials Committee,

"Having examined the credentials of the representatives of all States participating in the World Population Conference,

"Recalling the various views expressed during the debate,

"Accepts the credentials of all the representatives participating in the Conference."

319. After consultations among the members of the Committee, it was agreed to amend the second preambular paragraph to read as follows:

"Recalling the various views expressed during the debate, and noting in particular that the credentials of the Republic of Viet-Nam were objected to by China, Senegal, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United Republic of Tanzania, and that the credentials of the Khmer Republic were objected to by China, Senegal and the United Republic of Tanzania,".

320. At the 3rd meeting, the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania, also on behalf of Senegal, proposed to replace the operative paragraph of the draft resolution by the following:

"Recommends to the Conference the adoption of the present report of the Credentials Committee."

This proposal was rejected by the Committee by 5 votes to 4.

321. The Committee then proceeded to vote on the draft resolution proposed by the Chairman, as amended. A roll-call vote was taken at the request of the representative of Senegal. The draft resolution was adopted by 5 votes to 4. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Greece, Japan, Nicaragua, United States of America, and Uruguay.

Against: China, Senegal, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Republic of Tanzania.

As adopted, the draft resolution read as follows:

"The Credentials Committee

"Having examined the credentials of the representatives of all States participating in the World Population Conference,

"Recalling the various views expressed during the debate, and noting in particular that the credentials of the Republic of Viet-Nam were objected to by China, Senegal, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United Republic of Tanzania, and that the credentials of the Khmer Republic were objected to by China, Senegal and the United Republic of Tanzania,

"Accepts the credentials of all the representatives participating in the Conference."

322. The representative of Senegal stated that the adoption of the draft resolution in no way modified the position of his delegation.

323. This report was accordingly submitted to the plenary meeting of the Conference.

ACTION BY THE CONFERENCE

324. At its 16th meeting, on 29 August 1974, the Conference adopted the report of the Credentials Committee.

325. Following the adoption of the report, statements were made by the representatives of the following States expressing their reservations or observations concerning the report.

326. The representative of Algeria, recalling the statement made in the plenary meeting, on 26 August 1974, on behalf of the Bureau of the Non-Aligned Countries said that the Bureau considered the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet-Nam to be the only authentic representative of the people of South Viet-Nam. The fact that only the Saigon authorities had been invited was contrary to the Paris Agreements, and was a discriminatory measure which detracted from the universal character of the Conference.

327. The representative of Cuba, associating himself with the views expressed by the representative of Algeria, objected to the exclusion from the Conference of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet-Nam, the legitimate representative of the South Viet-Nameese people. He said that the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, which controlled 90 per cent of the Cambodian territory, should have been invited to participate in the Conference.

328. The representative of Albania strongly objected to the credentials of the Republic of Viet-Nam. The Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet-Nam was the only legitimate representative of the South Viet-Nameese people. His delegation also rejected the credentials of the representatives of the Khmer Republic and South Korea; only the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia and the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea were entitled to represent Cambodia and Korea.

329. The representative of China reiterated the view he had expressed in the Credentials Committee, namely that the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, led by Prince Sihanouk, was the sole lawful Government of Cambodia. The Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet-Nam was the only genuine representative of the South Viet-Nameese people, and it was utterly unreasonable for the representative of the Saigon authorities unilaterally to attend the Conference. In the view of his delegation the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was the true representative of the Korean people.

330. The representative of Turkey objected to the credentials of the representatives of Cyprus, stating that since the Greek Cypriot Administration had decided unilaterally to participate in the Conference, the credentials issued by it could represent only the Greek community on Cyprus. As indicated in the Geneva Declaration of 30 July 1974, 2/ there existed de facto two autonomous administrations in Cyprus, those of the Turkish and Greek communities, respectively, and there was at present no legitimate Government which could represent the whole of Cyprus internationally.

331. The representatives of Egypt, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yugoslavia also expressed their opinion that the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet-Nam and the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia were the true representatives of the South Viet-Nameese and Cambodian peoples, and should have been invited to attend the Conference.

332. The representatives of the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Viet-Nam and the Khmer Republic said that the allegations made with regard to the representation of their respective Governments were without foundation. The representative of the Republic of Korea stated that the question whether peaceful unification through dialogue between the two Governments in Korea was possible depended upon the attitude of the North Korean Government. The representative of the Republic of Viet-Nam said that under the rules of procedure of the Conference, only the form of the credentials of representatives should be examined and no political questions should be raised. Economic and Social Council resolutions 1484 (XLVIII) and 1835 (LVI), which determined participation in this Conference, did not mention what he described as the so-called Provisional Revolutionary Government, nor had that Government been invited to other United Nations conferences, or been recognized formally by the Paris Agreements on South Viet-Nam. The representative of the Khmer Republic deplored the attempts which had been made by several delegations to use the World Population Conference as a forum to abuse his country and to interfere in its internal affairs.

333. The representative of Greece, rejecting the reservation expressed by the representative of Turkey with regard to the representation of Cyprus, said that in so far as the United Nations and the specialized agencies were concerned there was no question as to the legitimacy of the Government of Cyprus.

334. The representative of Malaysia, recalled his Government's reservation as a member of the Bureau of Non-Aligned Countries, with regard to the statement which had been presented by the representative of Algeria on behalf of the Bureau. His Government did not recognize the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet-Nam.

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2/ Declaration by the Foreign Ministers of Greece, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (S/11398, annex).

335. The representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea stated that his delegation rejected the credentials issued by the Republic of Viet-Nam and the Khmer Republic and considered the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet-Nam and the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia were the only legitimate representatives of the South Viet-Nameese and Cambodian peoples. He further stated that the South Korean Government was held in power only with the support of a foreign Power, and that his Government was the only legitimate Government of Korea.

#### F. Other matters

336. At the 16th meeting, the representative of Senegal introduced, on behalf of the African States participating in the Conference, a draft resolution relating to colonization (E/CONF.60/L.7). He recalled the innumerable and painful sacrifices the people of Africa had made as a consequence of colonialism, and expressed the hope that the draft resolution would be adopted unanimously. He welcomed the recent agreement between Guinea-Bissau and Portugal and hoped that similar agreements for the independence of Angola, Mozambique and São Tomé would soon be concluded.

337. The representative of the United States of America, speaking on a point of order, objected to the procedure being followed in introducing draft resolutions, at a late stage, without sufficient time being given for consultations. He expressed the opinion that the subject matter of these draft resolutions was not relevant to the agenda items before the Conference and suggested that the Conference should refer them to the General Assembly. He pointed out that his proposal was strictly procedural in nature and that he did not wish to comment on the substance of the draft resolution.

338. Following informal consultations, the President of the Conference observed that the overwhelming majority of representatives had felt that the draft resolutions referred to by the representative of the United States of America could, under the rules of procedure, be considered in the Conference.

339. The Conference adopted the draft resolution (E/CONF.60/L.7) without a vote. For the final text of the draft resolution, see part one, chapter II, resolution XVIII.

340. At the same meeting, the representative of Senegal introduced, on behalf of the delegations of the African States participating in the Conference, a draft resolution relating to the policies of apartheid in South Africa, Namibia, and Southern Rhodesia (E/CONF.60/L.8). He said that in spite of all the resolutions adopted by the United Nations, the South African and Southern Rhodesian régimes had continued their racist apartheid policies, and he recommended the draft resolution for adoption by the Conference unanimously.

341. The Conference adopted the draft resolution (E/CONF.60/L.8) without a vote. For the final text of the draft resolution, see part one, chapter II, resolution XIX.

342. At the 16th meeting, on 29 August 1974, the representative of Senegal, on behalf of all African States participating in the Conference, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Payment of travel costs and other related expenses to

representatives of national liberation movements" (E/CONF.60/L.9). The Conference adopted the draft resolution without a vote. For the final text of the draft resolution, see part one, chapter II, resolution XX.

343. The representative of Israel expressed reservations to this resolution.

## Chapter VII

### ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE

344. The draft report of the Conference was introduced by the Rapporteur General at the 17th meeting, on 30 August 1974. It was considered and adopted by the Conference at the same meeting.

## Chapter VIII

### CLOSING CEREMONIES

345. Following the adoption of the report of the Conference, the representative of Nigeria proposed a draft resolution expressing the gratitude of all the participants to the Government and people of Romania for their hospitality and their contribution to the successful completion of the work of the Conference. Statements of support for the draft resolution were made by the representatives of Senegal, Burma, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Ecuador and France on behalf of the regional groups. The Conference adopted the draft resolution by acclamation. For the final text of the draft resolution, see part one, chapter II, resolution XXI.

346. The Secretary-General of the Conference said that the Economic and Social Council would examine the results of the Conference, as would the General Assembly. The World Plan of Action, the first in the history of mankind, must now be integrated into national strategies. It reflected the great diversities which existed in the world, but emphasized the fact that there were certain common factors of concern. It emphasized the need for a more just world society, for improvement in the condition of women and for the rights and responsibilities of the young, and for these factors to be reflected in development programmes. Many additions had been made to the Plan, which now covered larger areas than was originally conceived. But the United Nations had always viewed the Draft Plan as a working paper on which the Conference could build the edifice of co-operation. He hoped that regional meetings would continue the consideration of additional recommendations to meet their own needs. He expressed warm gratitude to the Government and people of Romania for all their assistance, and to the President for his conduct of the Conference.

347. The President of the Conference said that it had seen an open and productive exchange of views on the problems and ways to resolve them. The sovereignty of States in this field could no longer be challenged, and it was now generally understood that population questions must be an integral part of development policies. New foundations must be laid for international relations, by which under-development, colonialism, neo-colonialism and interference in the affairs of other States would be eliminated. He thanked all participants for the constructive spirit which they had shown, and trusted that the Conference would have a powerful influence on international life.



ANNEXES

Annex I

LIST OF DOCUMENTS BEFORE THE CONFERENCE

A. Basic documents

E/CONF.60/1	Provisional agenda and organization of work
<u>E/CONF.60/2</u>	Provisional rules of procedure
E/CONF.60/3	Recent population trends and future prospects
E/CONF.60/4 and Corr.1	Population change and economic and social development
E/CONF.60/5 and Corr.1	Population, resources and the environment
E/CONF.60/6	Population and the family
E/CONF.60/7	Draft World Population Plan of Action
E/CONF.60/8	Documentation for the Conference: general disclaimer
E/CONF.60/9	Documentation for the Conference: note by the Secretary-General of the Conference
E/CONF.60/10 and Add.1	Rules of procedure adopted by the Conference

B. Background documents

E/CONF.60/CBP/1*	Report of the Symposium on Population and Development
E/CONF.60/CBP/2*	Report of the Symposium on Population and the Family
E/CONF.60/CBP/3*	Report of the Symposium on Population, Resources and Environment
E/CONF.60/CBP/4*	Report of the Symposium on Population and Human Rights
E/CONF.60/CBP/5*	Women's rights and fertility United Nations Secretariat
E/CONF.60/CBP/6*	United Nations standards concerning the relationship between human rights and various population questions United Nations Secretariat

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\* The texts of the documents marked with asterisks were subsequently printed in The Population Debate: Dimensions and Perspectives (United Nations publication, Sales No. E/F/S.75.XIII.2).

- E/CONF.60/CBP/7\* Population trends and modern economic growth:  
notes towards a historical perspective  
Simon Kuznets
- E/CONF.60/CBP/8\* Population and the family: overview  
Charles F. Westoff
- E/CONF.60/CBP/9\* Population policy and the family: the Latin American case  
Latin American Demographic Centre
- E/CONF.60/CBP/10\* Objectives and principles of the World Population Plan  
of Action  
Wendy Marson Dobson
- E/CONF.60/CBP/11 and Add.1-3 Study on the interrelationship of the status of women  
and family planning  
Report of the Special Rapporteur
- E/CONF.60/CBP/12\* The management problem in family planning programmes  
World Bank
- E/CONF.60/CBP/13\* and Corr.1 Family planning programmes and fertility in the countries  
of the ECAFE region  
Secretariat of the Economic Commission for Asia and the  
Far East
- E/CONF.60/CBP/14\* Demographic trends in the world and its major regions,  
1950-1970  
United Nations Secretariat
- E/CONF.60/CBP/15\* World and regional population prospects  
United Nations Secretariat
- E/CONF.60/CBP/16\* Fertility trends in the world  
United Nations Secretariat
- E/CONF.60/CBP/17\* International mortality trends: some main facts and  
implications  
Georges Stolnitz
- E/CONF.60/CBP/18\* International migration trends, 1950-1970  
United Nations Secretariat
- E/CONF.60/CBP/19\* World population and food supplies: looking ahead  
Lester R. Brown
- E/CONF.60/CBP/20\* Population and education  
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural  
Organization
- E/CONF.60/CBP/21\* Population policies and programmes  
United Nations Secretariat
- E/CONF.60/CBP/22\* Research on the biomedical aspects of fertility regulation  
and on the operational aspects of family planning  
programmes  
World Health Organization ✓
- E/CONF.60/CBP/23 Report of the Seminar on Demographic Research in  
Relation to International Migration  
Committee for International Co-ordination of National  
Research in Demography



## Annex II

### PARALLEL AND ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES, AND RELATED EVENTS

1. A wide variety of parallel and associated activities and related events took place at Bucharest on the occasion of the World Population Conference in consultation with the Government of Romania and the Secretary-General of the Conference. a/
2. The International Youth Population Conference, which met from 11 to 15 August, was a parallel activity organized by a committee of the international youth non-governmental organizations. The Conference was attended by 237 participants and observers invited on the basis of age, relevant experience, balanced representation by sex and the need to achieve the widest possible geographical and political representation. The Conference issued a statement to the World Population Conference, a Youth Appeal and a Youth Action Programme.
3. The Population Tribune, which met from 18 to 30 August, was a parallel activity organized by a committee that included members of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council. It served as a forum for non-governmental organizations and individuals interested in population. The Population Tribune was held under the auspices of a planning and management committee appointed by the conference of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. More than 1,400 people registered at the Faculty of Law of the University of Bucharest, where the meetings were held; 1,100 came as individuals and 300 came as official observers of non-governmental organizations in consultative status. Approximately half of the participants were women. The Tribune participants came from all parts of the world, and included almost 200 Romanian scientists and scholars. In addition to the formal programme, which comprised 32 concurrent sessions, 6 plenary sessions and 5 lectures organized by the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, 80 papers were read, 80 films on population-related themes were shown and 50 additional meetings to explore various population issues in greater detail were organized. Displays, a population reference library, a population information centre and a documentation centre provided other opportunities for the exchange of views and information.
4. By design, the Tribune did not present a formal statement to the Conference. It did, however, provide the forum for a number of groups to reach agreement on issues and statements for publication, dissemination and action. Through the 10 issues of the Planet, the daily newspaper produced under the Tribune's auspices, participants in the Conference and the Tribune were kept informed of the many events and issues of the day.
5. The Encounter for Journalists on Population from 15 to 17 August was an

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a/ It should be noted that the Conference, per se, took no formal note of these activities.

associated activity administered by the United Nations Centre for Economic and Social Information but funded independently of the United Nations. Meeting in six sessions it heard 10 panelists and five editors on population-related issues. Fifty-one journalists from developing countries who received United Nations fellowships attended the Encounter, which was also open to the other 843 journalists accredited to the Conference.

6. The following related events took place on the occasion of the Conference:

(a) A model of a complete rural health unit was exhibited from 15 to 30 August under the joint auspices of the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund;

(b) The work of the 58 national laureates in the International Children's Drawing Competition organized by the United Nations Children's Fund was exhibited from 21 to 30 August and the two international prize-winners were announced at the opening ceremony. The winning pieces were selected from approximately 250,000 entries in national competitions;

(c) A seminar of anthropologists on the cultural consequences of population change, held from 14 to 17 August, was jointly sponsored by the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences and the Centre for the Study of Man of the Smithsonian Institution. It brought together 30 scholars. A report of their findings was made to the Population Tribune;

(d) The Folkarts Seminar/Workshop/Exhibit on population, education and communication, held from 20 to 28 August, was organized by the International Educational Development in co-operation with the Third World Institute for Theatre Arts Studies. Its 78 participants, from 35 countries in all parts of the world, discussed the use of folk arts in the dramatic treatment of population themes and staged workshop treatments of such themes as interpreted in five regions. Exhibits of folk artifacts from 16 countries were shown;

(e) An extensive photographic exhibit of life-size free-standing figures representing life in India interpreted the attitudes of villagers to population-related issues. It was held from 24 to 30 August and sponsored by the Government of India, OXFAM - a non-governmental organization - and the United Nations Fund for Populations Activities;

(f) A computer terminal, part of the Population Dynamics System used in population studies, was put on display from 12 to 30 August under the auspices of the United States Agency for International Development;

(g) A photographic exhibit on Infant and Maternal Welfare in the Soviet Union was mounted under the auspices of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics from 19 to 30 August.

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