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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

**JOINT ECA/OAU/ADB SECRETARIAT
IN COLLABORATION WITH UNFPA**

**Third Meeting of the Follow-up Committee on the
Implementation of the DND and the ICPD-PA**

**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
23-25 September 1998**

**PROCESS AND MODALITIES FOR THE MID-TERM REVIEW
AND APPRAISAL OF THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE DND AND THE ICPD-PA**

I. INTRODUCTION

Over the last years since the convening of the Third African Population Conference (APC3 :Dakar, 1992) and International conference on Population and Development (ICPD : Cairo, 1994), enormous work has gone into towards ensuring the implementation of the various recommendations of the Dakar/Ngor Declaration (DND) and ICPD Plan of Action (ICPD-PA) at the global, regional, sub-regional and national level. A mid-term review and appraisal of the ICPD Plan of Action (ICPD+5) is planned at a Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly to take place in New York between 30 June to 2 July 1999. The review will analyse the operational experience at the country level to determine what has been learned, as well as to identify constraints in achieving the goals of the ICPD and key actions to over come and be able to meet the countries needs.

A number of activities have been lined up throughout the 1998 and early 1999 in preparation of this important Session. While some of these activities have already been carried out many others are in the pipeline. The following sections gives a glimpse into some of the main preparatory activities done or to be undertaken at the global level (Section II) and at the regional and sub-regional level (Section III).

II. REVIEW PROCESS AND MODALITIES AT THE GLOBAL LEVEL

At the global level, the mid-term review and appraisal of the ICPD will culminate with an International Forum, to be convened by UNFPA from 8-12 February 1999, in The Hague, Amsterdam. The Forum will focus on issues coming to light from the review and appraisal process –lessons learned, success stories, and obstacles and constraints in the implementation of the ICPD-PA. The Forum will identify key future actions for further implementation of the Programme of Action. Documentation for the Forum will synthesize the findings of the following processes:

2.1.1 Reports from a series of Round Tables and Technical Meetings organized by the UNFPA between April and November 1998, focusing on certain key themes in the Programme of Action like:

Round Tables

- Adolescent sexual and reproductive health (6-9 April, New-York);
- Reproductive rights and implementation of reproductive health programmes, women's empowerment, male involvement and human rights (22-25 June, Kampala);
- Partnerships with civil society in the implementation of the ICPD PA (27-30 July, Dhaka); and,
- Population change and economic development (2-6 November, Bellagio)

Technical Meetings

- International migration and development (29 June-3 July, The Hague);
- Reproductive health services in crisis situations (September); and,
- Population and ageing (6-9 October, Brussels).

2.1 Results of regional reviews of ICPD implementation at review meetings of Regional Commissions scheduled to be held in 1998: Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP: 24-27 March, Bangkok); Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC: 13-14 May, Aruba); Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA: 22-25 September, Beirut); Economic Commission for Africa (ECA: 23-25 September, Addis Ababa); Economic Commission for Europe (ECE: 7-9 December, Budapest).

The report and outcome of The Hague Forum will be presented for endorsement to the thirty-second session of the Commission on Population and Development (CPD) scheduled to meet 24-27 March 1999. The CPD session is also scheduled to undertake its quinquennial review.

The endorsed outcomes from the Hague Forum and the quinquennial review of the Commission on Population and Development are to serve as a contribution to the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General, to be submitted to the General Assembly for review and appraisal of the implementation of the ICPD-PA at the special Session of its 54th session, to be held 30 June-2 July, 1999.

III. PREPARATION OF AFRICA'S INPUT INTO ICPD+5 EVENT

The following preparatory undertaken jointly with the OAU, the ADB, the sub-regional Institutions and the UNFPA are intended to assist African countries' effective contribution to the forthcoming U.N. Special Session.

3.1 Country questionnaire on the implementation of the DND and the ICPD-PA (January-March 1998)

Questionnaire were sent to all member States to assess factors and constraints in the national implementation of the DND and the ICPD-PA in the following areas : Population and development strategy and policy ; Gender equality, equity and empowerment of women ; Reproductive health (RH) and reproductive rights (RR) ; partnerships with the NGOs, the private sector and community participation ; Advocacy and IEC strategies ; Monitoring and evaluation ; Resource mobilization for the implementation of population policies and programmes. 35 African countries have so far sent back completed questionnaires which have been analysed and used to prepare a draft report on the African Experience with the implementation of the DND and the ICPD-PA.

3.2 Seminar on Population Policy organised by the Joint ECA/OAU/ADB Secretariat (24-27 March 1998, Nairobi)

Seminar was organised at the sub-regional level (Eastern Africa) to provide policy makers and researchers an opportunity: (i) To share experiences in formulation, implementation and evaluation of population policies and programmes; (ii) To review progress made in population activities in the sub-region since the adoption of the DND and the ICPD-PA, including efforts made towards resource mobilisation for population programmes; (iii) To promote networking among African countries in population studies. Representatives of the following countries participated in the Seminar: Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Nigeria, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Representatives of Organisation of African Unity (OAU), Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) African Development Bank (ADB) and UNFPA also participated.

The Seminar concluded with the following observations: (i) that there was a need for an effective national policy in each country; (ii) An absolute necessity to integrate population matters in overall development planning was essential and this entailed having a sound statistical data base; (iii) The issue of resource mobilisation needed to be seriously addressed by the African Member States.

3.3 Field missions to identify constraints, best practices and success stories in selected African countries (April-June 1998)

Two Consultants undertook field missions to identify constraints, success stories and best practices in the implementation of the DND and the ICPD-PA in the following 12 African countries : Uganda, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Cameroon, B. Faso, Nigeria ; Tanzania, Zambia, Lesotho, Cote D'Ivoire, Ghana, Senegal. The outcome of the missions were two reports that were prepared on the implementation of policies, programmes and laws related to Reproductive Health(RH) and Reproductive Rights(RR) in Africa and on constraints and best practices in the implementation of the DND and the ICPD-PA. The findings of these two reports will be incorporated into the main Report that highlights the African Experience with the implementation of the DND and the ICPD-PA.

3.4 The First Meeting of the Working Group of the Follow-up Committee, on the implementation of the DND and the ICPD-PA (6-7 May 1998, Dakar)

The following institutions were represented at the meeting : *Institut de Formation et de Recherche Demographiques (IFORD)* ; Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS) ; African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) ; *Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches sur la Population pour le Developpement (CERPOD)* ; Representative of Senegal ; The Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

The meeting made proposals for : (i) inputs of subregional population and development Institutes and Centers to ICPD+5 ; (ii) guidelines for preparation of an African Experience with the implementation of the DND and ICPD-PA; (iii) new orientations for the programme of work of the Follow-up Committee :1999-2003 and, (iii) an agenda for the Third Meeting of the Follow up Committee.

3.5 A Report on the African Experience with the implementation of the DND and the ICPD-PA (June-August 1998)

An analytical report has been prepared on the African Experience with the implementation of the DND and the ICPD-PA for presentation at this Third meeting of the Follow-up Committee. The report is based on various sources : The findings from the analysis of the completed country questionnaires ; various reports including those of consultants ; reports of the subregional seminars (Nairobi, Kinshasha, Ouagadougou) ; country papers presented by experts at these seminars and the assessments done over the period by the UN bodies, subregional institutions on population and development matters. The report will also The report underscores also the policy implications and formulates relevant recommendations.

3.6 The Third Meeting of the Follow-up Committee on the implementation of the DND and the ICPD-PA, Addis Ababa, 23-25 Septembre 1998

The current is attended by African country experts in Population policies and programmes, representatives from OAU, ADB and sub-regional institutions as well as from international NGOs. The meeting will (i) discuss successes and challenges in the implementation of the DND and the ICPD-PA at the country level and ; (ii) Review and endorse the revised report on the implementation of the DND and the ICPD-PA that will include reports from training institutions, CST based in Addis Ababa, Dakar and Harare and comments of the UNFPA consultant ; and (iii) liaise with the Bureau of the African Population Commission to review regional input to ICPD+5 and harmonize views on the African Statement on the implementation of the DND and the ICPD-PA;

3.7 The First Meeting of the ECA Committee on Sustainable Development (25-28 January 1999, Addis Ababa)

(i) To review progress achieved by member States in the implementation of global and regional Plans of Action including the DND and the ICPD-PA , Agenda 21, World Food Summit and Habitat II ; (ii) address key future actions including specific measures and policies that would accelerate the implementation of the DND and the ICPD-PA and facilitate the demographic transition in Africa.

3.8. Third General Assembly of the African Population Commission (April-May 1999, Abuja)

High-level Officials of National Population Commissions will discuss and agree on the format and content of the Draft African Statement on the implementation of the DND and the ICPD-PA for transmission to the ECA Conference of Ministers and, thereafter, to the OAU Council of Ministers/Summit of Head of States.

3.9 Twenty-Fourth Meeting of the ECA Conference of African Ministers responsible for Economic and Social Development and Planning (May 1999, Addis Ababa)

The Draft African Statement on the implementation of the DND and the ICPD-PA will be formally adopted as African Experience with the implementation of the DND and ICPD-PA.

3.10. OAU Conference of Ministers/Summit of Head of States (1st Week of June 1999, Algiers)

The African Statement on the implementation of the DND and the ICPD-PA will be submitted for endorsement.

3.11. African Group at UN Headquarters (June 1999, New York)

The African Statement on the implementation of the DND and the ICPD-PA will be sent for information to the African Group.

3.12 Special Session of the UN General Assembly (30 June-02 July 1999, New York)

To consider outcome of the review and appraisal of the ICPD-PA . The African Statement on the implementation of the DND and the ICPD-PA will be presented.

IV. CONCLUSION

The mid-term review and appraisal is expected to identify success stories, best practices and constraints faced by countries in implementing the DND and the ICPD-PA. It is hoped that such an outcome would enable countries to pinpoint constraining factors that have inhibited progress and would identify ways to strengthen the national capacities of countries to achieve the goals and objectives of the two population and development frameworks.