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## REPORT OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE NON-UN ORGANIZATIONS INTERESTED IN POPULATION WORK IN AFRICA (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 24-26 April 1972)

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REPORT OF THE SECOND MEETING OF NON-UN ORGANIZATIONS  
INTERESTED IN POPULATION WORK IN AFRICA, ADDIS ABABA, 24-26 APRIL 1972

I. ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING

Opening of the Meeting

1. The second meeting of Non-United Nations Organizations interested in Population Work in Africa was organized by the Economic Commission for Africa at its headquarters in Addis Ababa, on 24-26 April 1972 in co-operation with the United Nations Population Division and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities. In the absence of Mr. Robert K.A. Gardiner, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, his opening address was read by Mr. R.K. Som, Chief of the ECA's Population Programme Centre.

Opening Address

2. The Executive Secretary of ECA, welcoming the participants, said that meetings of this kind were unique in the region and the participants could take a legitimate pride in charting the path to maximum collaboration between the different agencies working in the region, in the best interests of the African Governments and their people. He also noted that this meeting followed the Second Regional Meeting of the United Nations agencies on population, whose deliberations, he was sure, this meeting would take account of. The Executive Secretary noted that the matters for discussion at this meeting related to collaboration and co-ordination in research and studies, information service and clearing house activities, technical co-operation, training, and meetings. He also drew the attention of the participants to the matters arising from the African Population Conference and the First Session of the Conference of African Demographers held last year, which represented a major effort by ECA to create awareness of the population situation in the region and obtain the guidance of the representatives of African governments in our work programmes of population. In this connexion, he expressed his appreciation of the part played by various organizations in helping to make these meetings, especially the African Population Conference, worthwhile.

3. Two other projects to which he drew the attention of the participants were the African Census Programme and the World Fertility Survey. The African Census Programme is a programme of United Nations assistance to the African countries in collection, analysis, and interpretation of demographic data not only on the size and structure of the population but also on population dynamics - fertility, mortality, and migration - on a continuing basis. Noting the relation between the African Census Programme and the World Fertility Survey, he welcomed particularly the representatives of the International Statistical Institute and the USAID.

4. The Executive Secretary also referred to the establishment of the Regional Institute for Population Studies in Accra and Yaoundé with English and French respectively as the medium of instruction and research, and called for collaborative arrangements in the work of these institutes.

5. He also stressed the importance of co-ordination and collaboration at the national level both of the United Nations agencies and non-United Nations Organizations.

6. Finally, after recognizing the fact that the non-United Nations organizations had played and were still playing a very important part and often acting as promoters of population programmes, he noted that there was still some concern about the distribution of aid. In the task of providing assistance to as many countries and/or as many topics as possible, he welcomed the participation in this meeting of the United Nations agencies and the African members of the Population Commission. He hoped that the meeting would continue to evolve realistic guidance so that all available resources could be utilized to the best advantage of the people of the region.

7. Mr. Frank E. Pinder, Special Adviser to the Executive Secretary, reiterated the interest of the Executive Secretary and the ECA secretariat in harmonizing the efforts of the United Nations and non-United Nations organizations in population programmes in Africa, and pointed out that co-ordination and collaboration could not be a one-time exercise but had to be undertaken on a continuous basis. In this task, he assured the meeting of every possible support by ECA.

#### Participation

8. Of the seven African member countries of the United Nations Population Commission, who are also members of ECA, four were represented: Egypt, Ghana, Kenya and Morocco. The two associate member States - France and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland - were also represented. The representation of the United Nations Members, not members of ECA, comprised the Netherlands, Sweden (represented by the Swedish International Development Authority), Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United States of America (represented by the United States Agency for International Development) and India. The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, a non-United Nations member was represented by the German Foundation for Developing Countries. The following United Nations organizations were represented: United Nations Children's Fund, International Labour Organization, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, World Health Organization, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Two inter-governmental organizations Organization of African Unity and the Organization for Economic Co-operation Development - were represented. The following non-governmental organizations were represented: the International Planned Parenthood Federation, the International Statistical Institute, and the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population. The four Population Programme Officers of the United Nations stationed in Africa also attended.

#### Election of Officers

9. The Meeting unanimously elected Mr. R.K. Som (ECA) as Chairman and Mr. Robert Blanc (France) as Secretary.

Agenda

10. The meeting adopted the revised agenda given below:

1. Opening addresses
2. Election of officers, chairman and secretary
3. Adoption of agenda
4. Matters arising from the last meeting
5. Matters arising from the African Population Conference and the First Session of the Conference of African Demographers
6. Work in the population field by different organizations
7. Collaboration and co-ordination in:
  - (a) Research and studies
  - (b) Information services
  - (c) Technical co-operation and co-ordination, especially at the country levels
  - (d) Training
  - (e) Meetings
  - (f) African Census Programme and World Fertility Survey
  - (g) Other activities
8. Any other business
9. Adoption of report.

II. MATTERS ARISING FROM FIRST MEETING OF NON-UN ORGANIZATIONS  
INTERESTED IN POPULATION WORK IN AFRICA

11. Introducing the item, the secretariat dwelt on the decisions taken at the first meeting of the Group and elaborated on measures taken to implement these decisions. Among these were the decision to prepare a consolidated list of experts from all organizations working in the field of population in all African countries; the use of the African Population Newsletter by the different organizations in publicizing their on-going projects and the plans for the establishment of two new training institutes in Cameroon and Ghana in addition to the Cairo Demographic Centre for the training of personnel from the African countries.

12. Commenting on the secretariat's plans for the training of personnel in the field of population, the meeting agreed that while it was desirable to make the fullest use of these facilities in the training of African demographers, the region would still have to rely on facilities outside in the training of other personnel such as in maternal and child health services, in view of the general lack of facilities for such specialized training within the region, and even in specialized demographic courses.

III. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE AFRICAN POPULATION CONFERENCE  
AND THE FIRST SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN DEMOGRAPHERS

13. The ECA secretariat presented to the meeting the summary of the draft report of the African Population Conference, prepared by the ECA secretariat in collaboration with the United Nations Population Division staff and the United Nations Population Programme Officers and given in the report of the first session of the Conference of African Demographers (E/CN.14/553) and the discussion on this draft report at the First Session of the Conference of African Demographers as also other matters arising from the Conference of African Demographers.

14. The meeting noted the various priority areas of research identified by the African Population Conference and the Conference of African Demographers and the views on population policies and relations with economic and social development. The meeting also noted that while discussing the general theme arising out of the African Population Conference, a relatively small number of participants at the Conference of African Demographers had observed that there were apparently two views on population policies and their relations with economic and social development policies; these views had, however, converged while the first session of the Conference of African Demographers adopted recommendations on population and development and MCH services and family planning programmes. In recommendations on population and development, the Conference endorsed the resolution that the sixteenth session of the United Nations Population Commission had adopted for action by the ECOSOC, which reflected the conviction that economic and social development was an essential element and prerequisite to an effective population policy and urged all member States to give full attention to their demographic objectives and measures during the biennial review and appraisal of the implementation of the Second United Nations Development Decade; to take such steps as may be necessary to improve demographic statistics, research and planning machinery needed for development of population policies and programmes; and to co-operate in achieving a substantial reduction of the rate of population growth in countries which considered their present rates of growth too high, and in exploring the possibility of setting up targets for such reduction in those countries. The Conference also recommended that adequate attention, through studies and investigations, be given to the problems of sub-fecundity and sterility prevailing in some parts of Africa and the required assistance provided at the request of the Governments concerned.

15. In the other recommendation the participants in the Conference of African Demographers hoped that African Governments would evolve demographic objectives within the frameworks of their national development plans, the African Strategy for Development in the 1970s and the International Development Strategy - consistent with their national requirements and resources. The Conference noted in this connexion the recommendation by the sixteenth session of the United Nations Population Commission that member States of the United Nations consider, inter alia, while setting their overall national objectives

the following demographic objectives: (a) reduction of mortality and of infant and child mortality in particular; (b) fertility regulations (including high fertility as well as sub-fecundity and sterility); (c) moderation of population growth where it was high; (d) improvement in population distribution especially between sub-national areas, big cities, small towns and rural areas; (e) in certain circumstances, emigration of population and/or of labour force as appropriate; and, (f) improvement in population structure and the ratio between economically active and dependent population resulting from the above.

16. In the recommendation on maternal and child health services and family planning programmes, the Conference, recalled the various General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions, which inter alia recognized the rights of parents to determine freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children, and the knowledge and means to be made available to those who desire these; the Conference recommended that maternal and child health services should include family planning services for those who wanted them and where family planning programmes were in operation, maternal and child health services should form a part of such family planning programmes.

17. The meeting noted that these recommendations were the first of their kind to be adopted by a standing body of ECA and could be considered as a watershed in the thinking of African Governments as reflected by their official representatives to the Conference of African Demographers.

18. In the discussion, the meeting considered the structure of the Second African Population Conference. It noted that the Second Meeting of the Regional Inter-Agency Co-ordination Meeting on Population, just concluded, had recommended that, like the Asian Population Conference (1963 and 1972) and the Third World Population Conference (1974), the Second African Population Conference should be organized as an inter-governmental conference with the sole sponsorship of the United Nations and the regional commission and with the fullest collaboration with the United Nations agencies, the representatives of which would, along with representatives of selected African countries, form the Preparatory Committee, to which the non-United Nations organizations could be invited as observers.

19. The meeting also agreed that, in addition to the plenary sessions, it would be useful to organize Special Working Group Meetings on specific topics for the Second African Population Conference. It was explained that the report of the African Population Conference, prepared by the ECA secretariate, and selected papers invited by it from United Nations agencies, non-United Nations organizations and consultants would be published as part of the African Population Studies series, and that the reports prepared by rapporteurs appointed by the International Union for the Scientific Study of



Population and selected papers contributed by individual experts would be published by the Union, which would also be seeking external assistance for this purpose.

20. A suggestion was also made to establish procedures for evaluating the African Population Conference: this suggestion would be communicated to the sponsors of the Conference, namely, ECA, the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, and the International Planned Parenthood Federation.

#### IV. WORK OF THE ORGANIZATIONS

##### Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

21. Introducing the African Population Programme, the ECA secretariat mentioned that the Population Programme Centre which is implementing it was made up of three substantive sections namely: Development and Policies Section, General Demography Section, and Fertility Studies Section.

22. The African programme took into account the special characteristics of Africa's population problems and the situation with regard to demographic research in the different countries. The programme especially took into account the lack of personnel in the countries to carry out the needed research and therefore included some studies which should have been undertaken in the countries.

23. Among the studies completed or in hand were those prepared for the African Population Conference namely: the demographic situation in the region; review of the demographic content of African development plans, and demographic training in the region as well as another on pattern of fertility in African countries. Those still in progress included on the volume and implications of migration to selected cities, and documents for the seminar on statistics and studies of migration in Africa. A new study on the relationship on fertility and infant mortality was suggested by the African Population Conference, the Conference of African Demographers and the Population Commission, and this study had been included in the work programme. The country case studies on the relationship between population and economic and social development were also mentioned.

24. On information services it was mentioned that the publication of the African Population Newsletter would be continued. The first issue of the African Population Studies series was still expected.

25. On regional Advisory Services, it was mentioned that the Centre now had two Regional Advisers under its normal programme who during the period under review visited Chad, Mauritius, Nigeria, Sudan, and Tanzania. The ECA secretariat would inform the PPO's and the Agency Representatives in the countries of the visit by the Regional Advisers.

26. On training, the meeting was informed that the Regional Institute for Population Studies in Accra had started operations while the one in Yaoundé was expected to be operative very soon. The Centre also had continued to provide assistance to national institutions.

27. The general policy was to have two technical meetings, at most three a year, apart from other meetings such as those on co-ordination and the

Conference of African Demographers. Technical meetings would still aim at creating awareness of population problems and their implications within the region.

28. The meeting noted that the Second Regional Inter-agency Co-ordination Meeting on Population had recommended that the Directors of the three Regional Institutes for Population Studies in Cairo, Accra, and Yaoundé should be invited to future co-ordination meetings.

#### United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

29. UNICEF emphasized the development and use of MCH services for the delivery of family planning assistance. However, because in many countries the reach of these services was very limited, it was important to develop broader services by using such groups as agricultural and community development services; mothers' clubs and organized womens groups, the educational system; youth clubs and young farmers' clubs and all available mass media.

30. Attention was invited to the high cost of developing services dependent on trained medical and para-medical personnel. Lay workers could economically be trained for family planning work not requiring medical qualifications such as follow-up and health education. This had been done with success in Korea and Taiwan.

31. UNICEF assistance would continue to be given at the request of Governments within national planning priorities. Regional projects were also supported and funds were available for certain research and pre-planning activities on a regional basis.

32. UNICEF preferred to concentrate its resources on action programmes and would not generally participate in specialized activities such as demographic training, surveys or studies. However, it would certainly be prepared to discuss its possible contribution in such developments.

33. UNICEF expressed appreciation of the effective and regular liaison with the ECA Population Programme Centre; it was hoped that the importance of population activities in Africa would be drawn to the attention of the forthcoming meeting of UNDP Resident Representatives.

#### International Labour Organisation (ILO)

34. ILO action contributing to population policies covered the following areas:

35. The ILO would study and disseminate information on the interrelationships between population trends and development objectives in substantive fields of ILO competence, such as employment, productivity wages and social security.

In areas of social policy where ILO had substantive responsibility it would increasingly seek to harmonize the application of its recommended standards of social policies and practices with demographic objectives in developing countries. The ILO was undertaking educational activities directed towards labour and employer circles to promote a better understanding and involvement of these circles in population issues.

36. All these activities, research, seminars and information disseminations were expected to contribute to the acceptance and adoption of appropriate population policies and to strengthening of the commitment to such policies once they were adopted.

37. In family planning the ILO aimed at the full involvement in family planning programmes of the social institutions and services in particular trade unions and labour bodies; management and occupational health and welfare services and labour administration and social security. Support would be provided trade unions and labour education bodies to enable them to participate in and develop activities relating to family planning. Employers would be encouraged to provide various facilities and incentives to their employees' families for the acceptance and practice of family planning. The ILO also undertook studies and formulated recommendations on social standards for migrant workers and co-operated, as appropriate, with other bodies in this task.

38. The ILO programme of work in the field of demographic projections had centered mainly on projections of the economically active population. Recently labour force projection programme had been expanded to give wider geographic coverage (the world and twenty four major regions) and included information on the sex-age composition of the labour force.

#### Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

39. FAO's involvement in population matters derived from the organization's responsibility for increasing food production and improving levels of living and the welfare of rural people through agricultural sector development.

40. The expansion of FAO activities in population fields was best pursued along two main directions, namely (a) including a population analysis component in FAO's advisory and research work on development and planning and (b) developing further the population motivation component in FAO's educational, training and extension activities.

41. Emphasis would now be given by FAO to assisting countries in the analysis of alternative population policies, as an integral part in the formulation of national agricultural development strategies.

42. Studies aimed at improving the understanding of the relationships between demographic factors and food and agricultural development would be undertaken as these would extend the base of the FAO regular and continuous activity on the review and appraisal and planning work on food population questions. Two kinds of studies would need to be carried out: (a) headquarters studies, based on already available material to analyze population growth as a variable in agricultural development and its interrelationships with other socio-economic factors and (b) field studies on the interrelationships between agricultural change and population dynamics based on information collected through surveys among rural families. Appropriate programmes for field surveys would need to be undertaken, considerations being given to revising appropriately FAO's Programme of Food Consumption Surveys and other related activities being promoted and developed in various countries. The UNFPA had already provided financial assistance for the initiation of activities.

43. FAO training of its field staff advising countries in development planning and programming activities as well as FAO informational activities were expected to continue and thus play an important role in creating awareness of the implications of population growth on food and agricultural development.

44. FAO's demographic projections would be expanded to include breakdown of population segments such as by age and sex, by status, etc. and thus provide a basis for improving the United Nations work on projections of urban/rural population which in turn would be needed by the FAO for making adequate projections of food demand.

45. Finally, the FAO's Planning for Better Family Living Programme (PBEL) had been developed as an educational and motivational approach aimed primarily at reaching families in rural areas of developing countries through food and agricultural development programmes. The programme comprised action-oriented micro research activities, that were initiated in East Africa, as well as education, training and communication activities among government leaders, programme planners and professional and village level field workers of government and non-government organizations reaching families. Currently, PBEL field project proposals were in the process of development in two other African countries.

#### United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

46. UNESCO's efforts to promote the population programme in education were gradually being extended. In 1971 an African Regional Meeting on the Relationship between Population Factors and Education had been convened in Dakar and attended by several West African countries and Tanzania and Zambia. The UNESCO regional office in Dakar maintained a post for a person specially concerned with the interaction of population factors and education. In 1973-1974 efforts would be made to introduce population matters into the curricula

of teacher training colleges and the regular school system. Attention would also be directed to literacy and adult education programmes. Projects for case studies on methodological problems, the training of adult education leaders and the development of suitable teaching and learning materials and aids were under way. Population and social science expertise had been added to UNESCO's education planning projects.

47. UNESCO had recently completed a study on the effects of education, particularly at higher levels, on fertility and mortality rates and migration trends; further studies were under way on the investment costs of educational development in varying fertility and mortality conditions and this year UNESCO would sponsor a symposium to examine the contributions of social science in the field of population.

48. UNESCO also assisted universities in improving and extending courses in demography, encouraging a multidisciplinary approach. UNESCO was also active in the field of communication and in October 1971 had joined IPPF in sponsoring a seminar to prepare for the establishment of a clearing-house for audio-visual and communications material on family planning to be operated jointly by UNESCO and IPPF.

49. UNESCO's modest headquarters staff dealing with population was being expanded and posts of regional advisers in population education, educational planning and communication were being established.

50. UNESCO's population programme was concerned in ethical terms with the conflict between demographic situations and welfare and development goals; in functional terms it attempted to ensure that population variables were taken into account in planning and implementing social policies and to support policies and programmes designed to influence population variables. In terms of content, education was at present receiving most emphasis and the contributions of the social and natural sciences and communication needed strengthening. UNESCO's inter-sectoral population programme found its place in the wider pattern of related programmes of the United Nations as a whole, being concentrated on the educational, socio-cultural and communications components of the population field. UNESCO would co-operate closely in the programmes of the World Population Year, 1974 and the World Population Conference.

#### World Health Organization (WHO)

51. WHO assisted member States, on request, in the development of family planning within the context of basic health services. One of the organizations' basic policies was that health services should best be developed concurrently with social, cultural and economic systems.

52. An expanded programme of work in family planning as part of the national health services and integrated with maternal and child care was implemented

in 1970 to 1971 in consultation with Governments by WHO through joint planning missions with the United Nations and specialized agencies. Advisory services were also given in 1971 for specialized aspects of family planning programmes in the fields of nursing and midwifery, health education, vital and health statistics and in the latest advance in the subject of human reproduction and population dynamics.

53. An overview of the position taken by Governments of 42 countries with regard to family planning activities by the end of 1971 indicated the following: (a) Seven had official policy and family planning programmes; (b) Seven had no official policy but supported family planning activities; (c) 28 had no official policy and no support to family planning activities. However, the pattern of health needs continued to change and new emphasis was being evolved to meet these changing needs in the promotion of health and on comprehensive care, including family planning care, for the benefit of the individual, the family and the community. Major emphasis would therefore be placed by WHO in 1972 on country programmes in family health including family planning and on expanded research programme in human reproduction. In the area of advisory services to Governments, the organization would concentrate on the strengthening of basic health services, including the maternity centered family planning programmes. Emphasis would be placed on health administration and on education and training of health personnel at all levels. Health education would be strengthened and co-operative effort would be directed to school health education and the development of better communications for family planning. In the area of research, epidemiological studies, research development and training in reproductive bio-medicine.

#### International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)

54. The growing interest of IBRD in the relationship between population growth and economic development had been emphasized by its President, Mr. McNamara, in his address to the Board of governors in 1968 when he proposed three courses of action: (a) make developing nations aware of the extent to which rapid population growth slows down potential development; (b) seek opportunities to finance facilities to carry out population programmes; (c) join with others in research on family planning and population control programmes. To implement these proposals the Bank established first a Population Studies Division now Population and Human Resources Division and later a Population Projects Department.

55. The principal medium by which the Bank brought the population problem to the notice of the member countries was the Bank's regular economic reports, which included an analysis of the countries' demographic situation and population programme. The second action programme was the lending of funds for population projects. By January 1972 missions had been sent to Colombia, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mauritius, Trinidad and Tobago and Tunisia. Missions were planned for Ghana and the Philippines, and pre-investment studies in population planning had been completed for Iran, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda.

56. The Bank's first population loan was for US\$2 million to Jamaica in 1970 and involved the construction and equipment of maternity centres and the training of family planning workers. In March 1971 a US\$4.8 million IDA loan was accorded to Tunisia for similar activities. Projects for Trinidad and Tobago and for Indonesia had also been approved. A pilot project including a management information and evaluation system was under consideration for India.

57. The Bank's interest in research was confined to: (a) economic demographic interrelationship; (b) economic aspects of family planning; (c) migration. The Bank would be happy to collaborate with other research institutions and had now been enabled to give small grants to research institutions for joint projects.

58. The meeting noted with interest the Bank's proposed study on migration in some West African countries and its intention to explore the possibility of co-ordinating the field aspects of this study with the African Census Programme.

#### France

59. The assistance of the French Government covered three fields: training, direct technical assistance and studies.

60. The training component included French personnel temporarily or permanently involved in the management or operation of training centres in France and Africa; seminars on demographic and other topics (such as the one on multiround demographic surveys organized in February 1972); and granting of fellowships to African students to enable them to take these courses and participate in the seminars.

61. Under direct technical assistance, French personnel was made available to a number of countries either permanently or to carry out specific missions, and processing and analysis of census and survey data were carried out in France by the organizations concerned: INED, INSEE, and ORSTOM.

62. Comparative studies or methodological research were conducted by these same organizations. Various efforts were being made to establish contact with the African countries through information bulletins, study tours, exchanges of documents, symposia, etc.

63. In conclusion, it was felt that co-ordination of assistance could be strengthened by the following activities: (a) the preparation of a technical assistance guide would be useful: lists of posts available would also be helpful to potential candidates; (b) usefulness of actual demonstrations: present operations (Morocco, Tunisia, Upper Volta, etc) could be used in support of training centres of temporary training courses; (c) need for qualified personnel, candidates were often inexperienced: creation of centres



referred to above might perhaps enable this deficiency to be made good;  
(d) need to sound out the opinion of the African countries with regard to the assistance received, its defects and methods of making it more effective.

#### United States Aid for International Development

64. The details of the population programmes of the Agency for International Development were contained in the recently issued annual publication Population Programme Assistance, distributed to all participants.

65. In Africa, assistance in the field of population began in 1967. It was supported by four philosophical pillars, to wit: (a) child spacing improved the health of both mothers and children, which was one of the reasons AID believed that in most countries family planning activities must be integrated into mother and child health services; (b) there was an evident need for better demographic data and the analysis of these in the light of long range economic and social development; (c) population programmes must be susceptible to be evaluated with regard to their effectiveness; (d) African institutions must be built and personnel trained to carry out the programmes. AID maintained its concern about the co-ordination of activities with other organizations and extended full support to ECA's activities in this direction.

66. AID's specific projects in Africa were of two kinds: regional and country bilateral. At present, there were agreements for bilateral population related projects with five countries but the existence of bilateral projects did not preclude assistance through regional projects such as through the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (and specifically the African Census Programme), and by assistance in financing activities of other agencies such as the Population Council. Other activities included efforts to test the practicality of assisting an establishment of family planning - maternal and child health units in rural areas, namely in the French-speaking countries of Africa, and to assist in training medical students in family health practice. This project was being undertaken with the collaboration of the African Medical School Association.

#### The Germany Foundation for Developing Countries

67. The Foundation, which was financed by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, supplemented the multilateral Government aid for population activities through two of its centres: the Seminar Centre for Economic and Social Development and the Public Administration Promotion Centre, both located in Berlin. In 1971, a seminar was organized in collaboration with the Federal Statistical Office for the English-speaking African countries on the Population Data and the Use of Computers with Special Reference to Population Research. A similar seminar for the French-speaking countries was scheduled in Wiesbaden and Paris for 25 November - 7 December 1972. Both seminars had received co-operation from the United Nations and ECA, and the second one also from the French Government. A meeting on family planning and social development to be attended by twenty experts in youth movements was to be co-sponsored by IPPF at the end of June near Munich. The Public

Administration Promotion Centre in planning was to open a training centre for African statisticians, hopefully at the end of this year.

#### Netherlands

68. In addition to the financial contribution to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities of US\$2 million (which was expected to increase to US\$5 million in 1975), the Government of the Netherlands had two programmes of technical assistance in the regions. In Kenya, a project started in 1967 with a total budget of US\$595,400 with the object of obtaining the participation of the population in the national family planning programmes and the project in Tunisia, which started in July 1971 with a total budget of about US\$556,900 for two years with an extension for another two years to execute the National Family Planning Programme in the governorate Le Kef. The Government did not intend to continue its bilateral assistance after the completion of the existing programmes but would contribute to participation in multilateral projects.

#### Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)

69. Two of the characteristics of Swedish development assistance were that family planning was considered a human right and given the highest priority in the assistance programme. The aims of the Swedish family planning policy in international relations were to focus awareness on the global population question, to support efforts in Governments and international organizations to include family planning as part of their MCH and population programmes; to stimulate such programmes by making resources available, to support the execution of such family planning and population programmes, and to extend assistance to all countries in need of materials and education in connexion with family planning and population programmes.

70. The assistance extended through SIDA had grown from the single project in Ceylon in 1958 to bilateral assistance to international organizations and to a large number of countries. The disbursement had increased from US\$366,000 in 1958 to an approximate allocation of US\$11.7 million for the fiscal year 1971/72, i.e., from a few per cent in the late 1950s to approximately 12 per cent of the total assistance today. This trend would continue, within the planned budgetary framework, laid down by a decision by Parliament, of increase of total Swedish assistance appropriation during the next years amounting to around 25 per cent annually.

71. The Swedish Government strongly supported the United Nations and the various multilateral assistance programmes, administered by the United Nations and its agencies. SIDA also supported IPPF's activities, OECD Development Centre's population programme, World Council of Churches and IUSSP. Sweden allocated roughly 50 per cent of the development assistance budget to assistance through multilateral channels which represented a very high proportion when compared with other donor countries. A recent trend in the assistance policy

was to refer to UNFPA and IPPF requests from countries seeking assistance from SIDA for the first time. Another recent trend was to increase the allocation for human reproduction research and research training programmes.

72. The contributions to Africa consisted of the following: in Ethiopia, the construction of MCH clinics and support of family planning programmes within the framework of MCH in Addis Ababa by providing a family planning and MCH consultant, and the provision of a demographer to the Central Statistics Office in Addis Ababa since 1969; in Kenya the provision of a family planning administrative advisor in the Ministry of Public Health since 1968; in Tanzania, the provision of a sociologist and statistician since 1968; in Tunisia, contribution to the Kelibia MCH Centre and its family planning programme since 1963; and provision of supplies and equipment for family planning programmes in Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia.

#### Organization of African Unity (OAU)

73. Although OAU was the political organ of the African States, it was establishing a new Population Section within its secretariat. It was hoped that through this Section, the already existing collaboration (including participation in meetings on technical and standing bodies on population) with the ECA's population activities as carried out by the Population Programme Centre, would be strengthened.

#### Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

74. The Organization as apart from its member countries had no programme of technical assistance, but its contribution was in research and information services. Future population programme of the Development Centre would be carried out along the following lines:

- (a) Integration of population matters in a population and human resources division;
- (b) Concentration on key problem topics supported by research and expert working group meetings;
- (c) Continuation of the compilation of aid statistics with development of the analysis of population aid not only by donors and recipients but by categories as far as this is possible.

75. As far as Africa is concerned, OECD envisaged the possibility of convening an expert working group in late 1972 or early 1973 with the provisional title, "Development and utilization of human resources in Africa: problems, policies and prospects".

76. In conclusion, OECD intended to continue to work closely with United Nations regional economic commissions, inter-governmental and other organizations in the field of population such as ECA, ECAFE, and IUSSP. The Development

Centre would continue to develop a population programme which would provide a source of scientific, informed, non-partisan information in the field of population and development and which could be of use to both aid donors and developing countries alike.

#### Union douanière et économique de l'Afrique centrale (UDEAC)

77. The secretariat of the Union douanière et économique de l'Afrique centrale could not participate in the meeting but sent a note on its activities in the field of population studies.

78. Taking into consideration the needs and interests of the member States (Cameroon, Central African Republic, Republic of Congo, and Gabon) and in line with the the United Nations recommendations for the 1970 round of population censuses, UDEAC had established a commission to consider the census and related problems in the countries of the Union and Chad. It had organized on 20-27 July 1970 in Bangui a meeting which defined the general strategy of the project for demographic studies in these five countries and prepared a first estimate of the cost involved. A working group had been convened on 4-10 May 1970 in Libreville aimed at setting up the technical, methodological and financial aspects of the project. A preliminary request had been submitted to UNFPA in January 1970 and the final project had been sent by each member State during the first quarter of 1971.

79. The project was planned to be completed in two phases: first, a complete census in 1973 and second, the establishment during 1974-1982 of permanent systems of data collection of the components of population change, namely, fertility, mortality and migration. A pilot study was now being carried out on some aspects of the second phase of the project. The project envisaged the creation of a regional census office and the appointment of a project manager, whose post was to be financed by UNFPA and whose main responsibility would be the co-ordination of the project with the relevant bodies.

80. The Department of Statistics of UDEAC would ensure the liaison of the project between the different countries and the funding, and also the regional co-ordination of the project.

81. The total cost for 1971-1973 was estimated at 780 million CFA frs., 70 per cent of which were to be contributed by the countries themselves.

82. A meeting was planned for June 1972 where demographic statisticians of the five countries would discuss the project with international experts.

#### International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)

83. In 1971 the IPPF extended grants to family planning agencies in 72 different countries, 18 of which were on the African continent. In addition a grant was given direct to the Government of Botswana to assist their national

planning programme. The work of two individual doctors was supported in Burundi and Seychelles. At least two more national associations were expected to receive assistance in 1972.

84. The IPPF usually channelled assistance through family planning associations under whose initiative and guidance family planning clinics are opened. The association might seek support from, and collaborate with, many other private groups concerned with development and human welfare. For example, with the association providing supplies and training, family planning clinics were held in mission hospitals, in health centres of large factories or agricultural estates. Family planning was also incorporated into the curriculum of medical and nursing students, community development workers, social welfare and nutrition workers. The support of youth and church groups might be enlisted in organizing joint seminars or action programmes.

85. The IPPF was also able to assist in the promotion of family planning by supporting pilot projects which were not run by member associations and providing training facilities during the early stages before a family planning policy was adopted.

86. In its capacity as a non-governmental consultative organization to six United Nations agencies - the ECOSOC, ILO, WHO, UNICEF and FAO - the IPPF had encouraged increased United Nations activity in the field of family planning.

87. The IPPF central office and regional offices acted as sources of information and educational materials for local associations. The Africa regional office had had a full-time information and education officer responsible for countries within the Africa region since the beginning of 1970. An information and education officer for Middle East region was appointed at the end of 1971 and deals with North African countries. The African Regional Council of IPPF was currently urging family guidance associations to appoint information and education officers.

88. IPPF made a specific regional contribution to training in Africa through the Family Welfare Centre (FWC) in Nairobi. The FWC was a training-cum-service institution entirely supported by IPPF. It was the main training centre for people engaged in family planning in Kenya, and also accepted trainees from other African countries.

#### International Statistical Institute (ISI)

89. The World Fertility Survey has been organized in accordance with the designation of 1974 as the World Population Year and the resolution of the United Nations Population Commission urging the collection of data on fertility differentials on an internationally comparable basis. It was planned that during 1974-1977 new surveys would be carried out in countries, and findings published to yield a picture of world fertility behaviour. Results would be

made available in the form of country reports and regional and international summaries which would supply scientific data to enable scientists and policy-makers to have a sound basis on which to assess the role of fertility growth or decline in social and economic development. The International Statistical Institute (ISI) had been asked to organize the survey in co-operation with the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) and in collaboration with the United Nations, UNEPA, United Nations Population Division, United Nations Statistical Office, United Nations agencies and United Nations regional economic commissions and demographic centres.

90. The World Fertility Survey was intended to provide reliable scientific data for international comparisons on fertility behaviour; it would assess the current state of knowledge regarding world fertility and assist a large group of countries to carry out new, nationally representative and internationally comparable surveys regarding fertility behaviour. In each country a competent survey research organization, ideally the national statistical office, would be encouraged to undertake the work. Technical assistance would be provided in the form of advisers, training at all levels needed to carry out the work, assistance in analysis and publication, if desired, and where necessary, subsidies to carry out the survey work itself. A central core of questions was to be developed which would be recommended to all participating countries, in the hope that there would be regional and individual country additions to meet regional or local needs for data. In each country it was expected that the sample selected would be of sufficient size to provide broadly representative data for the country as a whole and to reflect significant differentials within the country. Full advantage would be taken of the experience already gained in the conduct of nearly 50 studies relating to fertility in the African countries since the mid-1950s. Plans relating to the content of the questionnaire and methods of analysis would be developed by a central staff to be recruited by the ISI, and with the assistance of expert groups recruited to be representative of United Nations regional economic commissions. Close co-operation would be maintained with the regional United Nations staffs. Especial attention would be given to the relations with the African Census programme, in the expectation that in most instances the World Fertility Survey work would follow at some time after the Census. It was hoped to institutionalize the work of the World Fertility Survey in such a way that the basis would have been laid for future surveys, possibly at ten year intervals.

#### Population Council

91. Although the Population Council could not send a representative to the meeting it submitted a summary of its activities in view of the importance of the co-ordinating activities that ECA is sponsoring. On-going and new projects included assistance in analysis of the Algerian Demographic survey; family planning programmes in Morocco, Tunisia and Kenya; study of urban migration at the University of Khartoum; development of teaching and research programmes at the University of Bujumbura; demographic teaching and research programmes at the Universities of Nairobi, Ife, Lagos, and Dar-es-Salaam; programme of demography within the medical school at the Ahmadu Bello University; postpartum

programme at the Lagos Island Maternity Hospital; and a study of nuptility in Sierra Leone at the Fourah Bay College.

International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP)

92. The representative of IUSSP mentioned a number of studies it was sponsoring; specifically one on economic demography and another on urbanization and spatial distribution of population, to be presented to the General Conference of the Union in Liege, Belgium on 27 August - 1 September 1973.

Pathfinder Fund

93. The Pathfinder Fund's objectives and activities in Africa were reported to the first meeting of the Non-United Nations Organizations Interested in Population Work in Africa. It could not send a representative to the second meeting but submitted a paper on its programmes in Africa.

94. These programmes were approached with careful attention to the general level of awareness of the population problem in the region. Pathfinder projects in Africa mostly were based on promoting child spacing within existing maternal and child health services.

95. To meet the paucity of skilled operational personnel, Pathfinder had recently placed increasing emphasis on the expanded training of African professional and para-professional personnel in the administration and delivery of family planning programmes and services, particularly in rural areas. Despite major emphasis on clinic and training programmes, Pathfinder remained entirely flexible in its inclination and ability to respond to any appropriate programme request or opportunity.

96. On-going and new projects included: in Dahomey supporting the Centre d'orientation familiale and the newly established family planning association; support of the Clinique la Croix Bleue in Senegal, mission hospitals in Zaire, and clinics offering family planning services in Zambia; training of medical and para-medical staff in health education and family planning practices in Burundi, Dahomey, Rwanda, and Nigeria; and supply of mobile MCH clinics in Burundi.

## V. COLLABORATION AND CO-ORDINATION

### (a) Research and studies

97. The meeting noted that ECA's programme of work for 1973-1974 with projections up to 1979 had been sent early in March to the agencies for comments and suggestions. The representatives of the agencies were requested to ascertain the interest of their organizations in the specific population projects of the ECA secretariat in order that multi-interest and joint projects could be identified. The meeting re-affirmed in this connexion the importance of prior and timely consultations between the different agencies in the relevant programmes of work and reiterated their general interest and support of the ECA's population programmes. It also agreed that co-ordinations and exchange of information should be continuing operation between ECA and the different agencies.

### Macro and micro case studies

98. The mandate for these studies was derived from resolutions 230(X) adopted at the tenth session of the Economic Commission for Africa (First Conference of Ministers). The Conference of African Demographers also urged the ECA secretariat to continue with the programme in order to give by the end of 1974 a comprehensive picture of the population dynamics and economic and social developments in individual African countries. It was hoped that for the macro-studies, all African countries and for micro-studies half of these countries would be covered in about four years time. The studies as they were completed would be presented to the biennial Conference of African Demographers and of African Planners and also to the World Population Conference and would be considered as a specific contribution of ECA to the World Population Year.

99. Ten macro-studies and six micro-studies had so far been completed. A review and discussion of these were contained in document E/CN.14/POP/46 and E/CN.14/POP/49.

### (i) Contents of the studies

100. The macro-studies started with a brief economic survey of the past and during the second development decade, the experience relating to increase in national income, savings and investment, rural structures and transformation of traditional rural economies, determinants and constraints of development arising from demographic trends. The social survey included past and recent experiences relating to employment, unemployment, housing, public health, maternal and child health (effects of high parities on infant, early childhood and maternal mortality), education, marriage patterns, and social and urban tensions as well as other constraints arising from demographic trends. The demographic survey included a study of the size of the population and its structure, generally high fertility and declining mortality, urbanization, internal and international migration. A review of the development plan of the



country were then made which examined the assumptions of technological advancement in relation to agriculture and industries, shortage of skilled manpower and provision of infrastructures for the growing population. These reviews led to a study of implications separately of the demographic projections under high, medium and low assumptions on requirements of food, employment, education, housing, public health, urban development, sedentarization of nomadic populations, etc. - all these studied both in terms of numbers and costs involved; also the effect of economic development on social growth and population growth; the importance of telescoping demographic transition within a narrow time horizon; and a cost-benefit analysis of population programmes.

101. Micro-studies were proposed at the level of the individual - the mother, the children, and members of the family. These were aimed at studying the effects of small and large numbers of children on the welfare of individual families. The effects of high parities on the health of mothers and children - grave pelvic disorders and high maternal mortality on the one hand and relatively high infant and early childhood mortality on the other; extent and effects of induced abortions; habits of breast-feeding and weaning; diet and malnutrition; environment conditions; educational opportunities; per capita income; accommodation, and available food supply for the family; patterns of investment. These also included the family size values and preferences, the family building habits and their cultural background as well as the constraints on the evolution of small family building habits. On the medico-social side, additional information was required on food consumption and calory intake, medical consultation and hospitalization, baby weight, height and growth, social and vertical mobility of family members as seen in occupational placement and income earned.

(ii) Discussion

102. The Meeting noted first the discussion on the item at the Second Regional Inter-Agency Co-ordination meeting on Population. That Meeting had agreed on the need to use a consistent set of projections, namely that prepared by the United Nations agencies of total and sectoral population projections; the similarity of the project with those of WHO and UNICEF; and the IBRD's offer of assistance of its Data Bank on information on external aid, external debt, savings etc. of individual African countries.

103. Both that Meeting and the African Population Conference had emphasized the need to study the traditional methods of contraceptives in order to make family planning policies more acceptable to the families. It was also noted that intensive research was being undertaken by UNICEF and WHO in collaboration with FAO and IBRD to study the production of high-protein, economic, and assimilable weaning food based on local food, and that success had already been reported.

104. In the discussion on the micro-studies, attention was drawn to the study undertaken by the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development in Geneva on measures of levels of living on the family plane and to a recent study in Senegal which showed that the age of weaning had a relatively more important effect on early childhood mortality than the parity.

(b) Information Services

105. The secretariat stressed the need to implement the decision of the last meeting that the various organizations use the African Population Newsletter in publicizing information on their on-going projects in Africa. The decision that the ECA publish from time to time a consolidated list of experts from all organizations working in population and related fields in all African countries, was reiterated by the meeting. For this purpose, a proforma prepared by the ECA Population Programme Centre was approved by the meeting. The meeting also agreed on the need to prepare a list of projects, including meetings by all organizations. ECA was therefore requested to obtain this information from all the organizations, and arrange to circulate this to them as well as to the African countries.

(c) Technical Co-operation and Co-ordination

(i) At the country level

106. The meeting re-emphasized the importance of co-ordinating technical activities at the country level and that of the counterpart co-ordinating machinery in the Governments and institutions. In this connexion reference was made to the new system of country programming exercise that is now an integral part of the UNDP operation at the country level; it was noted, however, that projects that are financed by the UNEFPA, such as the African Census Programme, do not form part of such country programming exercise.

107. The representatives of the African member States of the Population Commission informed the meeting of the co-ordinating machineries existing in their country.

108. In Egypt, all requests for technical assistance from the United Nations System were to be forwarded to the Department of Technical Assistance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Another copy of the project, including complete information was to be forwarded to the Ministry of Planning, to ascertain that these projects were within the framework of the National Development Plan. At the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Committee for Technical Assistance comprised Under-Secretary of State of different interested ministries. The evaluation reports done at the Ministry of Planning were submitted to the Technical Assistance Committee, which acted through several specialized sub-committees. The Committee gave priorities to the different projects, with a view to achieving the highest co-ordination and elimination of duplication.

109. The Egyptian Government with its declared population policy of slowing down the rapid population growth - by reducing the high birth rate - had implemented a nation-wide family planning programme six years ago. The services of the programme were given as an integrated part of mother and child health services. The programme was receiving technical assistance from both United Nations, UNEFPA, the United Nations agencies, and some non-United Nations organizations interested in population activities.

110. The Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics was in charge of co-ordinating all demographic activities, which also included KAP and fertility survey, as well as training. The Agency, being the central organization, was responsible for collecting and publishing demographic data through decennial population censuses and the system of vital registration.
111. The Executive Board for Family Planning was entrusted with co-ordinating all activities connected with family planning as medical and motivational activities.
112. In Kenya there was an inter-ministerial co-ordinating committee on demographic work which now involved three ministries, namely, Health (which was in charge of family planning programmes), Registrar General (which was in charge of vital statistics), and Finance (which was in charge of demographic work). It was felt, however, that the activities of other institutions in the country working in the population field could be co-ordinated.
113. In Morocco, there were a number of projects which were receiving external assistance. The Division for Economic Technical Operation of the Secretary of State for Planning co-ordinated all externally financed programmes.
114. The Population Programme Officers of the United Nations described their efforts at co-ordination in the countries which they were serving. In Kenya, an informal discussion group had been formed which met periodically. In Ghana, there was an informal group of United Nations agencies and non-United Nations organizations, which met monthly and often invited national officials and experts to address the group. In Tunisia also, a series of meetings had been called of the United Nations agencies and non-United Nations organizations and the officials of the Government now wished to convene such meetings under their authority: within the Government, co-ordination was the joint responsibility of the Planning and Foreign Ministries.
115. In the discussion, the meeting agreed that the major responsibility for co-ordination at the country level rested with the countries themselves. In this connexion, ECA was urged to encourage and help the African countries in setting up appropriate co-ordinating machineries so that the best use could be made of available internal and external resources and the expertise of officials in different government departments, universities, and institutions were pooled together. The ECA secretariat also assured the representatives of African Governments that, on request from the Governments, the secretariat would help them in obtaining assistance from UNFPA under the African Census Programme and in other population activities.

(ii) At regional and sub-regional levels

116. Co-ordination of regional programmes on population was effected by the two co-ordinating bodies convened by ECA, namely, the regional inter-agency co-ordination on population and the meeting of the non-United Nations organizations interested in population work in Africa. A number of co-ordinating

machineries had been already established by the ECA secretariat with relevant United Nations agencies and a number of interested non-African Governments, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations.

117. The Meeting was informed by the representative of France of the biennial meetings on different aspects of African demography organized under the joint sponsorship of INED, INSEE and ORSTOM, to which African experts and other organizations, including ECA, were invited. The next meeting was proposed to be organized in an African country, to which demographers from the English-speaking African countries who could work in French would also be invited. The ECA secretariat agreed to help in obtaining from UNEPA or other sources financial assistance for participation of African demographers in the meeting: attention was also drawn in this connexion to the representatives of non-United Nations organizations promoting population work in Africa.

118. A related question was the provision of teaching French at the Regional Institute for Population Studies in Accra and of teaching English at the Regional Institute for Population Studies in Yaoundé, as recommended at the fifth session of the Conference of African Statisticians. The ECA secretariat agreed to follow up this matter.

119. The Meeting was also informed of the Seminar on Inter-Agency Collaboration in the Sphere of Family Planning in Sub-Saharan Francophone West Africa, held in Abidjan on 27-29 March 1972, invitations for attendance to a selected number of organizations having been sent by the Friends' Service Committee in Dakar, Senegal. That Seminar discussed, among others, the lack of information interchange, research in family planning and its development in Africa, the policies and approach of organizations, the necessity of family planning and wider issues in the population field. The Group had agreed to meet at regular six-monthly intervals, the next meeting to be held in Dakar on 30 October to 1 November 1972 with UNEPA providing the host facilities; an information bulletin was also planned to be compiled and distributed by Service Quaker in Dakar. The Seminar was kept on an unofficial and informal basis, and it was generally agreed that this should remain the method as it allowed much more free and frank exchange and discussion. It had agreed that ECA inter-agency meetings in Addis Ababa would also be a focal point for similar contacts.

(iii) Concluding observations

120. The Meeting agreed that the consolidated list of projects, when compiled, would help in identifying countries and population topics that need support from the United Nations and its agencies, as well as from the non-United Nations organizations, so that the best use could be made of available resources with the avoidance of concentration on a limited number of countries and topics.

121. On request, a number of African government departments, universities, and institutions had designated liaison officers to the ECA's Population Programme Centre. The ECA secretariat took this opportunity of thanking the liaison officers in the African countries for their co-operation and help.

(d) Training

122. The secretariat after elaborating on its activities in the field of training asked for the co-operation of the organizations in the implementation of these activities. The meeting was also informed of the help being given by the United Nations in the establishment of units for the teaching of demographers in Africa universities. Such units were successfully established recently in universities in Liberia and Sierra Leone with United Nations assistance including the provision of experts and the payment of some local costs. The meeting was further informed that the United Nations was able to meet all requests for training fellowships from Africa.

123. the USAID representative informed the Meeting of the highlights of AID's training activities in Africa. These included a contract the organization had with an American university to assist African universities in developing an interdisciplinary approach in teaching of population dynamics, and where a university was interested, in strengthening departments within the university for that purpose. The first of such agreements had been concluded with the University of Ghana and it was hoped that the programme would be implemented in close collaboration with the Regional Institute for Population Studies also based in the University of Ghana. Additional agreements with the other universities had yet to be negotiated.

124. Other activities in the training field included an agreement between the USAID and the Population Council whereby the Council helped African universities in the teaching of demography and an agreement with the Meharry Medical College and a consortium of other nearby universities to establish a family planning training and research institute in Nashville, Tennessee, USA.

125. The Meeting was informed of a training manual, The Methods and Materials of Demography, prepared by the United States Bureau of Census, which could be of great help in training programmes of the region. The manual included examples from developing countries. Mention was also made of Demographic Lectures for middle and intermediate level training also by the United States Bureau of Census. The Meeting agreed on the desirability of getting these manuals translated into French.

126. The ECA secretariat informed the Meeting of a training manual being prepared by the Population Programme Centre for Middle and Intermediate level training in Africa, the first draft of which was expected to be ready by the end of 1972.

127. The meeting was also informed of the availability of correspondence course at the United States Bureau of Census which was designed for officials who because of the nature of their work could leave their offices for long periods to attend training courses. ECA agreed to publicize this correspondence course in the African Population Newsletter on the provision of the relevant information on the course.

(e) Meetings

128. The Meeting noted the list of meetings planned by ECA, including those being organized in co-operation with other organizations. It was agreed that the proposed consolidated list of meetings organized by the different organizations, when available, would serve a very useful purpose.

129. The Meeting was informed that at the recent Annual General Meeting of the Association of Medical Schools in Africa, a session was organized, with the collaboration of the American Association of Medical Colleges, on the teaching of family health in medical schools in Africa, and that four sub-regional meetings on the same topic were planned to be held between December 1972 and February 1973, to which WHO, the United Nations, and other relevant agencies were proposed to be invited. The meeting was also informed that the International Medical Students' Organization on Population had held the International Medical Students' Conference in New Delhi in 1972, and was proposing to hold a regional conference in Africa. The Meeting agreed on the importance of co-ordinating the activities of the two bodies in this field.

(f) African Census Programme

130. The Meeting noted that the Consultative Group on African Census programme on its first session, held in January 1971, explored possibilities for providing substantial assistance to African countries which had so far been unable to in the 1970 round of population census or were wishing to obtain more accurate and detailed information on population dynamics. A regional project was formulated and presented to the second meeting of the ECA Technical Committee of Experts in Tunis, February 1971 and was endorsed by ECA First Conference of Ministers. The Executive Secretary had subsequently invited the member States to inform him of their requirements for assistance in this field, while pointing out that the various programmes could not be entirely financed by the United Nations alone. The response had been quite satisfactory since of the 26 member States which had not yet participated in the 1970 round of censuses, 21 were planning to do so by 1974. In reviewing the African Census Programme, the Consultative Group on the African Census Programme at its second session, held in February 1972, assessed the different problems to be tackled in implementing the programme, e.g., recruitment of experts, training, availability of counterparts etc.

131. The African Census Programme was discussed during the Second Regional Inter-Agency Co-ordination Meeting on Population and all the agencies represented expressed interest in the African Census Programme while stressing

the fact that in its implementation careful consideration should be given to collection of data which were not usually obtained through a population census or if obtained became of little value after a certain time. In this connexion the Meeting was informed that the African Census Programme scope went beyond a normal census as it could cover special surveys to supplement the data through censuses and the information of population dynamics could be obtained for a period of at least four years.

132. The Meeting noted the interest of IBRD in co-ordinating its migration studies in selected West African countries with the African Census Programme.

133. The Meeting also expressed the desire that in planning population censuses the needs of other censuses, e.g., agricultural censuses be taken into consideration. Further, the meeting stressed the fact that the African Census Programme should be among others a device to ensure that census and survey operations become a continuing activity of the African countries with a view to undertaking population censuses periodically and continuing surveys on vital rates as well as on the interrelations of population with economic and social factors. To achieve this aim, the meeting recommended that the Consultative Group on the African Census Programme should become a permanent committee.

134. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the proposal for the block allocation of funds by UNEFPA to enable the immediate recruitment of ten experts in order to overcome recruitment delays. These ten experts would be stationed at ECA headquarters pending their assignment to individual countries.

135. The Meeting was pleased to learn that a number of countries interested in the African Census Programme would be able to help in solving the problem of supplying country experts and other aspects of technical assistance, including short-term solutions to the recruitment problem and training. On training the meeting welcomed the recommendation of the Conference of African Demographers in which the United Nations and ECA were requested to devote means, either through fellowships or study tours, by which experts from one country could observe the survey operations in other countries. African experts were also urged to initiate procedures for co-operation and exchange of observers among themselves. The meeting also urged United Nations and ECA to set up ad hoc training courses, in co-operation with interested Governments, both at regional and national levels on different aspects of census and surveys techniques and agreed that in this, the experience of FAO in training personnel for agricultural censuses in collaboration with the Governments of the USA and France would be extremely useful.

#### (g) World Fertility Survey

136. The meeting noted that among the committees proposed by the international statistical institutes to be established in connexion with the World Fertility Survey was one on regional co-ordination, comprising primarily representatives of the regional economic commissions.

137. The Meeting also noted the support of the Survey by the United Nations Population Division, the mutual support of the work of the United Nations in the population field, and the enhancement of the value of the survey by continued co-ordination with the United Nations and the regional economic commissions, especially in respect of the work to be undertaken at the regional and country level.

138. The Meeting reiterated the importance of co-ordination of the World Fertility Survey with the African Census Programme in countries where they were in operation in order to avoid duplication of efforts and to enhance the rational use of resources.

(h) Other activities

139. The Meeting noted the plans for the World Population Institute, the World Population Conference and the World Population Year (1974) as evolved by the United Nations Population Commission, the Preparatory Committee for the World Population Conference and the Ad Hoc Sub-Committee on Population and as reported to the second meeting of the Regional Inter-Agency Co-ordination on Population.

140. The Meeting noted in this connexion that in preparing country statements for the World Population Conference and in setting up national committees for celebrating the World Population Year in the countries, assistance from the United Nations would be required and the ECA secretariat agreed to help the countries in this respect.



## VI ANY OTHER BUSINESS

### Next meeting

141. Noting that the annual regional co-ordination meetings on population have been approved at the tenth session of ECA (First Conference of Ministers), the Meeting agreed on the importance of such co-ordination meetings with the participation of the representatives of ECA, the United Nations and its agencies, inter-governmental organizations, non-African Governments, non-governmental organizations and African member States of the United Nations Population Commission.

142. The Meeting agreed that it would meet next at the ECA headquarters in Addis Ababa in April 1973 for three days following the third Regional Inter-Agency Co-ordination Meeting on Population.

143. The Meeting also recommended that the ECA secretariat explore the possibility of financing the participation, as required, of African inter-governmental organizations.

## VII. RECOMMENDATIONS

144. The recommendations of the Meeting are summarized below:

### Organizations of the Second African Population Conference

(1) The Second African Population Conference should be organized as an inter-governmental conference with the sole sponsorship of the United Nations and ECA and with the fullest collaboration of the United Nations agencies, the representatives of which would, along with representatives of selected African countries form the Preparatory Committee, to which the non-United Nations organizations could be invited as observers. The Meeting also agreed that, in addition to the plenary sessions, it would be useful to organize special working group meetings on specific topics at the Conference.

### Formulation of multiple-interest and joint projects

(2) Representatives of the agencies were requested to ascertain the interest of their organizations in specific population projects of the ECA secretariat in order that multiple-interest and joint projects could be identified.

### Preparation of consolidated list of projects and experts

(3) The Meeting reiterated the decision that ECA publish from time to time a consolidated list of projects of all organizations working in population and related fields in the African countries. ECA was requested to obtain this information from all the organizations and to arrange to circulate this to them as well as to the African countries. The list of projects is to include meetings organized by the different agencies and the staff assigned to the region.

### Co-ordination at the national level

(4) ECA was urged to encourage and help the African countries in setting up appropriate co-ordinating machineries so that the best use could be made of the available internal and external resources and the expertise of officials in different government departments, universities, and institutions are pooled together.

### Demographic training

(5) The ECA secretariat was requested to follow up the question of teaching French at the Regional Institute for Population Studies in Accra and of teaching English at the Regional Institute for Population Studies in Yaoundé, as recommended at the fifth session of the Conference of African Statisticians. ECA agreed to publicize information on training courses, organized among others by the United States Bureau of Census, through the African Population Newsletter.

### African Census Programme

(6) The Consultative Group on the African Census Programme should become a permanent committee so that the African Census Programme could become among others a device to ensure that census and survey operations become a continuing activity of the African countries with a view to undertaking population censuses periodically and continuing surveys on vital rates as well as on the interrelations of population growth with economic and social development.

(7) The Meeting endorsed the recommendations of the first session of the Conference of African Demographers in which the United Nations and ECA were requested to devote means, either through fellowships or study tours, by which experts from one country could observe the survey operations in other countries. African experts were also urged to initiate procedure for co-operation and exchange of observers among themselves.

(8) The Meeting also asked the United Nations and ECA to set up ad hoc training courses, in co-operation with interested governments, both at regional and national levels on different aspects of census and survey techniques and agreed that in this, the experience of FAO in training personnel for agricultural censuses in collaboration with the Governments of United States and France will be extremely useful.

(9) The Meeting reiterated the importance of co-ordinating the World Fertility Survey with the African Census Programme in countries where they are in operation in order to avoid duplication of efforts and to enhance the rational use of the sources.

### Third World Population Conference and World Population Year, 1974

(10) The Meeting noted that in preparing country statements for the World Population Conference and in setting up national committees for celebrating the World Population Year in the countries, assistance from the United Nations would be required and the ECA secretariat agreed to help the countries in this respect.

### Regional co-ordination meetings on population

(11) Noting that the annual regional co-ordination meetings on population had been approved at the tenth session of ECA (First Conference of Ministers), the Meeting agreed on the importance of such co-ordination meetings with the participation of the representatives of ECA, the United Nations and its agencies, inter-governmental organizations, non-African Governments, non-governmental organizations and African member States of the United Nations Population Commission. The Meeting recommended that the ECA secretariat explore the possibility of financing the participation, as required, of African inter-governmental organizations at the regional meeting of non-United Nations organizations interested in population work in Africa.

(12) The directors of the United Nations sponsored regional demographic training centres should be invited to attend subsequent regional co-ordination meetings.

#### VIII. CLOSING SESSION

145. The Meeting concluded with a closing address by the Chairman, who thanked the representatives of member States and associate member States of the Commission, other member States of the United Nations, the United Nations agencies, and the inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations for their participation and co-operation. He also conveyed to the participants the assurances of continued support to the co-ordinating activities from the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, Mr. Robert K.A. Gardiner.

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