



Cairo Work Schedule, Procedures, etc.

"ICPD 94", No. 16

June 1994

Newsletter of the International Conference on Population and Development

Cairo, Egypt, 5-13 September 1994

CAIRO WORK SCHEDULE, PROCEDURES OUTLINED IN LETTER TO GOVERNMENTS

Formal invitations to the International Conference on Population and Development were extended to all Governments by the Secretary-General of the United Nations in a note verbale on 13 May, a clear sign that ICPD will soon be under way. Countries have since been sent details of Conference arrangements, as part of ongoing efforts by the Secretary-General of the Conference to inform those who will transform the extensive ICPD preparations into a Programme of Action in population and development for the next 20 years.

With the last session of the ICPD Preparatory Committee (PrepCom III) over, in addition to matters like the booking of flights to Cairo and hotel rooms, attention has turned to final preparations for the Conference. To facilitate this process, an informal consultation on ICPD was held in New York on 3 June.

A 25 May letter to all participating countries from the Secretary-General of the Conference, Dr. Nafis Sadik, notes that in addition to negotiation of the draft Programme of Action which is to be further negotiated and finalized in Cairo, PrepCom III in April approved the draft provisional rules of procedure for the Conference, which have been forwarded to the UN General Assembly for adoption. Dr. Sadik's letter describes these rules, and offers some comments and suggestions, summarized below:

HIGH-LEVEL REPRESENTATION

The Conference will open on Monday, 5 September, at 10 am, at the Cairo International Conference Centre. According to General Assembly resolution 47/176 the head of each delegation should be at the ministerial level or higher. "The response to this request has been uniformly positive," Dr. Sadik reports. Several Heads of State or Government have indicated they will participate.

Each participating Government's Head of State or Foreign

Minister is asked to provide the UN Secretariat with the names of

its delegates well in advance of the Conference, and if possible to

submit their credentials at least a week beforehand. Registration

of delegates has been set to begin at 9 am on 25 August. The

registration site in Cairo has not yet been specified, but it will

be near the Conference site and easily accessible to all

delegations.

In her letter, Dr. Sadik reiterates her hope that national delegations will be gender balanced, and will include parliamentarians and representatives of non-governmental organizations and of various sectors and national groups with

important roles to play in implementing population and development strategies.

In accordance with established practice at UN conferences, preliminary consultations will be held on 3 and 4 September at the Conference site to address procedural and organizational matters which are to be taken up on the opening day. These include election of officers, composition of the Conference General Committee, adoption of the agenda and organization of work, and arrangements for preparing the report of the Conference.

From the representatives of participating States, the

Conference will elect a President, 27 Vice-Presidents (from Africa,

7; Asia, 6; Latin America and the Caribbean, 5; Western Europe and
others, 6; and Eastern Europe, 3), an ex officio Vice-President

from the host country, a Rapporteur-General, and the Chairman of
the Conference's Main Committee.

The Conference's general debate will take place in plenary meetings from 5-9 September. Participants are expected to focus on experiences in population and development strategies and programmes (item 8 of the provisional agenda).

A separate Main Committee will meet in parallel with the plenary from 5-9 September to complete negotiations on the Programme of Action of the Conference (item 9), resolving those sections of the draft text that are currently awaiting final resolution in Cairo. The Committee will then submit its report on the Programme of Action to the plenary.

representatives from each region, will prepare a draft report on the Conference's background, proceedings and decisions, including an account of the Main Committee's recommendations and the action taken on them in plenary meetings. After the report and the Programme of Action are adopted by the Conference, they will be submitted to the UN General Assembly at its 49th session, which will start its proceedings one week after ICPD concludes.

INFORMAL CONSULTATION HELD

At the request of PrepCom III, Dr. Sadik convened a half-day informal consultation on ICPD in New York on 3 June. This focused on the issues that are still outstanding. The meeting also provided an opportunity to brief delegations on developments since the PrepCom. In addition, Dr. Sadik outlined proposed arrangements for any intersessional discussions in which delegations might wish to exchange views on those portions of the draft Programme of Action that still remain to be agreed on. It is understood by all parties that such discussions would not be negotiations, but rather part of an effort to facilitate and accelerate negotiations in Cairo.

Emphasizing the importance of PrepCom III, Dr. Sadik noted that it transformed both the content and status of the draft Programme of Action. She said the draft is now much stronger than the text submitted by the ICPD Secretariat in many areas, including the empowerment of women, education, the family, partnership with non-governmental organizations, and follow-up to the Conference. She observed wryly that despite repeated calls by delegates for a more concise draft, the document approved by the PrepCom is 45 per cent longer than the earlier version.

Referring to the status of the document, she stated: "It is now a text negotiated by and therefore the property of delegations and the countries they represent. Everything in the revised draft, including the bracketed texts, is at the instruction of national delegations at PrepCom III."

Dr. Sadik reported that the document is now being distributed widely in the final, unedited, English-language version. Several thousand copies have already been produced, and demand is increasing. She advised that the official version is expected to be available in the six UN languages by the end of June, nine weeks before the Conference. Every effort will be taken, Dr. Sadik said, to ensure that the document reaches all concerned well before they depart for Cairo. This was warmly welcomed by participants.

President Soeharto of Indonesia and Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland of Norway have confirmed that they will attend ICPD, Dr. Sadik announced. She added that she expects 10 or more heads of State to participate in the Conference.

Turning to the draft Programme of Action, Dr. Sadik recalled that most of the attention at PrepCom III was focused on detailed negotiations of Chapters 3-16 of the document, with little time for consideration of Chapters 1 (Preamble) and 2 (Principles). She noted that there was agreement that revised versions of these two chapters presented by Preparatory Committee Chairman Dr. Fred Sai would be included in the draft Programme of Action for further negotiation and approval in Cairo.

Dr. Sadik welcomed the willingness of Canada to coordinate informal discussions among international participants prior to the

Conference, in an effort to build consensus on the substance of these two chapters.

Similarly, Dr. Sadik welcomed the willingness of India and Indonesia to act as joint coordinators of informal discussions concerning the quantitative goals proposed in the draft Programme of Action. These goals are in three areas: infant, child and maternal mortality; education, especially for girls; and universal access to family planning information and services, within the context of reproductive health services.

Dr. Sadik emphasized that the goals adopted in Cairo will have to be realistic, but also ambitious enough to reflect a meaningful commitment by both developed and developing countries to progress in these important areas.

A third area where more work will be required concerns the language and figures -- the breakdown, levels and sources -- of the financial resources proposed in the draft Programme of Action.

These deal with basic reproductive health services including family planning; programmes for the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS; and population data, policy and research needs. The Netherlands will facilitate ongoing informal discussions in this regard. Dr. Sadik expressed optimism that these discussions will result in early resolution of outstanding questions on resource estimates.

Half a dozen speakers, some on behalf of groups of countries, then commented briefly on the areas of unfinished discussion.

Greece, speaking for the European Union, expressed optimism that agreement on Chapters 1 and 2 and on the proposed goals could be reached without great difficulty. However, the representative said, both the methodology used to estimate resource needs and the actual figures would be core issues for Cairo. He also suggested that the alternative wording proposed by the European Union for paragraph 8.25 (contained in the draft Programme as paragraph 8.25 bis) provides a good basis for compromise in regard to unsafe abortion, and this could in turn facilitate the resolution of other definitional disputes.

Algeria, speaking for the Group of 77 and China, called for a more precise Preamble, and fewer principles in Chapter 2. The representative said he hoped that in Cairo all donor countries would follow the lead of those donors that have already indicated a readiness to commit additional resources. Discussion of goals, he stated, must take account of each country's stage of development, as well as the availability of resources.

Canada proposed holding an ad hoc informal meeting on Chapters 1 and 2 during the period of 11-15 July, the third week of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). The representative noted that the 49th World Health Assembly had just approved a number of resolutions related to the goals proposed in the draft Programme. Based on what was accomplished at PrepCom III, she voiced optimism that the 5 per cent of the draft Programme of Action not yet agreed on would be resolved in Cairo.

Ambassador Nicolaas Biegman of the Netherlands pledged to work to facilitate an informal understanding on resource issues prior to the Conference. He suggested that one or more open-ended informal meetings on resources, also to be held at the time of the ECOSOC session in New York (27 June-29 July), could prove highly useful.

Other statements were made by Ghana, the United States, Senegal and Morocco.

In conclusion, Dr. Sadik summarized some of the organizational issues described in her letter to UN Missions, and noted that she expects Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali to address the opening plenary on 5 September.

She reiterated that while there will be informal discussion on aspects of the draft Programme of Action, no actual negotiation will take place prior to the Conference. She added that any informal meetings that might be called by any of the coordinators (Canada, India, Indonesia and the Netherlands) would be duly announced in advance the UN Journal.

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Calendar of Upcoming events

"ICPD 94", No. 16 June 1994 Newsletter of the International Conference on Population and Development Cairo, Egypt, 5-13 September 1994 CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS 1994 27 June-29 July United Nations Headquarters, New York Substantive session of the United Nations Economic and Social Council. 22 August-2 September United Nations Headquarters, New York Second session of the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit for Social Development.

Cairo, Egypt

Pre-Conference intergovernmental consultations.

5-13 September

Cairo, Egypt

International Conference on Population and Development.

Mid-September-mid-December

United Nations Headquarters,

Population and Development.

New York

49th session of the United Nations General Assembly.

Consideration of the Report of the International Conference on

26-30 September

Mar del Plata, Argentina

Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Preparatory Conference for the Fourth World Conference on Women.

17-21 October

Vienna, Austria

European Regional Preparatory Conference for the Fourth World Conference on Women.

6-10 November

Amman, Jordan

Western Asia Regional Preparatory Conference for the Fourth World Conference on Women.

14-17 November

Dakar, Senegal

African Regional Preparatory Conference for the Fourth World Conference on Women.

1995

16-17 January

United Nations Headquarters,

New York

Third session of the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit for Social Development.

6-12 March

Copenhagen, Denmark

World Summit for Social Development.

26 June

San Francisco, USA

Commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Charter.

4-15 September

Beijing, China

Fourth World Conference on Women.

22-24 October

United Nations Headquarters

New York

Special commemorative meeting of the United Nations General

Assembly on the 50th anniversary of the United Nations.

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Development

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New Book Offers Critical Look at Population Policies

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NEW BOOK OFFERS CRITICAL LOOK AT POPULATION POLICIES

The ethical basis, objectives and methods of current population policies are critically examined in a new book, "Population Policies Reconsidered: Health, Empowerment and Rights", edited by Gita Sen, Adrienne Germain and Lincoln C. Chen. The book was published jointly by the International Women's Health Coalition and the Harvard University Center for Population and Development Studies (distributed by Harvard University Press, Boston, \$14.95), with funding from the Swedish International Development Authority.

In this collection, introduced by the editors at a reception during PrepCom III, a number of scholars, activists and policy makers in the fields of reproductive health, family planning and population policy offer a variety of analyses underscoring three major themes:

- + Population policies should reflect a fundamental commitment to ethics and human rights.
- + Population policies can only be effective and humane as part of broader approaches to human development.
- + Priority should be given to empowering women and providing reproductive and sexual health services.

Following an overview by the editors, the book's first section, "Premises Reconsidered", focuses on the underlying assumptions of current population policies, and present arguments for changing these policies. The author writes that in recent debates about population and family planning programmes, underlying ethical issues have often been ignored; clear ethical guidelines are essential, she argues, as a basis for both policy formulation and implementation.

The second chapter proposes "Setting a New Agenda: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights". This agenda includes broader information and services for women, programmes to encourage men to take responsibility for their own sexual behaviour, and research and other action to promote healthful and equitable sexuality and gender relations.

Linkages between population and the environment are not easy to document, and do not justify narrow population policies, the third chapter contends. Policies that use a participatory approach and address broader issues of human development are effective and have moral value.

The next chapter argues that individual well-being and freedom are far more important than any rationale for population control in the interest of the social good. The final chapter in this section describes the women's health movement's agenda, and how women have succeeded in making their voices heard nationally and internationally.

Section II, "Human Rights and Reproductive Rights", looks at existing international documents and declarations on population, women and human rights. The authors deplore the fact that when human rights abuses occur in population programmes, there is no legal basis for correcting them. They recommend that population policies be reformulated based on respect for individual human rights and gender equity.

Another chapter defines reproductive and sexual rights on the basis of four principles: bodily integrity, personhood, equality and respect for diversity.

The two last sections of the book review programme strategies and methods that translate the proposed vision into action. Section III, "Gender and Empowerment", focuses on the promotion of social change necessary to empower women. One chapter seeks to define empowerment, the process of challenging existing power relations and gaining greater control over resources. Empowerment not only implies changes for individual women, it concludes; it also requires changes in society.

Population and development policies should recognize and alleviate, rather than exacerbate, women's already heavy burdens of

household maintenance, child-bearing and child-rearing and work outside the home, states the next chapter's author. This requires increased investment in infrastructural arrangements like water supply and sanitation.

Section IV, "Reproductive and Sexual Health Services"

describes how family planning programmes can be changed to provide reproductive and sexual health services more effectively. Several required actions are outlined, including: redefining the objectives of family planning programmes; improving their quality and effectiveness; expanding their coverage to reach all those in need, including young people; improving fertility regulation technologies; and allocating resources more productively.

Throughout the book, the authors emphasize that investing in people's health, empowerment, and human rights is not only worthwhile in its own right; it will probably be more effective in stabilizing population growth than policies that explicitly try to achieve that outcome. Policies founded on concerns for health, empowerment and human rights would result in new programme approaches and closer collaboration with other development sectors, and complement current approaches to sustainable human development. Adopting this perspective in formulating population policies would lead not only to smaller families, but to improved welfare and well-being for millions of people.

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News for the NGOs

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NEWS FOR THE NGOS

FROM THE ICPD SECRETARIAT

The final, unedited English-language version of the ICPD draft

Programme of Action is being mailed to accredited non-governmental

organizations that function in English. NGOs that use other

official UN languages (Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and

Spanish) will be sent the draft Programme as soon as it is

available in these languages, towards the end of June.

Accredited NGOs will also receive copies of the "Earth Negotiations Bulletin" summary of PrepCom III, widely considered to be one of the most useful and informative sources of information in ICPD.

Information concerning NGO registration procedures in Cairo will be made available, through "ICPD 94" and the NGO Planning

Committee for the ICPD, as soon as they are finalized.

To help assure a smooth registration process for all NGO participants at the Conference, ACCREDITED NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS MUST PROVIDE THE NGO UNIT OF THE ICPD SECRETARIAT WITH THE FULL NAMES OF THEIR REPRESENTATIVES, IN WRITING, BY 15 JULY. Failure to do so may result in lengthy delays in registering in Cairo. All NGO representatives should carry with them to Cairo proof of their NGO affiliation. Copies of letters or faxes to the ICPD Secretariat which list their names could also facilitate the process.

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FROM THE NGO PLANNING COMMITTEE FOR THE ICPD

Many NGOs have already registered to attend the NGO Forum '94, which will be held at the National Covered Stadium Complex, a 10-minute walk from the Cairo International Conference Centre where the Conference itself will take place.

PLEASE NOTE: REGISTRATION FOR THE NGO FORUM IS DISTINCT FROM REGISTRATION FOR THE CONFERENCE. NGO members who plan to come to Cairo are asked to submit a completed participant registration form along with the \$50 registration fee to the NGO Planning Committee before 1 August.

Registered participants may pick up their identification badges beginning 31 August, outside the Complex at a site to be announced. ONLY REGISTERED NGO PARTICIPANTS WITH PASSES, AND ACCREDITED MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA OR NATIONAL DELEGATIONS, WILL BE

Exhibit booths for NGOs to display their work or sell handicrafts, for instance, are still available for a rental fee of \$200 (\$250 with electrical outlet); interested groups should contact the NGO Planning Committee. Two or three NGOs from a single country might consider sharing a booth if funds are scarce. NGOs can also display literature about their programmes without charge in a separate Resource Room, where visitors will be able to browse and collect materials.

The programme for the NGO Forum is now being drafted, and is expected to be finalized and distributed by the end of July. Groups that have registered to hold events will receive notices regarding their timing.

Travel and lodging for NGO Forum participants can be arranged through EMECO Travel in Cairo (telephone: 20-2-574-9360; fax: 20-2-574-4212; callers in North America may reach an EMECO representative at 800-482-4480). Accommodation in military guest houses and the Olympic Village facility will be available for less than \$40 per night (double occupancy).

Questions regarding logistics and programming at the NGO Forum should be referred to the NGO Planning Committee for the ICPD, 777 UN Plaza, 8th floor, New York, NY 10017, USA (telephone: 212-545-7344; fax: 212-545-7581).

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News in Brief

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NEWS IN BRIEF

The Commission on Sustainable Development, at its second session, held in New York from 16-27 May, adopted a decision on changing consumption and production patterns.

The decision calls on Governments and the private sector to encourage efficient use of energy and resources, minimize waste, and reinforce values that support sustainable consumption and production. Governments are urged to consider using pricing policy to internalize the costs of risk and damage to the environment. The UN Secretary-General is requested to prepare an analytical report on the use of economic instruments and other policy measures to change consumption patterns in developing countries.

The Commission was established to facilitate implementation of Agenda 21, the programme of action adopted at the United Nations

Conference on Environment and Development. Thirteen other decisions were adopted on issues of finance, trade and technology.

*

ICPD Secretary-General Dr. Nafis Sadik participated in a lively panel discussion held 27 May in connection with the Commission on Sustainable Development's session, on the topic of Women and Sustainable Development. Other panellists were: Nancy Barry, President, Women's World Banking; Sheila Copps, Canada's Minister for the Environment; Elizabeth Dowdeswell, UN Under-Secretary General and Director of the UN Environment Programme; and Chief Bisi Ogunleye of Nigeria.

In her remarks, Dr. Sadik emphasized that the reproductive role of women is closely linked to the environment and development. "The Programme of Action of ICPD," she noted, "is based on the recognition that the empowerment of women is essential for both the individual and broader development goals, and that their education, protection from discrimination and violence, and equitable participation in the decision-making process should be ensured."

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A strong statement on reproductive rights, women's health and maternal mortality was adopted in a 27 May ceremony in Cusco, Peru. The Inka Declaration on Reproductive Rights had 50 signers, including the Government of Peru's Inka Region (encompassing seven provinces), the Municipality of Cusco and a number of non-governmental organizations.

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"Funding the Future: Resources for Adolescent Health Programs in Developing Countries", has been updated and expanded. The publication is issued by Advocates for Youth (formerly the Center for Population Options), a Washington-based NGO (1025 Vermont Ave., N.W., Suite 200, Washington, D.C. 20005, USA). It lists organizations that provide direct or indirect financial or technical assistance to developing country programmes in adolescent health. The cost is \$9.60 including postage and handling.

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The recently concluded World Health Assembly in Geneva received a report by the Director-General of the World Health Organization, describing WHO's contributions to the ICPD preparatory process.

These include: a policy paper reviewing the organization's activities in the area of health, population and development; participation in ICPD expert group meetings; discussion of Conference objectives in meetings at all levels; establishment of a new unit to emphasize the interaction between health and family planning; special issues of "World Health" magazine and "World Health Statistics Quarterly" devoted to Conference themes; regional position papers, pamphlets and reference papers; and an international symposium on contraceptive research and development, organized jointly with the Government of Mexico.

*

Two prominent U.S. scientists have warned of "looming shortages of food" unless population growth eases and agricultural production improves significantly.

In a report sponsored by the Union of Concerned Scientists and published in "Ambio", environmental journal of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Professor Henry Kendall of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a Nobel laureate in physics, and David Pimentel, Cornell University professor of insect ecology and agricultural sciences, examine three scenarios for population growth and food supply. After considering the prospects for expanding the use of irrigation, fertilizer, pesticides and biotechnology to improve yields, they conclude that a significant reduction in world per capita food production is likely by 2050.

Only in the most optimistic scenario, if population growth stabilizes relatively rapidly and reaches 7.8 billion in 2050, is an adequate level of food production conceivable, they write. But this "would require a near doubling of today's production" through "a highly organized global effort -- by both the developed and developing countries -- that has no historic precedent".

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Population programmes must have a higher priority in national budgets, Margaret Catley-Carlson, President of The Population Council, testified 7 June at the World Hearings on Development, held at UN Headquarters in connection with the Secretary-General's recently released report, "An Agenda for Development".

The amounts required are small compared to military expenditures; devoting only 2 per cent of official development assistance to population could fund most needs, she added.

Resources should be focused on meeting women's unmet needs for contraception. Each country's level of development, the status of women, reductions in infant mortality, contraceptive use, and fertility are all closely related, she stated. All "must be part of the global agenda."

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Provisional Agenda of ICPD

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PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF ICPD

- 1. Opening of the Conference
- 2. Election of the President
- 3. Adoption of the rules of procedure
- 4. Adoption of the agenda
- 5. Election of officers other than the President
- 6. Organization of work, including the establishment of the Main

 Committee of the Conference
- 7. Credentials of representatives to the Conference
- 8. Experiences in population and development strategies and programmes
- 9. Programme of Action of the Conference
- 10. Other matters
- 11. Adoption of the report of the Conference

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Study Projects Demographic Impact of AIDS in Africa

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STUDY PROJECTS DEMOGRAPHIC IMPACT OF AIDS IN AFRICA

A recently issued United Nations study, "AIDS and the Demography of Africa", shows that population growth rates will remain high for each country in sub-Saharan Africa despite a devastating death toll from AIDS.

For the first time, the Population Division of the UN

Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis

(DESIPA) incorporated the potential demographic impact of AIDS in

its biennial population estimates and projections for 15 countries

of sub-Saharan Africa: Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central

African Republic, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique,

Rwanda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Zaire, Zambia and

Zimbabwe.

Nine million additional deaths are projected in the 15

countries by the year 2005 because of the AIDS pandemic; 61 per cent of these will occur in Uganda, Zaire, Tanzania and Zambia.

>From 2000 to 2005, the region's average life expectancy will be 51.2 years, 6.5 years lower than what would be expected in the absence of AIDS; in Uganda, life expectancy will be just 42.9, 11.1 years lower than that expected in the absence of AIDS and 4.5 years lower than the average life span in 1975-1980.

Those numbers show that, unlike recent experience, mortality is increasing in sub-Saharan Africa. Moreover, the largest mortality impacts of AIDS are in the prime working and family-care years. Enormous economic and social strains could result. The size and productivity of countries' industrial and rural labour forces may be affected, undermining vital industries and agricultural production on a continent beset by chronic food and caloric shortages. Patterns of caregiving for both children and the elderly are also likely to be severely tested.

Despite the staggering AIDS death toll, substantial population increases are projected for the 15 countries due to continued high fertility rates, even in the four countries where the epidemic is most severe. The region's total population in 2005 is projected to be 297.9 million, more than double the 138.4 million persons in 1980. This figure, however, will be nearly 12.4 million (or 4 per cent) less than would be expected in the absence of AIDS.

"AIDS and the Demography of Africa" (Sales No. E.94.XIII.11) may be obtained for \$30 from the Sales Section, United Nations, New York or Geneva; or by writing to the Director, Population Division, DESIPA, United Nations, New York, NY 10017, USA.

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World Population Day to Focus on ICPD Themes

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WORLD POPULATION DAY TO FOCUS ON ICPD THEMES

The eighth annual World Population Day will be celebrated world-wide on 11 July 1994. Last year, activities marking the occasion took place in more than 110 countries.

According to Dr. Nafis Sadik, Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and Secretary-General of ICPD, this year's celebration will help draw attention to the upcoming Cairo Conference and to its themes of "choices and responsibilities" -- the basic right and responsibility of couples and individuals to make informed choices about child-bearing, and the responsibility of societies to help them in achieving their reproductive goals.

To promote World Population Day, UNFPA's Information and External Relations Division has produced a colourful poster, a 15-minute video (available in English, French and Spanish) emphasizing

maternal health, and a special pamphlet and a new edition of the "Population Issues Briefing Kit" (both in English, French, Spanish and Arabic). The kit outlines the major issues to be addressed at ICPD.

UNFPA is also sponsoring a 5-15 July exhibit at UN

Headquarters, featuring photos and text from "Material World: A

Global Family Portrait", a book to be published in October. The

book, by Peter Menzel, will document an extraordinary project in

which 16 prominent photographers travelled to 30 countries to

photograph typical families surrounded by all their possessions -
in some cases a few jars and jugs, in others an abundance of

electronic gadgetry.

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