Thirty-fourth session
26 May-19 June 1987, New York
Item 6 of the provisional agenda
UNFPA

UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES
PROPOSED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES
Recommendation by the Executive Director

Global Programme of Training in Population and Development

Establishment of an international training course in population and development at the Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum, Kerala State, India

Proposed assistance: UNFPA: $1,650,000
Government of India: $712,333
Duration: Five years (1987-1991)
Estimated starting date: January 1987
Executing agency: Centre for Development Studies

Establishment of an international course on training in population and development at the Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, Netherlands

Proposed assistance: UNFPA: $1,350,000
Government of the Netherlands: $1,476,750
Duration: Five years (1987-1991)
Estimated starting date: February 1987
Executing agency: Institute of Social Studies

Establishment of co-ordinating mechanisms for the Global Programme of Training in Population and Development

Proposed assistance: UNFPA: $950,000
Duration: Five years (1986-1990)
Starting date: October 1986
Executing agency: UNFPA
INTRODUCTION

1. Aware of the shortage of persons trained in population and development and in accordance with the recommendations of the 1984 International Conference on Population on this subject, particularly recommendations 75 and 81, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) has decided to sponsor, jointly with interested Governments and institutions, a global programme of training and research in population and development. This Programme is designed to enhance the capabilities of mid-career professionals in integrating and operationalizing the linkages between population and development in the policy and planning processes. In particular, the Programme addresses itself to staff members of national planning commissions or units, ministries of health or social development, population programme officers and individuals with operational responsibilities at the field level. It is envisaged that the Global Programme would eventually include long-term courses, of approximately 10 months' duration, to be offered in several languages, and short-term courses, of approximately 3 months' duration, focusing on specific population and development issues, e.g., population and health or population and rural development.

2. The Executive Director of UNFPA recommended to the Governing Council at its thirty-third session that it endorse the establishment of a global programme of training and research in population and development and approve the first project component of this Global Programme - the establishment of an International Centre for Training and Research in Population and Development in Association with the United Nations at the Catholic University of Louvain (UCL), Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium (DP/FPA/PROJECTS/REC/33, para. 14). The Governing Council was also informed of ongoing consultations between UNFPA and the Governments of India and the Netherlands regarding the establishment of long-term training courses at selected institutions in their respective countries (ibid., para. 5). In its decision 86/34V of 27 June 1986, the Governing Council approved UNFPA assistance for the International Centre at UCL in the amount of $1,686,000 over a five-year period and authorized UNFPA to seek multi-bilateral support for the training course, specifically $1,197,000 in assistance from the Government of Belgium. Pursuant to the approval of the Governing Council, an agreement was signed in the fall of 1986 by the Government of Belgium and UNFPA for the establishment of an international long-term training course at UCL primarily for mid-career officials from French-speaking developing countries. During 1986 agreement was also reached with the Government of India to launch a course at the Centre for Development Studies (CDS) at Trivandrum, Kerala State, and with the Government of the Netherlands to set up a course at the Institute of Social Studies (ISS) at The Hague. Both of these long-term courses are designed to provide post-university training in population and development for mid-career officials, primarily from English-speaking developing countries. During the past year co-ordinating mechanisms for the Global Programme of Training in Population and Development were also developed (see table 1).
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>UNFPA</th>
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a/ Allocations as revised in discussions between UNFPA and the Government of Belgium in November 1986.

b/ Anticipated budgetary rephases.

c/ Future assistance by the Government of the Netherlands will be considered after an evaluation of the training project.

d/ Continuation of project INT/86/P46 for the programming period 1991-1994 will be considered in late 1990.
3. Accordingly, the following three projects are now being presented for the approval of the Governing Council:

   (a) Establishment of an International Training Course in Population and Development at the Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum, Kerala State, India;

   (b) Establishment of an International Course on Training in Population and Development at the Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, Netherlands;

   (c) Establishment of co-ordinating mechanisms for the Global Programme of Training in Population and Development.

I. BACKGROUND

4. In document DP/FPA/PROJECTS/REC/33, a detailed account of the rationale and strategy for the Global Programme of Training in Population and Development and its component elements was presented to the Governing Council.

5. During 1986 significant efforts were undertaken to initiate the Global Programme and its associated component projects. As indicated above, the project agreement for the long-term training course at UCL was signed by the Government of Belgium and UNFPA. Agreement was reached between the Government of India and UNFPA for joint support totalling approximately $2.4 million for the establishment of a long-term training course at CDS, Trivandrum. The Government of India would fund personnel, equipment and the rental of premises, in addition to providing the land for and partial financing of the construction of a computer building as well as land for an international student hostel. UNFPA would provide for personnel, research, fellowships, equipment, travel, evaluation and sundry costs. An agreement was also formulated between the Government of the Netherlands and UNFPA for joint assistance totalling approximately $2.8 million for the establishment of a long-term training course at ISS, The Hague. The Government of the Netherlands would fund personnel, research, administrative and sundry expenses. UNFPA would provide for personnel, fellowships, equipment, reporting and printing and sundry expenses. The projects for the CDS and ISS courses were approved by UNFPA, subject to the approval of the Governing Council, in order to allow for the organization of the administrative infrastructure before the commencement of training activities in, respectively, August and September 1987.

6. Owing to the complexity and diversity of activities involved in the establishment and implementation of the Global Programme of Training in Population and Development, a modality is needed for the co-ordination of the component training courses. Thus, in 1986 a project for the establishment of the co-ordinating mechanisms for the Global Programme was also approved by UNFPA, subject to Governing Council approval. Support totalling $943,920 over a five-year period, primarily for the office of an international co-ordinator and an international advisory committee, would be provided by UNFPA. This funding would be distinct from, and in addition to, the share of UNFPA resources required for any of the component training courses.
7. In October 1986 the International Co-ordinator of the Global Programme was appointed. Because the occupant of this post also fulfils the function of International Director of the International Centre for Training and Research in Population and Development in Association with the United Nations at UCL, the International Co-ordinator is resident in Brussels.

8. In December 1986 a meeting of the Directors of the training courses at CDS, ISS and UCL, the International Co-ordinator and representatives of UNFPA was held at The Hague. The objective of the meeting was to co-ordinate common administrative processes (e.g., preparation and distribution of announcement brochures and application forms, processes for nomination and selection of candidates), synchronize the timetables for implementation of the component programmes and ensure complementarity and harmony of the course curricula.

9. During the December meeting it was decided that in general the long-term training courses in population and development being offered at CDS, ISS and UCL would be similar in design and orientation. The approximately 10-month training courses would be interdisciplinary in nature and oriented towards the actual application of planning techniques. Through lectures, seminars, workshops, directed research activities and field trips, the programmes would seek to familiarize students with the operational problems which arise in the course of pursuing an integrated approach to population and development. Each course would integrate theory, method and application. Theories of population in relation to development would be reviewed and methods of analysis of population dynamics would be presented, the ultimate objective being the applied integration of population and development in the policy and planning processes. Each course would also provide supplementary training, as needed, in support skills such as statistics, mathematics and computer sciences. In addition to providing general training in integrating population and development, each course would emphasize a particular aspect of population and development interrelationships, based on the sectoral strengths of the respective institution. At CDS the emphasis would be on population, social change and health; at ISS, on urbanization, population distribution and regional development; and at UCL, on socio-cultural systems, rural development and food strategies.

10. The first meeting of the International Advisory Committee was convened by UNFPA in New York in April 1987. Participants included appropriate representatives of United Nations agencies and organizations, the International Co-ordinator of the Global Programme, the directors of the courses at CDS, ISS and UCL and selected international experts in sectoral areas of population and development. The objective of the meeting was to provide substantive recommendations for consideration by UNFPA regarding harmonization of the component training courses, the curricula content of the individual training courses, applicability of various training methodologies, including utilization of computer technology, and the critical areas for research in population and development.

11. Technical co-operation among developing countries will be encouraged within the overall Global Programme and its component courses by inviting international consultants from developing countries to lecture and by inviting individuals from developing countries, with expertise in sectoral elements of population and
12. Management. According to the present arrangements, the individual centres where the UNFPA training courses are being sponsored will be responsible for the implementation of their own projects. Thus, while the International Advisory Committee may set broad policy guidelines within which the various training courses may operate, the individual centres will be totally responsible for the administrative, substantive and financial aspects of the training courses, subject to UNFPA rules and regulations.

13. Evaluation. In view of the innovative nature of the Global Programme, a number of activities for monitoring and evaluation of the component courses will be undertaken each year during the entire cycle of the projects. Representatives of the respective institutions, the International Co-ordinator of the Global Programme and UNFPA headquarters, field and technical officers will be involved in these exercises. On an annual basis, internal evaluation immediately preceding the completion of the course and tripartite meetings immediately following the six-month project progress reports will be undertaken. At mid-point in the projects, the Governments of India and the Netherlands and UNFPA will undertake an interim evaluation to ascertain if the objectives of the respective courses are being achieved and the need, if any, for revising certain aspects of the course.

II. ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COURSE IN POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT AT THE CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT STUDIES, TRIVANDRUM, KERALA STATE, INDIA

14. In the spring of 1985, in response to an interest expressed by the Government of India, UNFPA undertook a feasibility mission to discuss the setting up of a training course to be conducted in English at CDS. After another meeting in April 1986 among representatives of the Government of India, the government of Kerala State, CDS and UNFPA, a project document was formulated. This was thoroughly reviewed within the Fund and approved in principle pending approval by the Governing Council. In order for classes to commence in August 1987, approval has been given for pre-project activities.

15. The project calls for the establishment of an international long-term training course at CDS to be funded by the Government of India and UNFPA, with contributions to be made by the State of Kerala and CDS. CDS is to be the executing agency and would receive assistance from the network of UNFPA representatives in recruiting fellows for the programme. Selected project components will be executed directly by UNFPA for reasons of administrative efficiency.

16. CDS is a major national institute devoted to the promotion of research and teaching in disciplines relevant to development. The range of professional expertise at CDS is considerable: economic studies in agriculture, development,
health, population, nutrition and labour and industry; statistics; econometrics; planning; women's studies; agricultural marketing; social and economic history; and sociology. In all there are about 25 full-time and 20 honorary faculty members specialized in development studies. The training course at CDS will also draw upon the expertise of other institutes in India devoted to population or development studies, such as the International Institute of Population Studies (IPPS), Bombay; the Institute of Social and Economic Change, Bangalore; Kerala University; Jawahar Lal Nehru University, the Delhi School of Economics; the Institute of Economic Growth; the Indian Statistical Institute; and the Indian Institute of Management. The involvement of United Nations experts, especially from the United Nations regional commissions, will be encouraged.

17. Objectives and activities. CDS would carry out training and research in the field of population and development, with special emphasis on population, social change and health. It would provide advanced training for mid-career government officials and scientific and technical staff in key positions in government administration who are active in delineating and implementing policies and programmes in the population and development sectors. The 10-month course is designed to meet the needs of English-speaking candidates from developing countries. It is expected that 20 trainees would be funded annually by UNFPA and that the Government of India would sponsor and fund up to four national fellows. Eventually the course could accommodate additional fellows funded by other sources.

18. Management. CDS is an autonomous institution, overseen by a governing body composed of distinguished academicians and scholars from all regions of India. The Governing Body, in which all decision-making powers in policy matters are vested, has directed that an advisory committee be specifically constituted to provide guidance on the implementation and monitoring of course activities. The 10 members of the Advisory Committee will include four nominees of the Governing Body of COS; the Director of CDS; the Course Co-ordinator of the CDS training course; a representative of the Ministry of Health, Government of India; a representative of the State Planning Board, Government of Kerala State; an official of UNFPA; and the International Co-ordinator of the Global Programme. The Director of CDS will have primary responsibility for the implementation of the training course; he will also serve as the main contact and liaison with UNFPA through the International Co-ordinator, as well as the Government of India and that of Kerala State. A faculty committee will have ultimate responsibility for the course curricula and the research activities; it will also appoint the Course Co-ordinator, as well as appoint the committee to select candidates for the training course, and will recommend successful candidates for the award of the diploma by the Jawahar Lal Nehru University in New Delhi. The Course Co-ordinator will be responsible for the organization of lectures, workshops, identification of national and international experts and other daily administrative matters. The Course Co-ordination Committee will design the contents of the curricula, co-ordinate the various inputs to the training course, identify and undertake the needed research for training and monitor the academic progress of the students.

19. Financial summary. The total cost of this project is estimated at approximately $2.4 million with the following annual distribution:
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<td>48 583</td>
<td>50 750</td>
<td>53 083</td>
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<td>UNFPA</td>
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<td>348 030</td>
<td>339 908</td>
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<tr>
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<td>379 348</td>
<td>398 780</td>
<td>392 991</td>
<td>401 507</td>
<td>2 357 891</td>
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</table>

20. In accordance with agreement reached in June 1985, the course would be funded by UNFPA and the Government of India, with contributions to be made by the government of Kerala State and CDS. UNFPA would provide for personnel, research, fellowships, equipment, travel, evaluation and sundry costs. The Government of India, the government of Kerala State and CDS would fund personnel, equipment and the rental of premises, in addition to providing the land for and the partial financing of the construction of a computer building and land for an international student hostel. A special expert committee has been constituted to assess the computer requirements for the training course. Each year the annual allocations for the project would be transferred by the Government of India and UNFPA in accordance with their respective financial rules and regulations, to a separate bank account for the programme set up by CDS, the executing agency for this project.

21. Work plan. Pre-project activities, encompassing the institutional, administrative and logistical arrangements necessary for the operation of the course were initiated in October 1986 and the first academic year is scheduled to commence in August 1987.

III. ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL COURSE ON TRAINING IN POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT AT THE INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL STUDIES, THE HAGUE, NETHERLANDS

22. In April 1985, in response to an interest expressed by the Government of the Netherlands in late 1984, UNFPA undertook a feasibility mission to discuss the setting up of a course with ISS in association with the Netherlands Inter-university Demographic Institute (NIDI), both located at The Hague. After another meeting in November 1986 among representatives of the Government of the Netherlands, ISS, NIDI and UNFPA, a project document was formulated. This was thoroughly reviewed within the Fund and approved in principle pending approval by the Governing Council. In order for classes to commence in September 1987, approval has been given for pre-project activities.

23. The project calls for the establishment of an international long-term training course at ISS to be funded by the Government of the Netherlands and UNFPA, with contributions in kind to be made by ISS. ISS is the executing agency for the course and will be assisted by NIDI with respect to research and training activities. ISS would receive assistance from the network of UNFPA representatives in recruiting fellows for the programme.
24. ISS is a post-graduate institute, offering degree and non-degree courses in development studies. Courses are policy-oriented and interdisciplinary, with particular concern for problems of poverty and inequality. Participants come primarily from developing countries and the staff is international in composition. In addition to its teaching function, the ISS faculty also undertakes research in response to the requirements of the teaching programmes and applied policy-oriented studies. Teaching and research activities include a wide range of areas, including development planning techniques, international relations and development, agricultural and rural development, urban-rural relations and metropolitan development, economic policy and planning, labour and development, regional development planning, women and development and international law and organization for development. NIDI carries out demographic research on an interdisciplinary basis, on both the national and the international levels. Research focuses \textit{inter alia} on the analysis of population trends and their determinants and consequences and on future demographic developments and includes both methodological and policy-oriented issues.

25. Objectives and activities. ISS would carry out training and research in the field of population and development, with emphasis on urbanization, population distribution and regional development. It would provide advanced training for mid-career government officials and scientific and technical staff in key positions in government who are active in delineating and implementing policies and programmes in the population and development sectors. The course is designed to meet the needs of English-speaking candidates from developing countries. The nine-month training course would be interdisciplinary in nature and oriented towards practical application. It is expected that 15 trainees would be funded annually by UNFPA, with up to a maximum of five additional fellows funded by other sources. It is envisaged that the training course will eventually be transferred to a developing country.

26. Management. ISS is an autonomous institution governed by a board of trustees composed of distinguished academicians and scholars. Decision-making powers on all policy matters are vested with this Board which delegates its executive power to a Rector whom it has appointed. The training course in population and development will come under the jurisdiction of the Rector who has the authority to agree to the sponsorship of the training course at ISS and to appoint the course convenor. The Course Convenor will be the source of liaison with UNFPA through the International Co-ordinator as concerns the implementation of the training and research course. This person will be responsible for the organization of the teaching and research activities and the day-to-day administrative matters related to the course. The Course Convenor will direct the course core team as well as assume responsibility for co-ordinating all other teaching inputs from other ISS programmes, NIDI and outside consultants. The Course Core Team, consisting of the Course Convenor and a group of selected staff members from ISS and NIDI, will be responsible for the basic design and conceptualization of the course as well as actual teaching, supervision of students and evaluation. The team will also identify requirements for additional teaching inputs from other ISS programmes, NIDI or outside consultants. Responsibility for financial implementation and monitoring of the course will reside with the Managing Director of ISS. The Office of the Dean of ISS will be responsible for student affairs in general and will
guarantee that the degree awarded in conjunction with the training course satisfies the general requirements concerning degrees conferred by ISS.

27. Financial summary. The total cost of this project is estimated at approximately $2.8 million with the following annual distribution:

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<td>359 500</td>
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<td>187 550</td>
<td>2 814 450</td>
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</table>

28. In accordance with agreement reached in April 1985, the Government of the Netherlands and UNFPA would share the responsibility for support of the course, after allowing for the annual contribution to be made by ISS. It was later agreed that UNFPA would provide assistance of approximately $1.3 million from 1987 through the first half of 1991 for international consultants, a computer expert, 15 fellowships per year, books and computer software, the purchase of micro-computers, time-sharing on main-frame computers, report and printing costs and sundry expenses. The Government of the Netherlands has agreed to contribute a total of approximately $1.3 million, to be distributed as follows: approximately $62,500 in 1987 for initial expenses and approximately $300,000 annually from 1987 through 1990. Future assistance would be dependent on the results of an evaluation of the course. The Netherlands Government would provide for teaching, technical and administrative staff, to include a course convenor, a staff member specialized in the social sciences with a population orientation, specialized lectures by the staff of various other institutions, a research assistant, administrative personnel and sundry expenses. ISS will contribute approximately $214,250 in kind during 1987-1990, specifically the assistance of its library and administrative staff for the efficient operationalization of the course. Each year the annual allocations for the project would be transferred by the Government of the Netherlands and UNFPA, in accordance with their respective financial rules and regulations, to a separate bank account for the programme set up by ISS, the executing agency for this project.

29. Work plan. Pre-project activities, encompassing the institutional, administrative and logistical arrangements necessary for the operation of the course, were initiated in October 1986 and the first academic year is scheduled to commence in September 1987.
IV. ESTABLISHMENT OF CO-ORDINATING MECHANISMS FOR THE GLOBAL PROGRAMME OF TRAINING IN POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

30. Economic and Social Council resolution 1763 (LIV) directs UNFPA to co-ordinate the projects which it supports (para. 2 (d)) and, by its decision 86/34 II, the Governing Council requested the Executive Director of UNFPA to monitor the multilateral population programmes and projects which the Fund supports (para. 4). In fulfilment of these directives, UNFPA has formulated a mechanism to facilitate the Fund's co-ordination of the various component interregional training projects which comprise the Global Programme of Training in Population and Development. The proposed co-ordinating mechanism would consist of an international co-ordinator and an international advisory committee.

31. The main duties of the International Co-ordinator, appointed by UNFPA, would be to ensure that the substantive directives of the International Advisory Committee, as approved by UNFPA, are communicated to and appropriately incorporated into the component training courses and to serve as a link among the component courses to promote the exchange of ideas and experience. It is also expected that the International Co-ordinator will provide substantive liaison between the various projects and the network of institutions and experts involved in the areas related to population and development, in particular, the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and professional and technical groups. The appointed person will also assist, as necessary, in setting up and monitoring the component projects; serve as a resource person to the component projects in teaching and research activities; and serve as a member of the International Advisory Committee.

32. The International Advisory Committee would provide substantive guidance with respect to the Global Programme and the various component training courses. More specifically, its functions would be: (a) to provide substantive guidance to UNFPA in order to facilitate the Fund's co-ordination of the various component projects of training in population and development; (b) to advise UNFPA on the "state of the art" regarding matters pertaining to training in population and development; and (c) to make recommendations for the subsequent consideration of UNFPA and the governing bodies of the component projects pertaining to training methodologies, areas for course work and research activities. The core permanent members of the Committee would include representatives of the United Nations, UNFPA, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the World Bank Economic Development Institute (EDI), plus the International Co-ordinator of the Global Programme and the directors of the training courses in population and development funded by UNFPA. In addition, approximately six international experts in the areas of population and development will be invited to participate on an ad hoc basis depending on the content of the International Advisory Committee's agenda. The UNFPA would serve as the secretariat of the Committee, which would meet once or twice a year, as needed.

33. Financial summary. The total cost of this project is estimated at approximately $938,920 million with the following annual distribution:

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Table 4

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<td>228300</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>943920</td>
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34. Of the total of $943,920, $676,200 would be utilized for project personnel; $217,400 for meetings of the advisory committee and international seminars; $5,000 for programme evaluation; $8,000 for equipment; and $37,320 for miscellaneous expenses such as printing and communication costs.

V. RECOMMENDATION

35. The Executive Director recommends that the Governing Council:

(a) Approve the project establishing an international training course in population and development at the Centre for Development Studies at Trivandrum, Kerala State, India, and authorize UNFPA to support this project in the amount of $1,650,000 over a five-year period;

(b) Approve the project establishing an international course on training in population and development at the Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, Netherlands, and authorize UNFPA to support this project in the amount of $1,350,000 over a five-year period;

(c) Approve the project establishing the co-ordinating mechanisms for the Global Programme of Training in Population and Development, and authorize UNFPA to support this project in the amount of $950,000 over a five-year period.