UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR 1988

Page

D. Latin America and the Caribbean (continued).............. 2
E. Interregional programmes and projects..................... 2

II. REVIEW OF THE PROGRAMME BY PRIORITY PROGRAMME AREA......... 7
A. Family planning........................................ 7
B. Information, education and communication.................. 9
C. Basic data collection................................... 11
D. Utilization of population data and population research for policy formulation and development planning..... 13
E. Women, population and development........................ 14
F. Special programme interests............................... 17
    Youth.................................................. 17
    The question of aging................................... 18
    AIDS.................................................. 18

III. REVIEW OF OTHER ASPECTS OF THE UNFPA PROGRAMME.............. 20
A. Policy and programme co-ordination.......................... 20
B. Staff training and development............................... 21
C. Promotion of awareness and exchange of information........ 22

(Continued in DP/1989/32(part III))
93. Support to the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE), of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), resulted in a rich combination of training, research and technical backstopping activities. Reflecting a new approach which emphasizes applied training, the first post-graduate course on Population Dynamics and Development Programmes and Policies concluded in December 1988 with the participation of 18 students from 14 Latin American countries and one from Africa. Technical backstopping of data processing and analysis activities and of dissemination of information, both provided from Santiago, Chile, or from the sub-centre in San Jose, Costa Rica, increased in 1988.

94. In 1988, UNFPA started its assistance to a regional project prepared by ECLAC in support of activities related to the design and preparation of the 1990 round of population and housing censuses. UNFPA co-operation with ECLAC also included support to a project on integration of population into development planning for the countries of the Caribbean. The project is being conducted in two phases and with two different sets of countries: those which are at the vanguard in population policy formulation activities and whose policies have recently been accepted in Parliament (Saint Lucia, Grenada, Dominica and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines), and all the other countries in the sub-region.

95. Support to integrate population into employment and development plans and policies continued in 1988 through the support provided to the ILO Regional Employment Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean (PREALC). In 1988, the UNFPA-funded regional project at PREALC was enriched by the addition of a second regional advisory post specializing in women, population and target group policies.

96. In response to the call of the General Assembly for stronger support to the Central America region, the UNFPA Executive Director visited four countries in the sub-region and proposed a series of actions that would strengthen UNFPA support. Thus, following the Executive Director's visit, UNFPA approved preparatory assistance for the development of three sub-regional projects. One project, with PAHO, will consider women's socio-economic characteristics, legal status affecting their situation, employment status and health conditions. A second sub-regional project will develop a computerized system of information on displaced populations; it is to be executed by CELADE and the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration (ICM). A third project, to be executed by ECLAC (HABITAT), will look into aspects of population concentration, the environment and quality of life in Central America.

E. Interregional programmes and projects

97. In June 1988, the Governing Council approved a new cycle of the Fund's interregional programme for 1988-1991 in the amount of $87.1 million. In approving this programme, which addresses all work plan categories and focuses primarily on technical backstopping and research, the Council emphasized that the rationale for interregional activities was their utility for country-level programming.

98. The past year witnessed a number of developments in the interregional programme (see DP/1989/70 for a progress report on the implementation of the programme). UNFPA held annual programme reviews with WHO, the United Nations...
Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (DTCD) and the United Nations Population Division, and it organized an independent evaluation of selected FAO interregional activities. UNFPA has used the interregional programme as a vehicle to address special areas of need. In this connection, UNFPA is supporting a post at WHO's Global Programme on AIDS in Geneva. This officer is responsible, among other things, for incorporating into FP/MCH programmes special components designed to meet the needs of mothers and newborns who are suffering from AIDS (see the section on AIDS in this report). Similarly, in view of the increasing need to address population and environmental issues and to facilitate co-operation between UNFPA and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), UNFPA is funding a staff member at UNEP. As part of strengthening its interaction with NGOs, UNFPA has signed memoranda of understanding with the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN).

99. One especially notable factor during the first year of implementation of the new cycle has been the degree of interaction among the various interregional activities. For example, staff members of ILO, DTCD, FAO and the Population Division have participated as lecturers in the Fund's Global Programme of Training in Population and Development. The Population Division and WHO have collaborated in compiling data bases, and staff from the WHO Programme on Adolescent Reproductive Health have worked with IPPF and the World Assembly of Youth. A summary of the first year of operations of the 1988-1991 interregional programme is presented below.

Agency-executed programmes

100. WHO. Given the priority UNFPA places on FP/MCH activities, the preponderant share of the interregional programme in 1988 went to WHO for the technical backstopping of country programmes and research on human reproduction. The six-person technical backstopping team, based in Geneva, undertook 41 country missions for both project formulation and monitoring. The functioning of the team had been the subject of a 1987 evaluation which found the work of the team essential to country-level programmes.

101. Among the research projects undertaken by WHO were (a) a project on maternal mortality and morbidity and (b) a project on reproductive health in adolescents. As part of the first project, research begun in Algeria and in Senegal under the previous cycle was completed, workshops on maternal mortality were held in Egypt and in India, and four new studies on maternal mortality were initiated. As part of the second project, a six-country study in Africa on adolescent reproductive behaviour is under way using a new methodology. Youth groups in Kenya, Malawi, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe will use a narrative research method to determine norms of adolescent reproductive behaviour. WHO also developed, in collaboration with UNESCO, guidelines for school curriculum on the prevention of AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases and, in collaboration with Population Division, a data base on adolescent reproductive health.

102. Under two newly approved research projects, WHO is developing a methodology by which countries can rapidly evaluate their FP/MCH networks. WHO also issued guidelines on barrier methods of contraception, vasectomy, breastfeeding and child spacing.
103. In 1988, UNFPA allocated $3.25 million to WHO's Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction (HRP). During the past year, HRP was completing plans for marketing two new contraceptive products -- the three-month injectable and the vaginal ring.

104. UNDTCD. UNFPA continued its funding of UNDTCD to carry out projects on data collection and analysis. Several projects of the new cycle were continuations of activities of the previous cycle. This included providing support for advisory services (the four-person backstopping team; the adviser on data processing for population statistics; and the adviser on the National Household Survey Capability Programme), as well as for the development of software for population data processing and for the Cairo Demographic Centre. The activities of DTCD are especially critical during this period, as most countries will be preparing to carry out a decennial census.

105. During 1988, the backstopping team provided assistance to, inter alia, the Governments of Burkina Faso, Congo, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sudan, Surinam, Syrian Arab Republic and Zaire in preparation for their upcoming censuses. Experts funded through the interregional programme provided substantive monitoring for civil registration and vital statistics projects in the Congo, Morocco, Niger, Sudan and Yemen. A conference on the Use and Dissemination of Census Data, to which 41 developing countries sent representatives, was held in Egypt in October. As part of the effort to build up institutional capabilities of national population commissions, the UNDTCD adviser assisting in the development of integrated population policies participated in the review of 10 projects at the country or regional level. Training workshops in the use of software for population data processing were held in China, Egypt, Malaysia, the Philippines and Senegal.

106. FAO. The year 1988 saw significant developments under the FAO/UNFPA interregional programme. An independent evaluation of the UNFPA-supported FAO intercountry programme was carried out in February and March. The mission highlighted some of the strengths of the programme, as well as several areas where improvements could made. As a result, both UNFPA and FAO, with a view to improving the effectiveness of the programme, are systematically taking into account the mission's recommendations in future planning and programming.

107. A most welcome development has been increased use by countries of activities initially launched at the interregional level. Whereas in 1984 there were only 4 FAO-executed country-level population projects, by the end of the 1988, 25 such projects were operational and 8 more were in the pipeline. In response to the heightened awareness of the need for economic recovery in Africa, most of the newly-formulated country-level projects are in Africa.

108. The post of Population Programme Co-ordinator, which had been funded by UNFPA, has been absorbed into the FAO regular budget. There has been a considerable expansion of population work within FAO's technical services in the areas of communication and information, agricultural extension, women and youth. A noteworthy initiative in the effort to integrate population factors into the regular work programme of FAO's technical services is the development of specific population education strategies within FAO's Departments of Fisheries and Forestry.

/...
109. **United Nations Population Division.** During 1988, the Population Division continued its work in research, much of which was based on case studies conducted by local institutions using local consultants. In all cases, as part of project output, publications on research are being issued for use at the country level. For example, in-depth case studies of the national population policies of **Brazil, Kuwait** and **Nigeria** were issued in 1988. In addition, case studies of the demographic consequences of development projects, of the integration of population into development, as well as of the social and economic consequences of aging in selected countries were carried out in 1988, with reports planned for 1989. During 1988, two of the three publications planned in the adolescent fertility project were issued: **Adolescent Reproductive Behaviour: An Annotated Bibliography** and **Adolescent Reproductive Behaviour: Evidence from Developed Countries**.

110. The year saw the start of three important new interregional projects, which were implemented as planned with only minor adjustments. These projects concern the study of the interrelationships between women's status and demographic processes, key issues in child survival and reproductive behaviour, and population growth and emerging issues in the world's 100 largest urban agglomerations. As the first activity under the Key Issues project, the United Nations Expert Group Meeting on Methodologies to Measure Contraceptive Use Dynamics was held in New York from 5 to 7 December 1988. The papers from the meeting will be published in 1989. UNFPA is also supporting a Population Division study of the demographic impact of AIDS and its social and economic correlates. Work under this project is expected to be completed in 1989.

111. **ILO.** During the past year, UNFPA funded ILO's action programme in the area of human resources development, the integration of population into development planning, population education and the introduction of family planning into the work setting. In each of these sectors, ILO has carried out numerous technical backstopping missions, conducted extensive training programmes and disseminated information, notably through appropriate software packages. A particularly successful endeavour conducted under the human resources development project was the holding of an inter-agency expert group meeting on the development and utilization of microcomputer-based software for population and development planning. Staff from UNFPA's Global Programme of Training in Population and Development found the meeting to be most useful for improving the relevant curriculum of the respective training courses.

112. In the area of research, ILO is undertaking work in three fields: women and development, the aged worker, and problems of urbanization. The latter has been formulated to dovetail with the work of the Population Division on urban questions. Extensive work has been done under the women, population and development project to develop research capacities at the country level, notably in **Ghana, Nigeria, Kenya** and **Thailand**, and to promote regional research on gender issues. As part of this project, ILO has worked closely with UNFPA's Special Unit for Women to develop training strategies and with the Fund's Africa Division to develop a plan of action for women in that region.

113. **UNESCO.** In the past year, UNESCO and UNFPA have worked closely together to shape a programme that would be most responsive to needs at the country level. In particular, the Fund has asked UNESCO to delineate a programme of social science research that will form the basis of a population communications...
Recognizing the need to incorporate population into various training programmes, UNFPA and UNESCO are designing a project to introduce population into the curriculum of 12 communications institutes in various geographic regions. UNFPA is also funding UNESCO's effort to compile the accumulated experiences in this field over the past 15 years and to publish a reference book on the best examples of successful national and international population education activities. UNFPA has also agreed to provide partial support for the International Congress on Population Education and Development to be held in 1991.

NGO-executed activities

114. Almost three quarters of the Fund's interregional programme is executed by United Nations agencies and organizations; the remaining quarter is executed by NGOs.

115. In view of the importance of promoting new methods of contraception, UNFPA supports a research programme in this area with the International Committee for Contraceptive Research (ICCR) and the International Organization for Chemical Sciences in Development (IOCD). During 1988, ICCR utilized funds from UNFPA for the continuing development of subdermal implants, contraceptive vaginal rings, the levonorgestrel-releasing intrauterine device, luteinizing hormone-releasing hormone (LHRH) analogs, and new barrier methods that may also provide protection against AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases. IOCD continued its research on developing male contraceptive methods. Recognizing that the introduction of new contraceptive methods requires special protocols and training, UNFPA has continued to support the work of the Program for the Introduction and Adaptation of Contraceptive Technology (PIACT) and has partially funded the work of The Population Council for the introduction, at the country level, of NORPLANT.

116. One of UNFPA's principal activities with NGOs is the Global Programme of Training in Population and Development. Many of the "start-up" problems experienced in 1987 have been overcome and efforts have been made to supplement the respective courses at the Catholic University of Louvain (Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium), The Institute of Social Studies (The Hague, Netherlands), and the Centre for Development Studies (Trivandrum, India) with outside expert lectures, many drawn from United Nations agencies. Emphasis has also been placed on engaging the students in "hands-on" research. The UN/USSR Training Programme in Population and Development, which gives two short courses a year at Moscow State University, joined the Global Programme network in January 1989. Funding for these courses is provided by the Government of the USSR.

117. NGOs continued to be active in the dissemination of information and the promotion of awareness of population issues. The Population Crisis Committee, with UNFPA financial assistance, released an in-depth study on the status of women entitled "Poor, Powerless and Pregnant", which was well covered by print and broadcast media throughout the world. Also, The Population Institute engaged in a publications programme entitled "Toward the 21st Century", which sought both to highlight critical population issues and to ensure that relevant publications were translated into the appropriate languages. The Fund also contributed to the publications programme of The Population Council.
118. Other NGO-executed activities include, *inter alia*, the *Annual Review of Population Law*, a joint publication of the Harvard University Law School and UNFPA since 1985; research and training sponsored by the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP); improvement of civil registration and vital statistics; co-operative research among national population research centres, organized by the Committee for International Co-operation in National Research in Demography (CICRED); integration of family planning into parasite control activities, by JOICFP; and activities of the World Association of Muslim Scholars dealing with development, health and population.

III. REVIEW OF THE PROGRAMME BY PRIORITY PROGRAMME AREA

A. Family planning

In 1988, UNFPA assistance in this area totalled $87.0 million or 51.5 per cent of total programme allocations, compared to expenditures of $54.5 million or 51.0 per cent in 1987. During the period 1969-1988, UNFPA assistance in this area reached $750.7 million or 47.4 per cent of total assistance.

119. During 1988, UNFPA supported nearly 500 country and intercountry family planning projects. With the emerging new policy emphasis on maternal health arising out of recent conferences on Safe Motherhood and Better Health Through Family Planning held in 1987 at Nairobi, Kenya, UNFPA concentrated its support on integrating family planning services with maternal health and on expanding the accessibility of services, especially in remote rural areas and urban slums in developing countries in all regions of the world. The Fund made special efforts to strengthen services in sub-Saharan Africa, as demand for family planning continued to rise gradually in some countries there. In many countries of the region, maternal and infant mortality remained very high, demanding continued support from the international community, including UNFPA.

120. UNFPA continued to provide assistance for training at all levels of MCH/FP programme development and for all types of personnel engaged in MCH/FP programmes. The Regional Training Centre for Family Health in Mauritius conducted a total of nine eight-week courses in 1988 -- five for French-speaking trainees and four for English-speaking trainees -- training a total of 93 trainees. The curriculum included a clinical orientation on fertility management. In 1988, the University of Brussels again conducted two three-month MCH/FP training courses in French. The University added a new pedagogy module to the training course to meet the increasing demands of the French-speaking countries in Africa.

121. UNFPA focused its attention on maintaining high quality training and developing training programmes based on needs in Africa. Responding to a growing demand for training in MCH/FP in the Africa region, during 1988 UNFPA conducted an assessment of needs in the region, with the assistance of the Margaret Sanger Center of Planned Parenthood of New York. The mission examined existing training facilities, courses, resources and programmes in both French- and English-speaking countries to determine the specific training needs of each country and the extent to which these needs were being met.
122. As part of the assessment exercise, the mission prepared a directory of all available short-term courses on MCH/FP and is completing a more detailed report on country training needs, which is expected to be finished soon.

123. During 1988, UNFPA continued to support efforts to develop and improve contraceptive technologies. The Fund provided assistance to WHO/HRP for research activities and to The Population Council and IOCD for work on innovative contraceptive techniques. In response to shrinking commercial interest in developing and marketing contraceptives, UNFPA met with WHO to discuss options for developing a mechanism by which innovative contraceptives like monthly injections and vaginal rings could be introduced, marketed, and distributed in developing countries. UNFPA also supported The Population Council's continuing efforts to introduce NORPLANT contraceptive sub-dermal implants in selected developing countries. UNFPA provided assistance to start a three-year project to test NORPLANT among 27,000 users in China, as well as a four-year project to introduce NORPLANT in 10 additional countries, on which work was begun in two countries, namely Rwanda and Zaire. UNFPA also provided assistance to IOCD to continue its efforts to find a male fertility-regulation agent through chemical synthesis. A new fungicide compound, ketoconazole, was added in 1988 to the synthesis programme. Thirteen laboratories world-wide are involved in the research at present.

124. As a member of the Committee of Participating Parties in WHO's Global Programme on AIDS, UNFPA participated in various fora to try to gain a better understanding of the interaction between the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) infection and contraceptive practice and to explore the potential role MCH/FP programmes could play in AIDS control programmes (see the section on AIDS in this report). The policy guidelines on AIDS that the Fund had distributed to all UNFPA field offices in 1987 are being used by UNFPA staff to develop projects dealing with AIDS or to integrate AIDS control into MCH/FP projects. Given the importance of condoms both as contraceptives and as protection against the transmission of AIDS, UNFPA provided assistance to PIAC to analyze data on the condom quality assurance audit carried out earlier by six laboratories.

125. Intercountry projects on MCH/FP under the new programme cycle developed by WHO concentrated on the development of a more effective programme strategy and on intervention to improve maternal and child health. UNFPA feels the urgent need to develop better modalities to reduce maternal mortality. It is critically important, therefore, to establish an effective programme linkage between interregional and country programme activities in order to ensure that they complement each other. In early 1988, UNFPA representatives met with WHO headquarters and regional personnel to discuss how to improve the co-ordination of activities between the two organizations and strengthen the capacity of both to implement projects in MCH/FP.

126. During 1988, UNFPA conducted a review and assessment exercise of accumulated experience within key areas of its mandate, including a global review of the current status of the MCH/FP sectoral programmes (see document DP/1989/37).
127. Although the level of contraceptive practice in developing countries is still low compared to unmet needs, the review noted that the concept of family planning was becoming increasingly popular in developing countries. Indeed, the level of contraceptive prevalence in the developing world rose from only 9 per cent in the early 1960s to 49 per cent in 1987. In some countries, the rise has been striking: in Mauritius it rose from 25 per cent in 1971 to 75 per cent in 1985; in the Republic of Korea, from 9 per cent in 1964 to 70 per cent in 1987; in Malaysia, from 9 per cent in 1966 to 51 per cent in 1984; in Brazil, from 32 per cent in 1970 to 65 per cent in 1986; and in Sri Lanka, from 34 per cent in 1975 to 62 per cent in 1987.

128. The review noted with great concern the unacceptably high level of maternal mortality, with about a half million mothers dying each year of pregnancy-related causes. It stressed that much greater attention and support from the international community were needed to address the problem. The review found that while child health had improved in varying degrees, in general, infant and child mortality in developing countries remained very high.

129. The review underscored the need to expand access to safe, effective and acceptable contraceptives, to continue research on developing new contraceptives and improving existing ones, and to improve maternal and child health. The review recommended paying special attention to improving the status of women and highlighted problems in the areas of adolescent health and fertility, AIDS and male involvement in MCH/FP activities.

130. UNFPA maintains a roster of consultants with more than 1,500 entries, which is expected to facilitate and expedite the consultation needs in the sectoral programmes. The Fund has also taken steps to disseminate technical information of programme relevance to the field offices, as a means of keeping field staff up-to-date on new developments in the field.

B. Information, education, and communication

UNFPA assistance for activities in this sector in 1988 totalled $26.1 million, or 15.5 per cent of total programme allocations, compared to $16.5 million or 15.5 per cent of expenditures in 1987. During the period 1969-1988, UNFPA assistance in this area totalled $205.0 million or 13.0 per cent of total assistance.

131. During 1988, UNFPA extended its support to formal and non-formal population education, adding Colombia, Niger and Democratic Yemen to the growing list of countries undertaking in-school and out-of-school population education activities. In addition, family life education components were integrated into literacy programmes in Bangladesh, Malawi and the Syrian Arab Republic. UNFPA also approved funds for the preparation of a "Reference book on teaching and learning examples in population education", which is to be implemented by UNESCO.

132. UNFPA continued to receive requests from Governments of developing countries for support in establishing sex education projects. Such requests have increased in recent years as more and more countries perceive a need to address the problem of adolescent fertility and to educate their people about the AIDS pandemic. UNFPA provided support for sex education both in and out of formal school settings in Cape Verde and for the integration of population and
sex education in the school system in Burundi. Sex education also received special emphasis in Nicaragua, through a national seminar as well as through various media. The increasing importance given to sex education in the Asia and Pacific region was reflected in an important workshop, funded by UNFPA and conducted by UNESCO, for 11 South Pacific States on approaches to introducing sex education into school systems.

133. In the communication sub-sector, the Fund provided considerable support in 1988 to the elaboration of communication strategies and follow-up projects for new country programmes in all regions, notably in Africa. The focus of attention was the use of socio-cultural research in identifying problem areas and target audiences as a prelude to the creation of projects needed to deal with the problems.

134. From the issues emerging out of UNFPA's 1987/1988 review and assessment of the IEC sector (see document DP/1989/37), it is evident that IEC activities must employ innovative approaches to reach key target audiences such as adolescents, newlywed couples, males, and those at risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases, including AIDS. The Fund has thus included these target groups in its IEC activities in new country programmes. In the same vein, in response to local requests in the South Pacific, ILO has proposed ways of educating men to enhance their understanding of family planning concepts and services.

135. During 1988, a number of projects were approved that aim at improving the coverage of population and related issues in the mass media through the incorporation of population components in the career training programmes of journalists. This included support to institutes of mass communication in Ghana, Kenya, Zambia and Zimbabwe, as well as continued assistance to the Asian Institute for Broadcasting Development.

136. As a means of keeping abreast of new initiatives, findings and techniques in the field of population IEC, UNFPA staff participated in a variety of professional development workshops and other training seminars. This type of involvement has generated new practical knowledge for the Fund at headquarters and in the field. For example, staff members observed the latest techniques in sex education and family life education in teacher-training workshops in the United States. The Fund has also circulated reference materials and information on innovative IEC approaches to UNFPA field staff and to regional advisers who backstop UNFPA-funded projects.

137. With the assistance of the Program for Appropriate Technology in Health (PATH), a workshop was held to familiarize all interested UNFPA headquarters staff with the techniques and uses of focus group discussions as a research tool. Growing awareness of this method should lead to its increased use in country projects, thereby improving their effectiveness.

138. UNFPA participated in a training workshop in the Republic of Korea for family planning IEC workers from Asian countries. Information on strategies combining mass media and inter-personal channels of communication were circulated to all UNFPA staff as well as to field representatives world-wide.

/...
139. The Fund also observed an innovative communications project in Togo designed to promote local participation in rural population and development activities. The project, known as the "village persuaders approach", was developed by the Centre for African Family Studies (CAFS). It relies on an unusual blend of operational socio-cultural research methods to identify key persuaders in selected villages. Its aim is to initiate dialogue among broad segments of the rural population. UNFPA is considering giving further attention to the methodology in an effort to test its usefulness and effectiveness in a broader context.

C. Basic data collection

In 1988, UNFPA assistance in this area totalled US $15.0 million or 8.9 per cent of total programme allocations, compared to $9.7 million or 9.1 per cent of expenditures in 1987. During the period 1969-1988, UNFPA assistance in this area totalled $215.3 million or 13.6 per cent of total assistance.

140. The World Population Plan of Action (Bucharest, 1974) recognized the crucial role that population data play in advancing national and international understanding of the interrelatedness of demographic and socio-economic factors in development and the effect such interrelationship has on the attainment of overall goals of advancing human welfare. This was reaffirmed 10 years later by participants at the 1984 International Conference on Population in Mexico City. As a result, Governments have become more aware of their responsibility for providing national statistical services that would make available reliable, gender-specific, internationally comparable, and up-to-date population data that are indispensable for effective social and economic planning.

141. UNFPA has continued to provide a significant level of assistance to strengthen developing countries' self-reliance in population data collection and analysis and to increase their capacity to undertake the functions of planning, designing and implementing basic data collection and analysis using integrated statistical systems that include population censuses and intercensal demographic surveys. In providing this assistance, UNFPA strives to ensure that the data collected are tabulated, evaluated, adjusted, analyzed and widely disseminated to public and private users and researchers in a timely and cost-effective manner employing state-of-the-art knowledge and technology. The Fund places special emphasis on the quality of data, as well as the data's gender specificity, international comparability and effective utilization. Emphasis is also placed on tabulating, analyzing and disseminating data on particular groups -- youth, elderly, female-headed households and, to the extent possible, refugees.

142. In its efforts to promote a wider and more timely dissemination of census data as well as the effective utilization of these data, UNFPA funded a special conference in October 1988 in Cairo, Egypt. The conference brought together data producers, data users, academics and technical specialists to discuss the ways and means for ensuring the effective dissemination and utilization of census data. The conference was attended by 292 specialists from 73 developing and developed countries.

/...
143. With the 1990 round of population censuses approaching, UNFPA support to basic data collection and analysis activities at the country level is increasing. In 1988, UNFPA support for basic data collection included allocations of $10.2 million to 78 projects in 55 countries and territories for work on population censuses; $2.2 million to 14 projects in 14 countries and territories for undertaking population sample surveys; $1.7 million to 24 projects in 24 countries and territories for establishing or strengthening vital statistics systems; and approximately $1 million to 3 projects for other data collection systems.

144. Some 78.2 per cent of UNFPA assistance in 1988 for preliminary work on the 1990 round of population censuses (almost $8 million) went for technical assistance, including payment for services of international experts and consultants ($1.9 million), training ($2.25 million) and equipment ($3.82 million). The majority of this assistance went to Africa where 33 country projects received allocations of $6.4 million, or 62.5 per cent of UNFPA allocations for censuses in 1988. In Asia and the Pacific, in 1988, UNFPA allocated $1.33 million to support 14 census projects. The Fund is also supporting 9 census projects in the Arab States and European Region, with an allocation of $1.3 million, and 22 census projects in Latin America and the Caribbean, with an allocation of $1.2 million.

145. Nearly half of UNFPA's $2.2 million of assistance for population sample surveys went for technical support. The distribution of the 14 projects in this sub-sector was as follows: 6 in Latin America and the Caribbean totalling $1.2 million; 4 in Asia and the Pacific, $0.6 million; 3 in the Arab States and Europe, $0.36 million; and 1 in Africa, $15,400. In addition, UNFPA joined the Arab Gulf Programme for the United Nations Development Organizations, League of Arab States, UNICEF, WHO, and the United Nations Statistical Office in supporting a programme for examining the health of children and mothers (including family planning) in the Arab Gulf countries as well as in Democratic Yemen, Egypt, Mauritania, Somalia, Sudan, and Yemen.

146. The regional distribution of the 24 projects aimed at establishing or strengthening civil registration and vital statistics systems is as follows: 11 in Africa ($0.75 million); 6 in the Arab States and Europe ($0.58 million); 5 in Asia and the Pacific ($0.32 million); and 2 in Latin America and the Caribbean ($0.04 million). Two thirds of this, or $1.14 million, went to support technical assistance. The $1.0 million in support of 3 data collection projects mainly went to study migration in Asia.

147. In 1988, UNFPA continued to provide support for demographic analysis and training, providing assistance to 88 projects totalling $12.0 million. Thirty-nine of these projects were in Africa ($4.3 million); 23 in the Arab States and Europe ($2.8 million); 15 in Asia and the Pacific ($4.0 million); and 11 in Latin America and the Caribbean ($0.9 million). Of this, $8.8 million, or 73 per cent, went to support technical assistance.

148. UNFPA assistance has not only helped to make much-needed population data available for effective awareness creation, policy and programme formulation, and integration of population into development planning, it has also served to strengthen national capacity and self-reliance in most of the developing
countries to plan, design, implement, evaluate, analyze and disseminate quality population data in a timely and usable fashion. Co-ordination of multilateral and bilateral assistance in the area of basic data collection and analysis remains a priority for UNFPA, particularly with the height of the 1990 round of population censuses approaching.

D. Utilization of population data and population research for policy formulation and development planning

In 1988, UNFPA assistance to (a) population dynamics totalled $19.3 million or 11.5 per cent of total programme allocations, compared to $13.2 million or 12.4 per cent of expenditures in 1987; (b) formulation and evaluation of population policies and programmes totalled $12.0 million or 7.2 per cent of total programme allocations, compared to $8.2 million or 7.7 per cent of expenditures in 1987; and (c) implementation of policies totalled $0.37 million or 0.2 per cent of total programme allocations, compared to $0.20 million or 0.2 per cent of expenditures in 1987. During the period 1969-1988, UNFPA assistance in these areas totalled (a) population dynamics, $170.1 million or 10.7 per cent of total assistance; (b) formulation and evaluation of population policies, $94.9 million or 6.0 per cent of total assistance and (c) implementation of policies, $10.2 million or 0.6 per cent of total assistance.

149. UNFPA assistance in this area seeks to develop the most suitable methodological approaches and techniques, to strengthen national technical capacity, to support research and studies, and to set up the institutional arrangements required for the formulation and implementation of population policies and the integration of population factors into socio-economic development planning.

150. The main activities to which support was provided include: studies on the social and economic consequences of population trends; the interrelationship between population, environment, resources and development; the formulation and evaluation of population policies; and the integration of population factors into national development plans. Training courses dealing with various aspects of demography and of population and development held at the interregional, regional and country levels continued to be the focus of UNFPA assistance in this sector.

151. As part of its continuing efforts to encourage the integration of population factors into development plans and programmes during 1988, UNFPA again devoted the largest portion of its assistance to help establish or strengthen population units within national socio-economic development frameworks. The Fund provided assistance in 1988 at the country level (a) to 23 projects (17 in Africa and 6 in the Arab States), amounting to $1,079,012 ($776,229 to Africa and $302,783 to the Arab States) to support United Nations international personnel; (b) to 38 projects (18 in Africa, 8 in the Arab States, and 6 each in Asia and the Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean), totalling $1,328,199 ($686,776 to Africa, $282,426 to the Arab...
States, $264,380 to Asia, and $94,617 to Latin America), to support training activities; and (c) to 40 projects (19 in Africa, 8 in the Arab States, 7 in Asia, and 6 in Latin America), totalling $1,446,332 ($601,490 to Africa, $255,969 to the Arab States, $428,054 to Asia, and $160,819 to Latin America) to purchase equipment.

152. UNFPA also supported a variety of research activities at the interregional, regional and national levels. In 1988, UNFPA-funded research at the interregional level, conducted mainly by the United Nations Population Division, FAO and ILO, focused on the interrelationship between socio-economic development and population variables; on population and rural development; on the demographic consequences of development projects; and on integrating population factors into development planning. Research at the country level, continuing the 1987 trend, examined, inter alia, population growth and trends; determinants and consequences of migration; migration and employment; the status of women; and human resources development. The integration of population factors into regional development planning has become a new and relevant research focus. The Fund also carried out a substantive comparative evaluation of population and development planning projects in sub-Saharan Africa, Arab States and Latin America (see the section on Evaluation in this report).

153. To help alleviate the problem of the lack of personnel trained in integrating population factors into development planning, UNFPA continued to support training activities in this area at the global, regional and national level. The Fund’s Global Programme of Training in Population and Development again proved instrumental in this effort (see the section on the Interregional programmes and projects in this report).

E. Women, population and development

In 1988, UNFPA assistance in this area totalled $4.3 million or 2.5 per cent of total programme allocations, compared to $1.7 million or 1.6 per cent of expenditures in 1987.

154. During 1988, most of the UNFPA activities in this sector were devoted to the implementation of the strategy to strengthen the capacity of the Fund to deal with issues concerning women, population and development (see document DP/1989/36 for a status report on the strategy). Moreover, between November 1987 and April 1988, UNFPA reviewed and revised all technical checklists and policy guidelines to ensure that all aspects of population policies and programmes reflect the concerns of women and provide them with the opportunities to participate in project activities and to benefit from the results.

155. As required by the strategy, the Fund gave high priority to the training of the UNFPA staff in the area of women in development. UNFPA organized and conducted a number of training workshops on the conceptual and operational aspects of incorporating women’s concerns into population programmes, the first such workshop being offered to UNFPA field staff in the Africa and Arab States regions. The workshop, which was attended by 40 participants, tackled the issues involved in a practical way. Participants discussed how best to
incorporate women's concerns into various stages of programme development and implementation, taking into account specific cultural, socio-economic and political realities in different national and regional settings.

156. Working with actual project documents and considering the background papers presented, the group identified gaps in the projects and made practical suggestions for bridging them. These included, among other areas, the preparation of specific guidelines, manuals and other instruments required to ensure the effective identification of needs and the development, review and appraisal of programmes. Other areas identified as requiring further attention and support included the collection and analysis of data on the situation of women; the heightening of the awareness of planners and policy-makers on the importance of considering gender-specific issues in development planning; the training of national staff on the complexities of the issue of women in development; and support of the activities of national organizations responsible for the advancement of women.

157. Although the workshop focused on two geographical areas -- Africa and the Arab States -- the main lessons are applicable everywhere. Indeed, conclusions drawn from similar training workshops organized jointly with other United Nations entities confirm the need to give priority to immediate action in the areas enumerated above. One such training workshop was conducted as part of the Joint Consultative Group on Policy (JCGP) sub-group in charge of Women in Development. This training took place in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, in February 1988 for representatives of UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA and the World Food Programme, with national counterparts from 10 English-speaking African countries also participating. Another joint training exercise held in 1988 was for UNDP and UNFPA field staff in the Caribbean region. National staff in charge of population/development programmes also participated. This training took place in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, with the assistance of INSTRAW.

158. In order to ensure effective follow-up of regional training, specific case studies based on UNFPA-supported projects have been developed with the assistance of a training team from Harvard University for use in training programmes at the national level.

159. All country programmes submitted to the Governing Council for approval are developed and reviewed to ensure that gender considerations have been adequately incorporated. In addition, each country programme is scrutinized to ensure that budgetary resources are allocated for activities required to implement this aspect of the programme and for the support of projects specifically designed to benefit women. This is done to expedite women's participation in all aspects of population and development efforts.

160. Also in 1988 the Fund undertook a number of in-depth project reviews. Special criteria were established for reviewing projects in different substantive sectors in order to assess the impact of various project activities on women, as well as the extent of women's participation. Other reviews examined projects that were specifically designed for the benefit of women. This exercise enabled UNFPA to identify which projects had been successful and why, and to gauge the magnitude of the actual improvement in the situation of
women brought about by the projects. Among the countries where such reviews were conducted were Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Indonesia, Jordan, Paraguay, Zaire and Zambia.

161. These reviews, which are called project profiles, are intended for a wide audience. The purpose is to provide information on why certain projects succeed and others fail. It is expected that such information will facilitate the development and implementation of successful programmes in other countries.

162. The Fund also prepared an overview of all the projects approved in 1986 and 1987 that had been designed and implemented for the benefit of women. The purpose of such projects, which address the specific needs of women in specific countries or in different parts of the same country, is to provide women with the opportunities required to improve their situation, to eliminate the existing gaps between men's and women's access to such opportunities, and, by extension, to give women a better chance to participate in the national development process.

163. As expected, requests for UNFPA's support to projects in the women, population and development sector increased considerably during the year. A positive aspect is that the majority of these projects are integral parts of the Fund's country programmes. They are mainly executed by either governmental organizations or national NGOs. Some of the larger scale projects, however, are executed with the assistance of United Nations specialized agencies or international NGOs. Examples of projects approved at the country level are, by region:

**Africa**

Training for Women (Benin); Integration of Women in Population/Development (Botswana); Women, Population and Development (Cameroon); Training for Women in Family Health (Guinea-Bissau); Improvement of the Status of Women (Gabon), Family Life Education (Senegal); National Seminar on Women, Population and Development for Senior Government Officials (United Republic of Tanzania); Improvement of the Condition of Women (Mali).

**Arab States**

Data Collection on the Situation of Women (Algeria); Women in Population and Development Programmes (Egypt); Creation of Co-operatives for Women (Morocco); Women in Population and Development Programmes (Sudan); Women, Population and Development (Yemen).  

**Asia and the Pacific**

Support to Activities of Women's Organizations (Fiji); Clearinghouse for Women in Development (Malaysia); Family Welfare Education (Nepal); Support to Rural Women's Programme (Thailand); Population and Income-Generating Programme (Viet Nam); Enhancing the Role of Women in the Settlements and Fishing Villages (Indonesia); Improvement of the Role and Status of Women through MCH/FP and Income-generating Activities (China).
Latin America and the Caribbean

Training for Women in Development (Costa Rica); Non-formal Education for Women (Peru); Women and Rural Development (Paraguay); Conference on the Advancement of Young Women (Uruguay); Support to Women's Centre's Educational Programme (Jamaica); Population Education for Women's Integration (Mexico).

164. The regional and global projects financially assisted by UNFPA and executed by other United Nations entities or NGOs include the following:

(a) United Nations Agencies: Statistical Data Base for Women/Population/Development (UN Statistical Office); Preparation of "Socio-economic Trends and the Status of Women - 1988" (UN Statistical Office); Future of the Family, the Role of Women and Demographic Changes (UNESCO); Women's Awareness of Their Rights and Remedial Measures (UNESCO); Regional Training Workshops on Roles of Women's Organizations in Family Planning Programmes (WHO); Training Workshop on Women in Development for the Caribbean Sub-region (INSTRAW).

(b) NGOs: International Conference on Role of Women in Development (International Council of Women); Regional Training Programmes for Women in Management (CEDPA); Regional Seminars on Women-Headed Households (The Population Council); Improving the Quality of Family Planning and Related Health Services to Meet Women's Needs (The Population Council); Families of the World (Global Perspective in Education).

F. Special programme interests

In 1988, UNFPA assistance in this area totalled $1.6 million or 1.0 per cent of total programme allocations, compared to $1.0 million or 1.0 per cent of expenditures in 1987. During the period 1969-1988, UNFPA assistance in this area totalled $13.5 million or 1.0 per cent of total assistance.

1. Youth

165. During 1988, UNFPA continued to support youth-related programmes and projects in the education and communication areas. Most UNFPA-supported youth projects deal with population and family life education, communication and, to some extent, family planning. Some of the projects are included in formal education structures; others in non-formal education programmes, channelled through youth organizations or community groups. In 1988, the Fund provided assistance for research into specific problems of adolescents and youth. UNFPA approved support for a "Training Research Programme on Reproductive Health in Adolescence", to be undertaken by WHO. The Fund also commissioned a global review of the factors that affect adolescent birth rates. A report on the study, which was conducted by the United Nations Population Division, is being published in two volumes. Volume I, on adolescent reproductive behaviour in developed countries, was issued in 1988. Volume II, on adolescent behaviour in developing countries, is being prepared and will be issued presently. In addition, WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA issued a joint statement on adolescent reproductive health that underscores the importance and complexity of this issue and recognizes the need for inter-agency collaboration in addressing it.
2. **Question of aging**

166. UNFPA financial assistance and the number of projects supported in the field of aging have increased significantly in recent years. Within its policy guidelines, UNFPA, working very closely with other United Nations organizations and institutions involved in the field of aging and the elderly, provided assistance in 1988 to seven projects, totalling $4 million, in different functional categories at the country, regional, and interregional levels. These projects, through research, training, and processing and dissemination of information on demographic, substantive and policy issues, have enhanced the capability of developing countries to understand the causes and implications of population aging and its interrelations with socio-economic development.

167. Projects specifically dealing with the question of aging cut across functional, regional and programme lines. For example, aging-related projects may be included in the sector on population policy formulation, as in the interregional project on "Population Aging, Old Age Security and Social and Economic Policies", or they may focus on the consequences of population changes, such as in the regional project on "Analysis of Economic and Social Consequences of the Changing Population Structure in Europe". In terms of functional categories, however, the bulk of UNFPA assistance in this area in 1988, both in the number of projects and in dollar amounts, went to research projects.

168. At the country level, UNFPA supported policy-oriented research on the aged in China. At the intercountry level, the Fund supported three projects: a comparative analysis of population aspects of aging and their social and economic consequences, undertaken by the Population Division; a study of emerging issues of aging populations in selected Asian countries, undertaken by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP); and an examination of the economic and social implications of changing age distribution in selected European countries, executed by the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE).

169. UNFPA also participated in and/or helped fund a number of conferences and workshops such as the Consultative Meeting on Population Aspects of Aging, organized by the Population Division in May 1988; the International Conference on Aging, organized by the Population Division, the Government of Japan and other national and international organizations in September 1988; and the Regional Workshop on Population Aging, organized by the Centre for Demography (CEDEM) in November 1988. UNFPA also supported the Second Review and Appraisal of the Vienna International Plan of Action on Aging.

3. **AIDS**

170. During 1988, in its efforts to help combat the AIDS pandemic, UNFPA adhered closely to the policy guidelines it issued in mid-1987. Those guidelines indicated that UNFPA would, under the leadership of WHO, assist in the control and prevention of AIDS primarily by incorporating pertinent activities into its currently supported programmes in the areas of MCH/FP and population IEC. In addition, the guidelines stipulated that UNFPA would support activities aimed at determining the demographic impact of AIDS.
171. UNFPA continued to work within the scope of the strategies set by WHO's Global Programme on AIDS (GPA). The Fund was able to co-ordinate its activities with those of the other members of the GPA Management Committee, the largest advisory group to the GPA. In order to make full use of its resources, UNFPA has made a point of integrating MCH/FP activities with those specifically designed to combat AIDS -- structurally, by promoting the incorporation of MCH/FP units of Ministries of Health into National AIDS Commissions; and operationally, by placing these highly active and usually effective units in the service of AIDS-related activities. The Fund has used a similar approach in the IEC sector, where effective UNFPA-supported population projects have proven valuable vehicles in support of AIDS activities.

172. Strengthening the linkages between AIDS activities and those in MCH/FP is thus one of the major objectives of UNFPA. In this direction, WHO and UNFPA reached an agreement to second one of UNFPA's technical officers to the GPA. This Liaison Technical Officer was assigned to WHO headquarters in September 1988. According to the terms of reference, the officer will help co-ordinate activities between GPA and other pertinent units in WHO, such as the Family Health Division, which carries fundamental responsibilities in support of UNFPA-funded programmes, and WHO/HRP, which receives substantial support from UNFPA. The Liaison Technical Officer will work closely with UNFPA headquarters and field offices to ensure an active expansion of UNFPA support in this field.

173. Through specific arrangements with the GPA, during the year UNFPA participated in 12 meetings of donors, held in selected countries, to review medium-term national AIDS plans and propose levels of funding. As a consequence, in accordance with its guidelines and in collaboration with interested Governments, the Fund was able to identify specific areas warranting immediate support within currently operating programmes, in many cases without additional funding. These include, in the area of MCH/FP, incorporating AIDS components into health education activities or into the training programmes of para-medics, outreach workers and community leaders in such countries as Cameroon, Liberia, Yemen and Zaire. The discussions at the meetings indicated that Sierra Leone needed increased supplies of condoms and that Zaire needed materials such as surgical gloves and sterile syringes. In the area of IEC, specific projects to integrate AIDS components into population and family life education are being developed in Democratic Yemen, Kenya, Liberia and Yemen. AIDS components are also being integrated into information and communication activities in Cameroon, Ethiopia and Trinidad.

174. The Fund also supported activities of international NGOs that were complementary to ongoing efforts of Governments. For instance, the Fund supported IPPF's efforts to mobilize youth in the Caribbean to help create awareness about AIDS.

175. With respect to the demographic consequences of AIDS, UNFPA is supporting a study that is expected to provide more accurate projections on the impact of the pandemic. The study is being carried out by the United Nations Population Division, which is reviewing current methodologies in order to determine the best approaches to resolve the many gaps in efforts to prevent the spread of the disease.

/*...*/
III. REVIEW OF OTHER ASPECTS OF THE UNFPA PROGRAMME

A. Policy and programme co-ordination

176. In pursuance of Governing Council decision 87/30 I, paragraph 9, UNFPA continued to give particular attention to co-ordination and co-operation with other organizations and agencies. Various collaborative activities and consultations were carried out within the United Nations system, with bilateral donors and with the non-governmental sector.

177. The Fund continued full and active participation in the work of the JCGP. Noteworthy progress was achieved on many initiatives including, inter alia, harmonization of programming and the organization of joint programme reviews in a number of countries; collaboration in programme activities in the sub-Saharan Africa region; and arrangements to exchange professional staff among JCGP organizations. The JCGP was also involved in developing strategies for the 1990s and in work on the social dimension of structural adjustment policies and programmes, including training seminars for government officials. Regional seminars for JCGP staff and national participants on women and development have been actively implemented. One was held for field representatives of the JCGP organizations in Africa in February 1988 while another for the Caribbean and Central America region took place in November 1988.

178. In order to further strengthen regular consultations with its partner organizations, the Fund's geographical divisions continued to meet with respective divisions of UNDP and the World Bank. Together with the World Bank, the Fund co-operated in developing a joint agenda for action to improve population programmes in the sub-Saharan Africa region. Joint working groups on research and data collection and analysis continued collaborative work between the United Nations Department of International Economic and Social Affairs (DIESA) and UNFPA.

179. Close co-ordination with WHO and UNICEF was continued on maternal and child health and family planning, including the publication of a joint WHO/UNFPA/UNICEF statement on a strategy for action on the reproductive health of adolescents. In a follow-up of recommendations of international conferences on maternal mortality and family planning, the Fund, together with WHO, UNICEF, UNDP, the World Bank and a number of non-governmental organizations, continued collaboration on Safe Motherhood regional meetings and country-level activities, including programmes on adolescent fertility. UNFPA joined UNICEF, the United Nations Statistical Office (UNSO), and the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs (CSDHA) to collaborate on the preparation of a special publication on the situation of women.

180. In order to further strengthen co-ordination as a central element of the Fund's strategy, the Executive Director held special programme consultations with a number of United Nations organizations including FAO, UNESCO and the World Bank.
B. Staff training and development

181. Staff training and development received priority attention in 1988. Activities initially centred on building a basic institutional framework for a formal staff training and development programme. The Fund constituted a Steering Committee on Staff Training and Development, chaired by the Deputy Executive Director, which approved a new staff training and development policy. This policy, which was distributed to all UNFPA staff, establishes comprehensive guidelines for future training and development of all General Service and Professional staff at headquarters and in the field.

182. In accordance with the Fund's increasing emphasis on quality programming and enhanced substantive knowledge, the staff training and development programme seeks to strengthen four substantive areas of UNFPA work: maternal and child health/family planning; information, education and communication; the interrelationship between population and development; and women, population and development. The staff training and development programme also focuses on improving programme appraisal, monitoring and evaluation skills; developing computer and language skills; and orienting and training new staff in UNFPA procedures.

183. Training activities that had been previously provided on an ad hoc basis are now being carefully incorporated into a coherent and comprehensive work plan. This work plan reflects a training and human resource development strategy that is specifically designed to serve the goals of the organization.

184. During 1988, UNFPA provided a wide array of training activities. For example, over 60 General Service and Professional headquarters staff and approximately 20 field staff received training in various aspects of electronic data processing, including, inter alia, word processing, data management and retrieval, and electronic graphics. Furthermore, over 40 staff members participated in workshops on women in development. These were organized within the context of the JCGP and convened at the regional level in Latin America and the Caribbean and Africa (see document DP/1989/36 for more details on the workshops).

185. UNFPA continues to foster closer relationships in staff training and development in the inter-agency setting through direct participation in these agencies' training programmes. For example, UNFPA field staff participated in a series of workshops organized by UNDP in Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Viet Nam. The workshops focused on the basic elements of UNDP's new guidelines for the formulation of projects. UNFPA Professional staff from field offices in Malawi and Burundi also participated in a UNDP/IPPF-sponsored course on programme management and evaluation. In addition, UNFPA participated in separate joint training workshops with UNESCO and with ILO, both of which were held in Morocco. And 20 UNFPA staff members participated in a workshop organized in collaboration with The Population Council for basic technical training in population and demographic concepts, terms and measures.

186. UNFPA also conducted important preparatory activities to accommodate an expanded programme of activities in the second half of the 1988/1989 biennium and in the 1990/1991 biennium. These include, inter alia: (a) discussions with training units/offices of United Nations agencies, NGOs, and government
bodies on joint training solutions and on training methodologies and strategies; (b) development of training strategies and methodologies to support the decentralized operations of the Fund; (c) development and testing of the recently-issued UNFPA Orientation Handbook; and (d) clarification and refinement of UNFPA's training approaches, targets and methods.

C. Promotion of awareness and exchange of information

Publications and audio-visual aids

187. At its thirty-fifth session, the Governing Council noted with satisfaction the publications produced by UNFPA in conformity with its mandate to promote awareness of population and related issues both in developed and developing countries (decision 88/34 I, para. 18). In fulfilling this mandate, UNFPA produces both regular and special publications and audio-visual aids, organizes and supports conferences and meetings on population and related subjects, and seeks to stimulate wider coverage of population issues and activities in the media. (See document DP/1989/40 for a detailed report on the publication activities supported by the Fund.)

188. In 1988, for the second year in a row, UNFPA's State of World Population Report received wide media attention throughout the world. The Report, entitled "Safeguarding the Future", focused on the links between population, environment and resources. It was the subject of a media seminar in London, 16-18 May 1988, and was launched at a well-attended press conference on 18 May with appropriate publicity, including news conferences in several major cities in Europe, Africa and the United States. It was featured in the leading newspapers of the world press, including the Times of London, Le Monde and the Wall Street Journal, among many others.

189. The Report was extremely well received by delegates to the thirty-fifth session of the Governing Council, who noted with satisfaction the State of World Population Report (decision 88/34 I, para. 18) and, in a separate decision, endorsed the Report's "Agenda for Change" and "Conclusion" sections "concerning the requirements to establish a sustainable relationship between human and other resources" (decision 88/35, para. 3).

190. Among UNFPA regular publications, in 1988, the quarterly Populi carried the State of World Population Report as well as articles on population-environment linkages and sustainable development; critical links between population and resources; and climate change and the food outlook. It also presented several other important issues during the year: the current state of population growth in Africa; the international urban crisis; the triumph and challenges of Asia's population reaching 3 billion; and the unmet needs of family planning.

191. In 1988, the UNFPA monthly newsletter, Population, carried regular features on UNFPA's evaluation activities, as well as information on UNFPA projects and activities including conferences and meetings. The newsletter featured articles on the status and role of women in population and development, on family planning programmes, on AIDS prevention, and on population, resources and environment, among others. Population also carried an increasing number of articles focusing on country experiences in population and related topics.
192. In 1988, the Fund published its annual *Inventory of Population Projects Around the World* and its triennial *A Guide to Sources of International Population Assistance*, both of which were praised highly by members of the Governing Council at its thirty-fifth session.

Conferences and meetings

193. In 1988, UNFPA provided financial support for the Fourth Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development, held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 29 February-1 March, and convened the UNFPA Global Conference in New York from 6 to 13 April.

194. The Fourth Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development. Parliamentarians from throughout the region assembled in Kuala Lumpur to participate in the Fourth Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development, which was held under the auspices of the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA). Participants discussed a wide range of topics, including, *inter alia*, population and development in China; urbanization, migration and development in Malaysia; population and agricultural policies in Asian countries; and migratory movement and economic development in Japan. Among the points emphasized during the meeting were the interrelationship between agricultural development and population policies, the importance of ethnic and cultural diversity in Asia, the role and status of women, and the role of parliamentarians in promoting population and development planning.

195. The UNFPA Global Conference. The purpose of the Conference was to provide UNFPA staff at headquarters and in the field, as well as representatives of other United Nations organizations, bilateral donors, selected NGOs and other concerned parties, with an opportunity to exchange views and experiences on the field of population. The principal concerns of the Conference were to review and assess the accumulated experience of the past 20 years in key areas in the population field and to apply the lessons learned to future programmes. Participants discussed, among other things, UNDP/UNFPA relations at the field level; UNFPA's decentralization of project approval and other authority to field offices; project appraisal, approval, implementation, monitoring and evaluation; administrative, personnel and financial matters; and co-ordination of population assistance at the country level. The findings and recommendations of the Conference on each of these topics were included in a report on the Conference, which was printed and circulated in the fall of 1988.

Consultation with NGOs

196. In addition to using NGOs to execute projects, UNFPA, under its interregional programme, also seeks to broaden its lines of contacts and co-ordination with the NGO community and with grass-roots NGOs based in developing countries. Annual consultations with NGOs in New York and in Europe were conducted, as in previous years, so as to enable concerned NGOs and UNFPA to exchange views on population issues and to seek ways and means to increase their co-operation in addressing population-related questions. The Seventh Annual Consultation in New York was held in late April; it was attended by representatives from about 60 NGOs that are based in North America. The consultation focused on the subject of population and sustainable development as well as the work of UNFPA. Earlier that month, the 14th NGO/UNFPA...
Consultation in Europe was held at the United Nations in Geneva. It brought together 34 representatives of Europe-based NGOs and 13 United Nations staff members. A panel of NGO representatives on the theme of population, resources and environment generated a lively debate as well as many useful ideas on how NGOs and UNFPA could best deepen their respective involvement in this and other important areas.