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S U P P O R T

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR WOMEN

Report of the Administrator

Summary

As required by General Assembly resolution 39/125 and Governing Council decision 85/33, the Administrator is to submit to the Governing Council an annual report on the operations, management and budget of the Fund. This report provides a brief overview of the activities of UNIFEM during 1985.

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INTRODUCTION

1. The United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) was created by the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session by resolution 39/125. By this resolution, the General Assembly decided that the activities of the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, established by General Assembly resolution 31/133, should continue beyond the Decade as an autonomous technical co-operation fund in association with UNDP. The expanded mandate of the Fund, as spelled out in resolution 39/125 is to: (a) serve as catalyst, with the goal of ensuring the appropriate involvement of women in mainstream development activities, as often as possible at the pre-investment stages; and (b) support innovative and experimental activities benefiting women in line with national and regional priorities.

2. The present report contains in section I a summary of actions taken in 1985 pursuant to General Assembly resolution 39/125. In section II there is a brief review of project cycle activities of the Fund. Section III contains a report on the financial situation of the Fund and resource mobilization. The policy advice of the Consultative Committee on the Fund is contained in section IV of the report. A description of the Fund's co-operation with other United Nations organizations is given in section V, while in section VI a brief report is given on other administrative matters.

I. IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 39/125 AND GOVERNING COUNCIL DECISION 85/33

A. Transfer of the Fund

3. In pursuance of General Assembly resolution 39/125 and following consultations with the Consultative Committee on the Fund, UNIFEM was officially transferred from the United Nations Secretariat to autonomous association with UNDP on 1 July 1985.

B. Fortieth session of the General Assembly; seventeenth and eighteenth sessions of the Consultative Committee

4. As required by General Assembly resolution 39/125, the Secretary-General submitted the annual report on UNIFEM activities to the General Assembly at its fortieth session in document A/40/727. In its resolution 40/104 the Assembly confirmed the name United Nations Development Fund for Women and the acronym UNIFEM proposed by the Fund Consultative Committee at its seventeenth session in 1985.

C. Budget estimates for the biennium 1986-1987

5. In response to decision 85/33, UNIFEM's budget estimates for the biennium 1986-1987, as contained in document DP/1986/6, were reviewed by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) see (DP/1986/71) which stated, inter alia, that it had no objection to the creation of two new posts or to the proposed reclassifications of existing posts. At its special session in February 1986, the Governing Council adopted decision 86/7, approving the proposed biennial budget for 1986-1987.

II. PROJECT CYCLE ACTIVITIES

A. Programming, project development, monitoring and evaluation

6. During 1985, programming and/or evaluation missions were sent to 30 countries. As a result of these missions, 16 project proposals were placed in the pipeline for expected implementation in 1986 and beyond. Project activities ranged from training of rural trainers to village-bakeries, poultry and horticulture, as indicated below.

7. In October, UNIFEM fielded a fish-processing exploratory mission to Maldives, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia and the Philippines, to explore the feasibility of replicating in Asia and the Pacific the Fund's highly successful fish-smoking activities in West African countries. The consultants prepared project ideas taking into consideration the availability of local resources and other conditions specific to each country. Follow-up projects have been requested by one country and can be expected from others once the Governments have reviewed the mission's report.

8. In November, UNIFEM, at the request of the Government of Botswana, fielded a joint mission with the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) to assist in formulating a women-oriented programme of action for the country. As a result of the mission, the consultants recommended a number of actions to the Government including seven project proposals for consideration. It is expected that project support will include indicative planning figure (IPF) resources.

9. The Forward-Looking Assessment of the Fund's activities involving external evaluation of one third of its project portfolio and several sectoral analyses was published in 1985. The Forward-Looking Assessment reported that the Fund had taken seriously its task of being flexible and experimental. In view of women's invisibility in many major development programmes, the experimental and innovative nature of the projects had responded to the need to provide women with "bridges" from their subsistence/reproduction activities to a more conscious and controlled participation in the mainstream of their societies. This was in accordance with the Fund's catalytic role.

10. To further its role as a technical co-operation mechanism for women in development, two major implications emerged from the assessment for the future activities of the Fund. On the one hand UNIFEM needs to concentrate on those activities and projects whose potential multiplier effects are greatest and that may thus have the greatest impact on national development. The Fund must strengthen its capacity to develop integral approaches to the provision of technical co-operation for women through more multi-faceted, although not necessarily more costly or grandiose, delivery systems. On the other hand, the interfacing role of the Fund - between development and women - put it in an excellent position to promote co-ordinated inputs, especially to those large-scale mainstream projects that usually have a "pure" or high emphasis on general development goals but only include women marginally or not at all. The Forward-Looking Assessment also concluded that the Fund had to grow; additional human and financial resources were urgently needed.

11. In response to the assessment, the Fund has prepared its regional priority strategies, including the Africa Investment Plan and the Participatory Action Plan for Latin America and the Caribbean, noted below. Also, on the advice of its Consultative Committee, UNDP field offices and specialized agencies were offered consultancy assistance to ensure the appropriate consideration of women in mainstream development projects.

B. Project results

12. Results of project activities in high priority national areas include the following.

13. In Zimbabwe, the Fund's clothing project in Omayland, one of the least developed regions of the country, produced additional income and improved the standards of living of the women and families involved. With sewing machines provided by the Fund, the women produced low cost school uniforms and other clothing items which are in great demand locally. As an indirect result of the project, there was a near doubling in school attendance, to 2,500 local children.

14. In Sierra Leone, where gari is used as a substitute for rice, UNIFEM provided small motor-driven grating machines, developed locally, to the women's farmers' co-operative. As a result of this assistance to 60 women initially, production of gari, which had previously been done by hand and was an extremely arduous task, was greatly increased and profitability improved in addition to providing increased income. The project also developed managerial skills of the women involved.

15. In a regional project in Asia and the Pacific, UNIFEM provided funds to the Asian and Pacific Development Centre (APDC) to conduct workshops and training courses. The project led to the publication of the book "Missing Women" which is the outcome of a five-country study on women and development planning. It underlines the growing concern for including women in the development planning process in the countries of Asia and the Pacific. The book also discusses factors that have caused women to be neglected in development planning and indicates some specific measures to include women's concerns and perspectives without which the development process itself is likely to encounter difficulties.

16. The Fund's highly successful Income-Generation through Livestock Development project, executed by a non-governmental organization (NGO) in the Philippines has taken off on its own. The project increased the income of 80 participants by at least 30 per cent and involved the application of biogas-technology which utilizes and recycles livestock wastes into energy and liquid fertilizers. Information about the project is being shared with other organizations and agencies through formal and informal conferences, video documentaries, actual field demonstration and visitations, newsletters and radio broadcasts.

17. In Latin America, the Fund's project in Peru called "Promotion of Women Workers in Lima" involved the Ministry of Industries in the identification of four industrial branches with high percentages of women workers, namely the electronics, textile, food and chemical industries. The project has reported success in raising women's consciousness through training workshops which made them increase their self-confidence. Information disseminated to women through various publications included legal advice related to their work.

18. In the Caribbean, the UNIFEM pilot study "Women Traders in Trinidad and Tobago" has been carried out as an initial activity of the subject "Women and trade" in the Women in development work programme of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). The project responds to the emphasis in the Regional Plan of Action on the importance of research into economic activities of women, in order to gain a better knowledge of the situation, importance and participation of women in productive activities. The study recommends a number of measures which should be taken, among which are a strengthening of the agricultural sector in order to satisfy the needs of the population and to create employment for farmers and traders.

19. In Jordan, where the development plan showed a serious shortfall of skilled workers for the period 1981-1985, the Fund provided assistance to a project entitled "Maintenance Skills for Electrical Appliances". The project succeeded in setting up a pioneer programme for training women in a non-traditional activity. It enabled the 30 women participants to save on home maintenance costs and build self-confidence to perform maintenance of electrical domestic appliances. As a result of the project, the local community gained a new appreciation of the skills and started to think of it as a new occupation field. Government continued the training.

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C. Implementation of the Africa Investment Plan

20. The Africa Investment Plan sets the framework for priorities for Fund assistance to that region based on the Lagos Plan of Action. Thus the majority of projects focus on food policy, energy, credit support systems and strengthening of management capacities. In addition to the preparatory activities before the donors' round-table conferences noted in the annual report of the Administrator, the Fund has recruited national resource persons to work closely with UNIFEM and UNDP consultants assigned for these preparations. The costs of the national resource persons are being met by the Netherlands. The first countries involved in this exercise are Burkina Faso and the Niger, where donors' round-tables are scheduled for 1986.

21. The Fund's consultant on African crisis actions, working in close co-operation with the Office of Emergency Operations in Africa and with the staff involved in the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on Africa in May 1986, has been concerned with Africa's long-term food self-sufficiency and the consequent urgency of directing support to that 80-90 per cent of small-scale food farmers and processors who are women. She has also represented these interests of UNIFEM at meetings of NGOs and United Nations agencies and advised on information materials to be made available to the special session.

22. In the area of management of development programmes, the Fund's four-year assistance to the Eastern and Southern Africa Management Institute (ESAMI) - subsequently adopted for financing by UNDP - is to be replicated in the French-speaking countries, and special training for Portuguese-speaking countries is in preparation, the latter in co-operation with the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

23. Fifteen of the programming missions noted above were undertaken within the context of the Africa Investment Plan.

24. An occasional paper, Women Food Farmers and Food Workers - a summary of research and action findings on women's food cycle responsibilities - includes action proposals with special reference to staple foods; it was circulated widely.

D. Food cycle technologies

25. The Women and Food Cycle Technologies (WAFT) project is another important initiative of UNIFEM in a crucial area of need in developing countries. The project, described in the annual report of the Administrator, seeks the widespread dissemination of tested technologies such as oil presses, grinding mills and grain stores. Co-operating agencies include the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Intermediate Technology Development Group (ITDG). Components of projects

encompass not only the technologies but credit mechanisms such as revolving loan funds, and training in the form of study visits by village women to neighbouring villages or countries, where they may work side-by-side with their counterparts who have used the concerned technologies for some years. Activities developed are expected to be integral to larger-scale projects or, in some cases, adopted for financing by other donor agencies.

E. Participatory Action Plan for Latin America and the Caribbean

26. In November, the Participatory Action Plan for Latin America and the Caribbean (PAPLAC) started its activities with a workshop including UNIFEM staff and three project consultants at headquarters. The project is intended as a five-year programme with the goal of improving women's conditions in the current economic situation of the region by providing a long-term integral development approach that contributes to greater efficiency in the economy and ensures women's participation in the development process. The project is now in its six-month planning phase and has assigned the three consultants to the tasks of elaborating a selected number of country profiles and consulting with officials of technical co-operation departments, ministries and agencies related directly or indirectly to women in national development planning and programmes. The consultants will also assist in the formulation of projects involving women within the country programming cycle.

F. Credit support system

27. Another area of emphasis of UNIFEM is the provision of credit to rural and urban poor women who seldom have collateral and thus have no access to credit to improve the efficiency of their productive work. As a result of consultations with the World Bank, a joint UNIFEM/World Bank study on women and credit is planned for 1986. A consultant on preliminary assignment for a two months' period will develop the study design. The Fund's own experience with its extensive revolving loan fund portfolio will form the basis of the study which will focus on building on that experience. For its part, the World Bank is primarily interested in women and agricultural credit.

28. As part of its continuing activities in the credit sector, the Fund financed the participation of the project administrator of its highly effective Swaziland loan fund project in a workshop at the Grameen Bank (Bangladesh) which has had a unique experience in extending credit to the rural poor. Following that, the project administrator participated in a consultancy mission to Liberia in July-August 1985 where he assisted with the design of the revolving loan fund component of the women's programme for an on-going self-help village development project under the auspices of the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development. This represented, for the Fund, an opportunity for technical co-operation between developing countries (TCDC), since lessons and experience from both Bangladesh and Swaziland were transferred to Liberia.

29. In yet another case, the Fund is financing participants from Cameroon and Benin in internships at the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) in India, with the objective of learning from SEWA's experience in making credit available to the poorest women, such as street sweepers and vendors.

G. Projects approved in 1985

30. A total of 144 project proposals were received during the year under review. Some were referred to other, more appropriate funding sources, while others remain in the pipeline. The Consultative Committee on the Fund at its seventeenth and eighteenth sessions, recommended approval of 36 projects totalling \$2.7 million, pending receipt of finalized project documents. A further 54 small-scale activities and programming missions costing less than \$20,000 each were noted by the Committee, which also observed that resources were sufficient to assist only half of the requests to the Fund. A list of the projects approved in 1985 is available on request.

H. Distribution of UNIFEM activities by region

31. As of December 1985, UNIFEM has provided assistance to all regions of the world through 473 activities with a total value of \$30.4 million. The distribution of the assistance by geographic region is shown in the table below:

Total UNIFEM funding to date by number of projects and value of commitments by region

<u>Regions</u>	<u>No. of projects</u>	<u>Value (\$ mill.)</u>
Africa	173	11.01
Asia and Pacific	105	5.79
Latin America/Caribbean	132	7.74
Western Asia	51	3.90
Global	12	1.98
Total	473	30.42

32. The Consultative Committee at its eighteenth session noted the comparatively low level of assistance to the Asia and Pacific region and encouraged the Fund to take more initiatives in that region. One of the actions already taken in this regard was in the form of the Fund's three-day training in project design at the International Council of Women (ICW) Workshop in Jakarta. A UNIFEM staff member also visited China, India, Pakistan, Nepal and Thailand, combining monitoring of ongoing projects with programming activities in those countries.

III. FINANCIAL SITUATION AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

A. Financial situation

33. The resources of UNIFEM were transferred from the United Nations to UNDP on 1 July 1985. An amount of \$800,000 was withheld by the United Nations in order to meet obligations resulting from allotments issued to the regional commissions before 30 June 1985 for UNIFEM projects executed by the commissions in 1985.

34. The first financial statement issued by UNDP after the transfer, dated 30 September 1985, showed that the Fund had total assets of \$16.1 million as at that date. As a result of UNIFEM's full-funding policy as well as great demand from recipient countries this amount is fully committed to already approved projects and administrative costs of the Fund.

35. The Fund continued to maintain a desirable balance between income and expenditures during 1985, with an estimated total project expenditure of \$4.3 million expected to be reported when final accounts for the year become available. This represents a sizeable increase compared to the \$3.2 million recorded for 1984. Annex I of the report shows the availability and utilization of UNIFEM resources for the four year period 1984-1987.

B. Resource mobilization

1. Contributions

36. In 1985 UNIFEM received contributions and pledges from 54 member states. The \$3.5 million in pledges made for the Fund's general resources in 1985 represents an increase of 35 per cent over 1984 pledges, exclusive of special contributions earmarked for specific projects. A further \$122,451 was received by the Fund from individuals, NGOs and national committees on the Fund. In addition, one major donor provided additional resources of \$89,000 for two projects in the African region and \$50,000 for donor round-table activities. The contributions received by UNIFEM from Governments in 1985 are shown in annex II.

37. At the 1985 Pledging Conference for Development Activities held in November, 38 countries pledged \$3 million to UNIFEM for 1986. Four traditional major donors were unable to announce their pledges at the Conference for legislative reasons. Assuming that their 1986 contributions will be at least equal to their contributions in 1985, the total in 1986 is expected to reach \$4 million which will be more than a 14 per cent increase over 1985.

38. The UNDP Regional Bureau for Asia and Pacific agreed to use \$80,000 to extend a UNIFEM-financed project in the Pacific. The Regional Bureau for Africa is providing \$75,000 for developing food technology institutional capacities. Other co-financing and follow-up financing evidencing the fulfilment of the Fund's catalytic role has totalled approximately \$3 million during the previous bienniums. In addition to Governments, the One Per cent Development Fund of United Nations staff, Japanese Parliamentarians, women's organizations and individuals have also assisted.

2. National committees on the Fund and other non-governmental organizations

39. It will be recalled that national committees on the Fund are established (a) to undertake development education by informing fellow citizens about the work of the Fund and its needs; (b) to encourage their respective Governments to augment their official contributions to the Fund; and (c) to engage in fund-raising activities in the non-governmental sector. To date such committees have been officially established in five countries, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

40. The Finnish national committee - the first to have been established - has contributed a total of \$142,500 to the Fund to date. It has 35 organizational and 1,700 individual members, and branches are starting up in each province of the country. All contributions from the Finnish Committee are applied to the Fund's series of projects directed to fuel conservation in the Sahel countries.

41. The third session of the non-governmental advisory committee on the Fund, which is composed of NGOs in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, was held to brief representatives on the new administrative status of the Fund and on its activities world-wide.

3. Views of the Consultative Committee

42. At its seventeenth session, the Consultative Committee on the Fund stated that, although the Fund was now in a position to bring its accumulated experience to bear on the development process, it had been able to support less than half of the requests reaching it and was as yet constrained in its efforts to involve women systematically in major development co-operation activities. Increased resources, both financial and human, were vital to the Fund's capacity to make use of the body of knowledge it had acquired.

D. Information activities

43. In line with the Fund's resource mobilization strategy, 1985 was a year of special activity in the design and production of information materials on UNIFEM, with the Nairobi World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women as a special target. Following is a list of information materials produced, which were circulated widely:

(a) Publications

Farmers, Merchants and Entrepreneurs (E/F/S);

Development Co-operation with Women: The Experience and Future
Directions of the Fund (complete version E/F/S; and summary A/C/E/F/R/S;

Hidden Hope for Africa: The Small-Scale Farmer (E);

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(b) Films

"They Hold up Half the Sky", a 22-minute Fund film based on three Fund projects;

A two-minute television spot based on the African food crisis and the role of women farmers;

(c) Posters

The work of the Fund world-wide;

Artisanal fisheries in West Africa, (with FAO);

(d) Guides

Regional brochures for Africa (E/F/Kiswahili); Latin America and the Caribbean (E/F); Asia (E) and Western Asia (A/E);

Press kits with updated information prepared for the fortieth session of the General Assembly;

(e) Exhibits

Exhibit entitled "Women: Key to Food Security";

Exhibit on "Assistance to African Women through Food Technologies" for Diplomatic World window.

44. At the Nairobi Conference in July 1985, the Fund honoured rural and poor urban women of all regions. The ceremony took place in the plenary hall and was presided over by the Chairperson of the Conference. Two projects from each region had been selected symbolically to represent the groups receiving UNIFEM support.

IV. POLICY ADVICE OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON THE FUND

45. Addressing the Consultative Committee at its eighteenth session, the Administrator of UNDP noted UNDP's existing commitment to the appropriate involvement of women in mainstream development activities, stressing that development programmes that failed to pay adequate attention to women's productive activities were not only morally indefensible but economically unsound. He looked forward to technical assistance from the Fund under its expanded mandate.

Donor	Additions &			Balance 31/12/85	Pledges for 1986
	Balance 31/12/84	adjustments to pledges 1985	Collected during 1985		
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN					
Chile	-	5 000	5 000	-	-
Colombia	2 000	2 000	3 500	500	2 000
Cuba	-	5 097	5 097	-	-
Dominican Republic	5 000	(3 333)	-	1 667	-
Ecuador	2 000	-	-	2 000	-
Guyana	2 000	1 000	3 000	-	-
Honduras	-	1 000	1 000	-	1 000
Jamaica	1 290	(375)	182	733	-
Mexico	-	1 466	1 466	-	727
Panama	500	-	-	500	-
Trinidad and Tobago	1 000	-	1 000	-	672
EASTERN EUROPE					
Yugoslavia	5 500	4 000	-	9 500	4 000
WESTERN EUROPE & OTHERS					
Australia	-	89 859	89 859	-	75 862
Austria	15 000	21 000	21 000	15 000	21 000
Belgium	63 432	77 851	141 283	-	78 431
Canada	-	124 893	124 893	-	724 638
Cyprus	900	300	1 200	-	500
Denmark	-	102 000	102 000	-	150 000
Finland	-	154 512	154 512	-	183 486
France	-	31 524	31 524	-	39 216
Germany, Fed Rep of	-	31 852	31 852	-	40 000
Greece	-	3 500	3 500	-	3 500
Iceland	-	6 000	6 000	-	-
Ireland	-	20 230	20 230	-	-
Italy	20 000	204 082	204 082	20 000	204 082
Netherlands	-	131 502	131 502	-	214 286
New Zealand	-	12 624	12 624	-	-
Norway	-	780 765	780 765	-	1 059 603
Portugal	3 500	-	3 500	-	-
Spain	120 000	19 355	-	139 355	-
Sweden	-	120 853	120 853	-	156 863
Turkey	-	4 996	4 996	-	5 000
United Kingdom	-	116 966	116 966	-	-
United States of America	-	500 000	499 284	716	-
TOTAL	674 481	3 502 976	3 538 288	639 169	3 061 028

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B .Non-Governmental contributions
as at 28 February 1986

	Total	1983	1984	1985	1986
Public Contributions 1975-1982	<u>646 844</u>	-	-	-	-
Individuals	5 460	1 482	2 907	451	620
Belgian Committee for the Fund	11 290	-	-	11 290	-
Business Council for the United Nations Decade for Women	2 751	2 751	-	-	-
Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church	10 000	10 000	-	-	-
Connecticut College	400	-	250	150	-
Danish National Association for VFDW	8 050	1 500	3 050	3 500	-
Decade Coin Programme UNICEF/Decade for Women	13 461	-	-	13 461	-
Finnish National Association for VFDW	159 106	44 251	48 824	66 031	-
Finnish United Nations Association	52 132	21 806	17 277	13 049	-
Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, Inc.	10 013	6 013	4 000	-	-
Good Housekeeping	1 905	-	-	1 905	-
International Federation for Home Economics	230	-	-	230	-
Japanese Association of House of Representatives	5 000	-	-	5 000	-
Alice Paolozzi	5 000	5 000	-	-	-
Soroptimist International Association	837	615	197	25	-
The Joselow Foundation	1 500	1 500	-	-	-
United Nations Association/Norway	760	-	-	760	-
United States Committee on VFDW	20 000	-	15 000	5 000	-
Women's Advisory Council United Nations Association/United Kingdom	5 359	1 239	1 497	623	2 000
Zonta International	11 021	-	10 150	871	-
Other organizations	185	80	-	105	-
Totals	<u>324 460</u>	<u>96 237</u>	<u>103 152</u>	<u>122 451</u>	<u>2 620</u>
GRAND TOTAL	<u>971 304</u>				

C. Contributions and pledges
for earmarked projects as at 28 February 1986

NETHERLANDS

Installations des moulins a grains des foyers ameliors dans les regions de Mopti et de Koulikoro	\$57 200
Assistance a la coop artisanales des portieres de Kalabougou	22 968
Improved artisanal fish Bijagos Islands, Guinea Bissau(Dfl1210 000)	71 186
Donor Round Table Conference, Burkina Faso	<u>50 000</u>
Total	<u>\$201 354</u>