

Chapter XX

Children, youth and aging persons

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 Children		
 UN Children's Fund		
In 1982, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) co-operated in programmes in 112 countries, with a total child population under 16 years of age of approximately 1.3 billion. Total		
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expenditure on programmes and budgetary support came to \$289 million, making the average UNICEF expenditure per child 22 cents, compared with 23 cents in 1981. Support was given to basic maternal and child health services in 104 countries, and to water supply (93 countries), child nutrition (90), social welfare services (99), and formal (94) and non-formal (85) education. Of the total expenditure by main category of programme,

28 per cent was spent for water supply and sanitation, 24 for basic child health, 10 for formal education, 10 for planning and project support services, 9 for child nutrition, 8 for emergency relief, 7 for social welfare services for children, and 4 for non-formal education.

In addition, UNICEF expended \$28 million from funds received in trust, mainly for reimbursable procurement of goods and services, and distributed donations in kind through its field network for a value of \$7 million.⁽⁴⁾

The UNICEF Executive Board met three times in 1982: on 16 April for a special session,⁽²⁾ at which it considered increasing its membership to 41 members; from 10 to 21 May for its regular session;⁽¹⁾ and on 28 June,⁽³⁾ to elect officers to serve from 1 August 1982 to 31 July 1983.

At its regular session, the Board approved programme commitments for multiyear implementation totalling \$226.2 million net and "noted" projects (those financed by specific-purpose contributions) totalling \$252 million. It noted that the financial position of UNICEF had strengthened significantly in 1982 compared to 1981, increasing by 30 per cent to a total income of \$378 million. The Board adopted by consensus a message to the General Assembly at its second special session devoted to disarmament, appealing for reduction of arms expenditures so that a portion of the savings could be channelled through national or multinational programmes towards meeting the minimum needs of children everywhere—adequate nutrition, safe water, primary health care and suitable education.

Reports. UNICEF Board, (1)E/1982/17, (2)E/ICEF/694, (3)E/ICEF/696; (⁴)UNICEF Director, E/ICEF/698 & Corr.1.

Programme policy decisions

UNICEF Executive Board consideration. At its May 1982 session,⁽²⁾ the UNICEF Executive Board endorsed the trend towards greater co-operation in area-specific programmes at the intermediate and local levels in developing countries, as well as the expansion and strengthening of urban basic services. It also endorsed a new five-year programme to reduce child and maternal malnutrition and a complementary project to provide essential drugs, both to be undertaken jointly by UNICEF and the World Health Organization. Emphasizing the catalytic role of UNICEF, the Board urged continued and strengthened collaboration with other United Nations and international aid agencies, local institutions and non-governmental organizations (NGOS) to enhance programme convergence.

The Board approved the objectives and priorities of the medium-term work plan, which emphasized the promotion and use of low-cost effective

measures to benefit the most disadvantaged children and women. It also approved the financial plan of the work plan as a framework of projections for 1982-1985 and agreed that the Executive Director could prepare \$383 million in programme and budget commitments from general resources for submission to the Board in 1983.

Economic and Social Council action. By a resolution adopted without vote on 28 July 1982,⁽³⁾ the Economic and Social Council endorsed the policies, actions and conclusions adopted by the Board in May. The Council commended organizations supporting UNICEF activities, notably the UNICEF national committees and NGOs, as well as other United Nations organizations, and urged intensified co-operation. The Council also commended the Fund's energetic and imaginative efforts to enlarge its income, expressed appreciation to Governments that had responded to the Fund's needs and appealed for increased contributions. The text, introduced by Yugoslavia on behalf of 15 countries, had been approved without vote on 23 July by the Council's Third (Programme and Co-ordination) Committee.

General Assembly action. On 20 December,⁽⁴⁾ the General Assembly, acting without vote, commended UNICEF policies and activities, endorsed the Council's 28 July resolution, reaffirmed the Fund's role as the United Nations lead agency for co-ordinating the follow-up activities of the International Year of the Child (1979)⁽⁵⁾ and urged the Fund's Executive Director and secretariat to continue and intensify their innovative efforts to adapt the basic-services approach for children in the light of the current economic crisis, in accordance with the Executive Board's decisions. Like the Council, the Assembly commended UNICEF for its imaginative efforts to enlarge its income, expressed appreciation to Governments that had responded to its needs and appealed for increased contributions.

This resolution, based on informal consultations on an 18-nation text which had been introduced in the Assembly's Second (Economic and Financial) Committee by the Netherlands and later withdrawn,⁽¹⁾ was submitted by a Vice-Chairman. It was approved by the Committee without vote, on 8 December.

Draft resolution withdrawn. (1)Bangladesh, Belgium, Bhutan, China, Denmark, Finland, France, India, Lebanon, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, A/C.2/37/L.87.

Reports. (2)UNICEF Board, E/1982/17.

Resolutions (1982). (3)ESC: 1982/51, 28 July, text following.

(⁴)GA: 37/231, 20 Dec., text following.

Yearbook reference. (⁵)1979, p. 908.

Meeting records. ESC: E/1982/SR.49 (28 July). GA: 2nd Committee, A/C.2/37/SR.7, 32-40, 44, 47 (5 Oct.-8 Dec.); plenary, A/37/PV.113 (20 Dec.).

Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/51

28 July 1982 Meeting 49 Adopted without vote

Approved by Third Committee (E/1982/90) without vote, 23 July (meeting 16); 15-nation draft (E/1982/C.3/L.9); agenda item 19.

Sponsors: Austria, Bangladesh, Benin, India, Italy, Mali, Nepal, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Sweden, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire.

Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund
The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 36/197 of 17 December 1981 and Council resolution 1981/56 of 22 July 1981, in which, *inter alia*, the principles and guidelines for the programme activities of the United Nations Children's Fund, as laid down by its Executive Board, in particular the field-oriented and action-oriented approach of the Fund, were reaffirmed,

Having considered the decisions and conclusions adopted by the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund at its session held at United Nations Headquarters from 10 to 21 May 1982, in particular concerning the policy reviews on the co-operation of the Fund in urban basic services and at intermediate and local levels in developing countries,

Deeply concerned that the present global economic situation adversely affects both the ability of developing countries to implement plans for the extension of basic services to children and mothers and the level of contributions to the Fund and other organizations concerned for those purposes,

Noting with appreciation the exceptional efforts that have recently been made by certain Governments to increase their contributions to the Fund,

Taking note of the message adopted by consensus by the Executive Board and addressed to the General Assembly at its second special session devoted to disarmament, in which the Board appealed for a reduction of expenditures on armaments so that a portion of the savings could be channelled through national or multinational programmes towards meeting the minimum needs of children everywhere,

Aware that significant progress can be made in alleviating the situation of children and mothers in developing countries with relatively modest increases in contributions to the Fund and to other organizations sharing similar concern, pending progress in the implementation of the new international economic order,

1. Endorses the policies, actions and conclusions of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund as adopted at its session held from 10 to 21 May 1982;

2. Commends the Executive Director and the secretariat of the Fund for their energetic and imaginative efforts to enlarge the income of the Fund during the past year;

3. Also commends all organizations concerned in supporting the activities of the Fund, notably the national committees for the Fund and the co-operating non-governmental organizations, as well as other organizations of the United Nations system, and urges them to intensify such co-operation;

4. Expresses its appreciation to Governments that have responded to the needs of the Fund and hopes that more Member States will follow their example;

5. Appeals to all Governments to increase their contributions, if possible on a multiyear basis, so that, in the current global economic situation, the Fund may be able to strengthen its co-operation with developing countries and respond to the urgent needs of the children in those countries.

General Assembly resolution 37/231

20 December 1982 Meeting 113 Adopted without vote

Approved by Second Committee (A/37/774) without vote, 8 December (meeting 471); draft by Vice-Chairman (A/C.2/37/L.112), based on informal consultations on 18-nation draft (A/C.2/37/L.87); agenda item 72 (h).

United Nations Children's Fund
The General Assembly,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/51 of 28 July 1982,

Having considered the report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund on its session held at United Nations Headquarters from 10 to 21 May 1982.

Reaffirming the principles and guidelines for programme activities established by the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund, in particular its basic-services approach and its efforts to reach the most disadvantaged as part of a comprehensive field-oriented and action-oriented development policy, and the maintenance of a low ratio of administration to programme costs,

Acutely aware that the present global economic situation both adversely affects the ability of developing countries to implement efforts to extend basic services and makes the need for those services all the more critical,

Concerned that the situation regarding financing for development, including in particular the situation of multilateral agencies depending upon voluntary contributions, has been adversely affected by a number of unfavourable factors,

1. Commends the policies and activities of the United Nations Children's Fund;

2. Endorses Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/151;

3. Reaffirms the role of the United Nations Children's Fund as the lead agency in the United Nations system responsible for co-ordinating the follow-up activities of the International Year of the Child related to the goals and objectives concerning children set forth in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade:

4. Urges the Executive Director and the secretariat of the United Nations Children's Fund to continue and intensify their innovative efforts to adapt the basic-services approach for children in the light of the current economic crisis, in accordance with the relevant decisions of the Executive Board of the Fund;

5. Commends the Executive Director and the secretariat of the United Nations Children's Fund for their imaginative efforts to enlarge the income of the Fund so that it may respond to the needs of developing countries;

6. Expresses its appreciation to Governments that have responded to the needs of the United Nations Children's Fund and expresses the hope that more Member States will follow their example;

7. Appeals to all Governments, especially to those whose voluntary contributions may not reflect their capacity to contribute, to increase their contributions, preferably the contributions to the general resources, if possible on a multiyear basis, so that, in the light of the present economic situation, the United Nations Children's Fund may meet its responsibilities to developing countries in responding to the urgent needs of children.

Medium-term plan for 1982-1985

At its May 1982 session,(2) the Executive Board approved the programme objectives of the 1982-1985 medium-term work plan(1) as UNICEF contributions towards attainment of the goals of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade(3)—to eradicate mass illiteracy and strive for universal access to primary education, eradicate mass hunger and malnutrition, and reduce infant mortality rates to 50 or less per 1,000 by the year 2000.

The plan's objectives were to direct programmes to the most disadvantaged children, particularly in regions and countries most seriously affected by the economic recession and where expenditures on social services had stagnated or deteriorated; to promote low-cost activities in such areas as infant and child feeding, child immunization, the provision of essential drugs, diarrhoeal diseases control, women's functional literacy and the education of girls, and multidimensional water projects; and to strengthen UNICEF capacity and management.

In endorsing the plan's priorities, the Board stressed that programme delivery was to be the

main focus. Primary health care (PHC) orientation of services outside the health sector and education of out-of-school children and youth would receive special attention, as would specific aspects of child nutrition such as breast-feeding.

Medium-term plan. (1)E/ICEF/691 & Corr.1.
Report. (2)UNICEF Board, E/1982/17.
Resolution. (3)GA: 35/56, annex, 5 Dec. 1980 (YUN 1980,
p. 503).

Programme delivery at the local levels

The Executive Board, at its May 1982 session,(1) welcomed the main findings of a UNICEF secretariat report on programme co-operation at the intermediate and local levels and endorsed the trend towards greater co-operation in the introduction and strengthening of institutions and services benefiting children at those levels. PHC, basic services and income-generating activities for women were cited as effective entry points for community participation, while the non-governmental sector was identified as an effective channel for stimulating, encouraging and sustaining such participation.

UNICEF experience reviewed by the report supported the policy of co-operation in area-specific programmes (those limited to a geographically defined area). It moreover suggested that opportunities should be sought for increased subnational co-operation focusing on special groups, as on children of disadvantaged minorities or nomads, and that supporting programmes capable of being replicated and translated into national policy should be emphasized.

Report. (1)UNICEF Board, E/1982/17.

Maurice Pate Memorial Award

The Executive Board, in approving the 1982 commitments at its May session, approved the Executive Director's recommendation that, for the year, the Maurice Pate Memorial Award, established to commemorate the first Executive Director of UNICEF, be awarded to the University of the West Indies to support activities of its Department of Social and Preventive Medicine, in recognition of the University's increasingly important role in that field.(1) That Department had been engaged in several outreach training programmes over the previous two decades, including those for paramedical personnel in community medicine, and had developed the first community training programme for health aides in the region, producing a manual for the basic training and continuing education of such personnel.

Recommendation. (1)UNICEF Director, E/ICEF/P/L.2143(REC).

UNICEF programmes by region

In 1982, programme expenditures were roughly maintained at previous levels for all geographical

regions,(1) except the Middle East (eastern Mediterranean) where, due principally to emergency relief in Lebanon, expenditures increased to \$31 million, compared with \$17.5 million in 1981. The tables on the following pages show expenditures and commitments for 1982, and commitments and "notings" (awaiting funding) approved by the Executive Board in May.(2)

Reports. (1)Board of Auditors, and financial statements, A/38/5/Add.2; (2)UNICEF Board, E/1982/17.

Africa

In eastern Africa,(1) primary health care (PHC) development continued in 1982, with greater emphasis on training and planning. A regional workshop was held on the subject (Ethiopia, February), as were several intercountry workshops. UNICEF assistance in education continued to focus on curriculum development and teacher training, in co-operation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Interregional workshops were organized on diarrhoeal and sexually transmitted diseases. An adviser on water and environmental sanitation visited the region, and funding was arranged for a regional project on improved sanitation and health education in water delivery schemes. Case studies were made of projects designed to integrate appropriate technology into basic services (Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Swaziland). To ensure the operation of programme vehicles, UNICEF provided transport-maintenance support in the form of spare parts, tools and equipment to 10 of the 19 east African countries. Assistance was also provided for the production of information materials on breast-feeding, such as newsletters, slides, posters and press briefings.

In west and central Africa,(2) where the economic situation and the drought cycle continued to constrain assistance programmes, some progress was nevertheless reported in establishing national PHC systems, providing drinking water and adequate diet, improving sanitation and expanding immunization programmes. Co-operation in food production was mainly at the family and village levels. UNICEF focused on strengthening field offices, improving logistic services, training staff, and carrying out advocacy activities directed at national officials in the policy-making and technical fields.

The Fund continued its emergency assistance to Chad, distributing enriched food supplies, essential drugs, vaccines and school materials for children. A programme was begun to rehabilitate primary schools and health and social centres to include projects in preventive child care, nutrition and income-producing activities for women such as food-gardening and sewing. Other emergency aid was provided for refugee children and
(continued on p. 1169)

1982 EXPENDITURE AND MULTIYEAR COMMITMENTS BY COUNTRY AND REGION

(as at 31 December 1982; in US dollars)

COUNTRY	Expenditure	Approved new commitment	COUNTRY	Expenditure	Approved new commitment
Africa					
Algeria	174,464	-	Honduras	477,599	
Angola	1,859,808	-	Jamaica	83,399	
Benin	865,376	-	Mexico	428,172	
Botswana	294,220	-	Nicaragua	638,612	
Burundi	911,665	2,862,366	Panama	58,473	-
Cape Verde	123,352	253,242	Paraguay	237,443	665,000
Central African Republic	581,303	-	Peru	1,238,952	3,000,000
Chad	1,050,407	-	St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla	9,490	-
Comoros	95,633	189,000	Saint Lucia	27,491	-
Congo	168,278	-	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	34,087	
Djibouti	720,712	-	Suriname	12,323	
Equatorial Guinea	87,075	-	Regional projects	1,466,578	-
Ethiopia	10,029,924	-	Subtotal	11,120,881	12,651,992
Gabon	56	-	East Asia and Pakistan		
Gambia	209,190	-	Bangladesh	10,602,609	50,000,000
Ghana	1,154,064	2,463,000	Burma	3,344,847	27,000,000
Guinea	919,589	-	China	4,069,385	20,163,000
Guinea-Bissau	720,450	232,445	Democratic Kampuchea	9,631,803	-
Ivory coast	382,191	2,006,000	Indonesia	13,025,142	-
Kenya	952,240	-	Lao People's Democratic Republic	1,140,991	4,256,000
Lesotho	175,850	-	Malaysia	318,337	1,062,000
Liberia	729,276	1,189,220	Pacific island Territories	388,128	283,669
Madagascar	912,274	-	Pakistan	11,840,070	-
Malawi	1,056,475	-	Papua New Guinea	247,001	193,000
Mali	1,083,848	8,812,000	Philippines	2,746,247	
Mauritania	578,476	1,995,000	Republic of Korea	622,703	2,716,000
Mauritius	212,715	-	Thailand	2,943,789	14,740,000
Morocco	1,423,000	-	Viet Nam	4,475,739	27,142,000
Mozambique	1,072,754	-	Regional projects	145,786	
Niger	1,369,930	-	Subtotal	65,542,576	147,555,669
Nigeria	4,060,592	-	South Central Asia		
Rwanda	1,492,530	-	Afghanistan	1,265,596	
Sao Tome and Principe	78,544	-	Bhutan	712,547	-
Senegal	513,178	-	India	35,285,031	-
Seychelles	59,023	-	Maldives	505,126	159,000
Sierra Leone	234,077	1,427,000	Mongolia	38,093	-
Somalia	2,798,665	-	Nepal	4,359,039	12,710,000
Swaziland	314,915	-	Sri Lanka	3,069,540	
Togo	159,218	-	Subtotal	45,234,972	12,869,000
Tunisia	160,457	-	Eastern Mediterranean		
Uganda	4,385,841	-	Bahrain	106,797	-
United Republic of Cameroon	544,342	-	Democratic Yemen	552,588	-
United Republic of Tanzania	4,453,367	13,427,000	Egypt	3,084,684	4,972,000
upper Volta	1,316,313	-	Jordan	722,311	547,000
Zaire	2,762,940	10,166,000	Lebanon	15,267,321	-
Zambia	485,671	-	Oman	315,055	
Zimbabwe	1,582,152	-	Sudan	8,449,213	-
Regional projects	881,798	-	Syrian Arab Republic	259,904	1,460,000
Subtotal	56,198,215	45,022,273	Yemen	1,770,491	-
Americas					
Antigua	12,385	-	Palestine children and mothers	263,612	-
Barbados	22,431	-	Regional projects	191,012	-
Belize	37,370	-	Subtotal	30,982,988	6,979,000
Bolivia	525,134	-	Europe		
Brazil	1,149,263	1,260,000	Poland	107,390	-
Chile	67,000	-	Turkey	154,014	460,000
Colombia	1,925,347	-	Subtotal	261,404	460,000
Costa Rica	105,353	-	Interregional	3,755,223	1,365,034
Cuba	85,097	-	Savings (cancellation)	-	(146,961,
Dominica	12,941	94,992	Total	213,096,259	226,156,007
Dominican Republic	265,625	-			
Ecuador	546,672	-			
El Salvador	275,959	-			
Grenada	23,904	-			
Guatemala	490,223	2,518,000			
Guyana	114,284	-			
Haiti	745,274	5,114,000			

NOTES: Approved new commitments include the following to cover over-expenditures incurred in previous commitments: Burundi, \$5,366; Cape Verde, \$1,242; Guinea-Bissau, \$39,445; Liberia, \$3,220; Dominica, \$11,992; and Pacific island Territories, \$6,669. Left over from a previous commitment and recommended for cancellation were: Egypt, \$136,817; Jordan \$12,516; Maldives, \$41,123; and Turkey, \$26,906.

SOURCES: A/38/5/Add.2, E/1982/17.

COMMITMENTS AND "NOTINGS" APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE
BOARD IN 1982 FOR INTERREGIONAL PROJECTS
(in us dollars)

	Period	Approved commitments	Approved for "notings"
Maurice Pate Memorial Award	1982-1983	15,000	-
International Children's Centre	1983-1985	700,000	
Supplementary funds for support for primary health care	1982-1983	-	5,000,000
Provision for essential drugs for primary health care in Africa	1982-1983	-	15,000,000
WHO/UNICEF programme of action for the improvement of nutrition	1982-1986	-	85,300,000
Commitment to cover over-expenditure		350,034	-
Total		1,065,034	105,300,000

NOTE: No regional projects were considered in 1982.

SOURCE: E/1982/17.

displaced persons (Rwanda, Uganda) and for victims of drought (Botswana, Cape Verde, Mauritania, Mozambique), flood (Benin, Madagascar) and an outbreak of meningitis (Zambia).

Reports. UNICEF regional offices for: (1)Eastern Africa, E/ICEF/L.1458; (2)West and central Africa, E/ICEF/L.1459.

Americas

Steps were taken in the Americas(1) during 1982 to achieve co-ordinated action by Governments and organizations in implementing the regional plan of action for PHC formulated in 1980. In collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF continued to support the related programmes for immunization and control of diarrhoeal diseases, a leading cause of infant death. Focusing on prevention and family-based treatment of diarrhoea, it assisted in a study of prevention methods, for the purpose of designing a technical co-operation project among the live Andean Pact countries-Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela. With the Fund's help, a plant was built in Colombia for the production of oral rehydration salts for low-cost treatment of diarrhoeal diseases.

Besides support for breast-feeding programmes, nutrition surveillance systems were established within national health services (Colombia, Cuba, Nicaragua, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla), and adequate child nutrition was promoted through food production at the family and community levels (Bolivia, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Peru). New approaches to early childhood development, many involving parents and trained community workers or volunteers, were carried out (Barbados, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Haiti, Mexico, Panama, Peru). In Chile, UNICEF co-operated with the Centre for Development and Psychosocial Stimulation on a study of emotional and behavioural disorders affecting the young.

Report. (1)UNICEF regional office for Americas, E/ICEF/L.1460.

Asia

During 1982, medium- and long-term programmes of co-operation submitted by seven countries in the east Asia and Pakistan region(1) (Bangladesh, Burma, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Thailand, Viet Nam) and approved by the UNICEF Executive Board at its May session were under implementation. Towards the end of the year, joint annual reviews of programme implementation were held with Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea and Viet Nam, and plans of action for 1983 were finalized.

Burma and Papua New Guinea were selected for a study aimed at supporting PHC in countries committed to its development and learning how UNICEF and WHO could best collaborate in providing support. Increased efforts were made to develop urban PHC programmes for selected cities-Jakarta and Surabaya (Indonesia), Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), Manila (Philippines), Seoul (Republic of Korea) and Bangkok (Thailand).

Under the joint UNICEF/WHO live-year nutrition programme, Burma and Pakistan were chosen for intensive support. The Fund's participation in another nutrition project in Indonesia involved nutrition education; distribution of vitamin A capsules, iron-folate tablets and oral rehydration salts; supplementary feeding for malnourished children; and food production. In Thailand, where some 53 per cent of pre-school children suffered from protein deficiency, and weaning mothers from malnutrition, the Fund co-operated with national ministries in nutrition surveillance, educational and training activities (training some 13,725 trainees at various levels in 1982) and promoting food production. Jointly with the World Food Programme, UNICEF was developing the first food aid project for vulnerable groups in Viet Nam. In the Lao People's Democratic Republic, it extended support to a food processing plant for weaning foods.

Regional services in supply, procurement and logistics continued in 1982. By the end of October, purchase orders, including those for Kampuchea where the Fund played an important role in relief operations, totalled \$5.6 million. Cement, iron pipes and school supplies were among the major items procured.

In south central Asia,(2) emphasis was laid on the control of diarrhoeal diseases, anaemia and goitre, with the Fund co-operating in such measures as oral rehydration therapy and immunization, the use of iron-fortified salt for anaemia and iodinated oil injections during pregnancy where goitre was endemic. Response to the goitre problem shifted from funding salt-iodization plants towards advocacy-persuading Governments, the medical profession and teaching institutions to give

the problem priority in terms of urgency and resource allocation.

Reports. UNICEF regional offices for: (1) East Asia and Pakistan, E/ICEF/L.1461; (2) South Central Asia, E/ICEF/L.1462.

Mediterranean area

During 1982, UNICEF submitted proposals for two programme areas—drinking water supply and sanitation, and women's activities—for adoption by the Arab Gulf Programme for the United Nations Development Organizations (AGFUND), which had pledged approximately \$20 million to the Fund for the fiscal year starting in 1982.(1) UNICEF also co-operated with the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, which granted a \$23-million concessional loan to eight Arab countries—Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Jordan, Mauritania, Morocco, the Sudan, Tunisia and Yemen—in support of rural drinking water programmes; arrangements for UNICEF co-operation in these projects were in the final stage of negotiation, whereby the recipient countries would channel the proceeds of the projects to UNICEF.

Within hours of the outbreak of fighting in Beirut, Lebanon, on 6 June, UNICEF became involved in relief operations in that country. Response to the Executive Director's \$5-million appeal for an initial 90-day programme of intensive relief and rehabilitation assistance was immediate, and the goal was met by Governments. Despite persisting hostilities and tensions, the reconstruction programme in south Lebanon continued. By year's end, 198 projects in health, water supply, education and community self-help had been completed; another 49 were being implemented, 7 were under procurement and 44 in preparation. Following a major earthquake in Yemen in December, an AGFUND emergency reserve released \$201,000 for relief supplies delivered and distributed by UNICEF.

Report. (1)UNICEF regional office for Middle East and North Africa. E/ICEF/L.1463.

UNICEF programmes by sector

As in the previous four years, child health (see below) accounted for the largest portion of the Fund's expenditures in 1982.(2) Other major programmes dealt with water supply and sanitation, nutrition, social welfare services and education. The table below gives details of 1982 expenditures and commitments by programme sector.(1)

Reports. UNICEF Board, (1)E/1982/17, (2)E/1983/21.

Child welfare in urban areas

At its May 1982 session,(1) the Executive Board reviewed UNICEF work in urban basic services(2) and, in the light of growing urban populations and

the increasing magnitude of the problems of children and women of the urban poor, adopted a new urban programme strategy for the remainder of the 1980s. The strategy, aimed at strengthening government efforts to implement solutions, continued to give priority to the critical areas of malnutrition, pre-school care and early childhood development, abandoned and disabled children, responsible parenthood and family planning, water supply and sanitation, and women's situation. The Board's action paved the way for the Fund to expand urban programmes to meet the needs identified in country-by-country analyses in projects such as sites-and-services, slum upgrading, water and sanitation, post-disaster settlements, and physical infrastructure for small and medium-sized towns and cities.

In Central America, UNICEF collaboration in urban basic services included technical assistance and seed money through the Central American Bank for Economic Integration for the institutionalization of a system of loans and technical assistance; this resulted, for example, in the creation of employment opportunities and income-generating activities for women in Costa Rica. In five urban areas in Guatemala, UNICEF, in co-operation with the Government and a local consortium of non-governmental organizations, provided financial, material and technical support for community-based projects in education and training, health and nutrition, income-generating activities, legal aid and urban infrastructure.

UNICEF made a commitment to add its resources to \$400,000 made available by Mexico's National Bank for the Development of Physical Infrastructure for the World Bank's second urban and regional development project, for low-income urban communities in the states of Tabasco, Chiapas and Vera Cruz, designed to provide training and technical assistance for enhancing institutional co-operation and arranging credit.

1982 UNICEF EXPENDITURE AND COMMITMENTS,
BY MAIN FIELD OF CO-OPERATION
(in thousands of US dollars)

	1982 expenditure	Approved commitments
Child health	111,028	67,808
Wafer supply/sanitation	-	45,177
Child nutrition	19,013	13,070
Social welfare services for children	15,647	21,250
Formal education	20,560	41,602
Non-formal education	8,571	12,933
Emergency relief*	16,263	
General	22,014	24,339
Programme support services†	39,551	
Total	252,647	226,179

*Expenditures for rehabilitation of facilities damaged or destroyed in emergency situations, distributed among the appropriate programme sectors, would have brought the total to \$18,117,288.

†Not comparable with previous years' figures due to changes in the 1982-1983 budget presentation.

Applied workshops aimed at strengthening government and UNICEF capacities were organized. One such workshop in Sri Lanka reviewed management experience in urban basic services programmes in Asia, particularly water and sanitation services in slums and shanty towns; another, held in Haiti in November, reviewed programmes to reduce urban malnutrition in Africa, Asia and Latin America. An international conference on primary health care (PHC) for poor urban areas of the Andean Pact countries, organized by the Colombian Ministry of Health and UNICEF, was held in Colombia.

Reports. (1)UNICEF Board, E/1982/17; (2)UNICEF Executive Director, E/ICEF/L.1440 & Corr.1.

Education

In 1982, UNICEF activities classified as formal and non-formal education-excluding education in health, nutrition, sanitation and other programmes-accounted for \$29.1 million, or 14 per cent of total programme expenditure, compared with 15 per cent in 1981. Assistance in education was in four main areas: pre-school care and education; primary education; non-formal education (educational opportunities for youth and women outside the school system, including vocational training); and education in basic health services (training of childbirth attendants, PHC workers and construction and maintenance workers in water supply and sanitation facilities; workshops and seminars on specific aspects of programme development, implementation and evaluation). Recipient countries numbered 102: 46 in Africa, 26 in Asia, 22 in the Americas and 8 in the Middle East region (including Turkey).

Following a meeting in April 1982 between the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the UNICEF Executive Director, a joint UNESCO/UNICEF working group prepared a programme to foster universal primary education and literacy for consideration by the Executive Board in 1983. The programme was to be implemented within the framework of UNICEF country programmes, with UNESCO technical support. Under the first phase, a five-year period of assistance was to be provided for activities in Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Nepal, Nicaragua and Peru.

Nutrition

In 1982, UNICEF co-operated in nutrition programmes in 90 countries—41 in Africa, 22 in Asia, 21 in the Americas and 6 in the Middle East—with a total expenditure of \$19 million, an increase of \$5 million over 1981. These activities accounted for 9 per cent of all programme costs. The Fund continued to support national and community activities for the improvement of food

production, education and training in nutrition, and nutritional monitoring and evaluation.

At its May session,(1) the Executive Board approved a five-year (1982-1986) nutrition support programme to reduce malnutrition among children and women through PHC. To be jointly undertaken by the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF, the programme included promotion of breast-feeding, improvement of weaning practices and nutrition education, control of specific deficiencies as in iodine and vitamin A, environmental health, and food production and distribution.(2) The Board also examined another proposed UNICEF/WHO project to increase the supply of essential drugs to least developed countries, to be limited initially to five such countries. These joint undertakings were to be funded as complementary "noted" projects, for which the Government of Italy had already pledged \$100 million (\$85 million of which was for the five-year nutrition support programme).

Reports. (1)UNICEF Board, E/1982/17; (2)UNICEF and WHO secretariats, E/ICEF/L.1441 & Add.1.

Infant feeding

In 1982, as in previous years, the campaign to halt and reverse the decline of breast-feeding in the developing world received the Fund's moral and material support, based on the fact that breast-feeding yielded improvement in the child's survival and health prospects. Irresponsible advertising of infant-formula products and practices of health clinics and hospitals continued to be campaign targets. While only a few countries had formally adopted the 1981 International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes(1) by year's end, 12 had banned advertising of substitutes and more than 20 were developing national regulatory measures modelled on the Code. In 24 of the countries with which the Fund co-operated, breast-feeding was promoted through surveys, studies, national workshops and consultations with government and health officials.

Information on the benefits of breast-feeding was disseminated through the mass media, and education and training on young child feeding was encouraged. A document clarifying the position of UNICEF and WHO on the Code was sent to the field offices of those agencies. Efforts were also made to assist on an individual basis all groups—Governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOS) and infant-formula manufacturers—committed to the Code's implementation. UNICEF participated in four NGO conferences on infant feeding—in South-East Asia, east Africa and the Caribbean (two)—which discussed the mother's right to choose the best feeding method for her infant based on strategies to promote breast-feeding.

Primary health care

In 1982, UNICEF addressed itself to five major problems identified in primary health care (PHC) implementation: lack of political support and therefore of the necessary community organization for the effective delivery of health services; failure to involve the community sufficiently in decision making and programme management; poor integration of health services; the need for information and monitoring systems within those services; and the need to give priority to mothers' and children's health within PHC programmes. Co-operation in maternal and child health services continued to be the largest field of activity of UNICEF, with programmes totalling \$111 million.

Accordingly, the Fund gave considerable attention to PHC advocacy at the national level, as in Nepal and Sri Lanka where efforts were made to raise political awareness. Ways of co-operation were sought in refashioning health service infrastructures, including transportation, for increased coverage particularly in rural areas; and in orienting community health workers towards the PHC approach. Communications and education programmes to foster community involvement were undertaken, as in Bangladesh, Jamaica and the Philippines, in connection with child immunization. Special training sessions for government officials drawn from different programme sectors at local and regional levels promoted intersectoral collaboration in Costa Rica, Nigeria and the United Republic of Cameroon; integrated area approaches, such as those under way in India, Oman and Pakistan, helped to focus on intrasectoral liaison and joint planning. Assistance was provided for regular evaluation of PHC programmes and, where necessary, for reorientation and restructuring of services, as in Angola, Ecuador, Lesotho and the United Republic of Tanzania.

As part of its PHC programmes, UNICEF included an essential drugs component. For example, jointly with WHO, UNICEF undertook a \$30-million project for the United Republic of Tanzania to provide a regular supply of drug kits for community health workers at clinics. Each kit was packaged to meet the particular needs of the area and designed to ensure an adequate supply of essential drugs for up to three months.

The Fund supported diarrhoeal diseases control programmes in 22 countries and supplied more than 40 with oral rehydration salts for home treatment. Approximately 25 million packets were distributed and assistance was given for local production and packaging of another 25 million.

The Fund also supported related programmes in immunization, health education, monitoring of child growth, and water and sanitation. Under the WHO-assisted immunization programme, it supplied vaccines against tuberculosis, diphtheria,

tetanus, typhoid, measles and poliomyelitis to approximately 80 countries in Asia, Africa and the Middle East. It additionally provided the necessary cold-chain equipment (refrigerators, cold boxes, transport) and assisted in their maintenance as well as in maintenance training. An emerging part of UNICEF involvement was participation in national evaluations of immunization programmes which helped to determine reasons for low coverage in some areas.

UNICEF finances

Despite severe constraints on resources available for international development assistance, the financial position of UNICEF improved significantly during 1982 due to increased contributions, so that, for the first time in four years, its income exceeded expenditure.(1) Total income was \$378 million (including \$41 million for the Lebanon emergency and reconstruction programme), a 30 per cent increase over 1981, while total expenditure was \$289 million (\$75 million in cash, \$138 million in supplies, and \$76 million in programme support and administration), a decrease of approximately 1.4 per cent.

In 1982, virtually all major donors increased their contributions to the Fund, with Italy, which had quadrupled its contribution to \$10 million, becoming the second largest contributor of overall multiyear commitments. In terms of general resources, the Arab Gulf Programme for the United Nations Development Organizations, a new major source of funding, ranked second and Italy fourth.

The rate of increase in cash balances in 1982 was slower than had been envisaged in the year's financial plan. As at the end of December, general resources cash balances were \$14 million, against the planned level of \$33 million. An estimated \$14 million of the difference was due to the strengthened exchange value of the United States dollar; a further factor was the phasing of payments by donors for adopted projects according to implementation rather than in the year of pledge. None the less, general resources cash balances increased by \$9 million over the very low 1981 level. In addition, supplementary funds income in 1982 was higher than had been anticipated.

Report. (1)UNICEF Board, E/1983/21.

Financial plan for 1982-1985

The UNICEF financial plan for 1982-1985, set out in the medium-term work plan, had projected a 1982 income of \$385 million, compared to the actual income of \$378 million. The annual income projections for the next three years were \$410 million, \$450 million and \$500 million. Projection levels on expenditure were kept lower to allow for

liquidity build-up: \$322 million for 1982, compared to the actual expenditure of \$289 million, \$354 million for 1983, \$408 million for 1984 and \$465 million for 1985.

The planned programme commitments from general resources for 1982 totalled \$226.2 million, approved by the Executive Board at its May session(*) on the recommendation of its Programme Committee. Also approved were 36 "noted" projects, valued at \$252 million, for financing through specific-purpose contributions, including two large projects of \$100 million, already pledged, for nutrition and essential drugs. Planned programme and budget commitments totalled \$383 million for 1983, \$278 million for 1984 and \$497 million for 1985.

The Executive Director introduced the medium-term work plan as reflecting severe financial stringencies imposed by the prevailing economic recession. He stressed that the income projections were based on identified sources and firm pledges for 1982-1983 and on cautious estimates for 1984-1985. The Board found the projections to be realistic.

Report. (1)UNICEF Board, E/1982/17.

Contributions

In its resolution of 28 July 1982 on the report of the Executive Board of UNICEF,(3) the Economic and Social Council commended the UNICEF Executive Director and secretariat for their energetic and imaginative efforts to enlarge the Fund's income, and expressed appreciation to those Governments that had responded to the Fund's needs. It appealed to all Governments to

increase their contributions, if possible on a multiyear basis, so as to enable the Fund in the prevailing global economic situation to strengthen its response to the urgent needs of children in developing countries.

The General Assembly, in a resolution of 20 December on the Fund,(4) took essentially the same action, but in addition appealed especially to those Governments whose contributions might not reflect their capacity to contribute to increase their contributions, preferably to the general resources.

The original 18-nation text on which the Assembly resolution was based(1) would have commended the Executive Director and secretariat simply for their efforts to enlarge the Fund's income and would have directed its appeal in general to all Governments to increase their regular contributions.

The contributions received in or pledged for 1982 to the UNICEF general resources and supplementary funds totalled \$351,757,337, after a deduction of \$539,403 in adjustments to prior years' income. Of this amount, \$298,417,656 came from Governments and intergovernmental agencies outside the United Nations, \$45,452,863 from non-governmental sources, and \$7,886,818 from the United Nations (see table below).(2)

Draft resolution withdrawn. (1)Bangladesh, Belgium, Bhutan, China, Denmark, Finland, France, India, Lebanon, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, A/C.2/37/L.87.

Report. (2)Board of Auditors, and financial statements, A/38/5/Add.2.

Resolutions (1982). (3)ESC: 1982/51, 28 July. (4)GA: 37/231, paras. 5-7, 26 Dec.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNICEF (INCLUDING GENERAL RESOURCES AND SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDS)

(as at 31 December 1982; in US dollar equivalent)

Country or organization	Received in or pledged for 1982	Pledged for 1983	Received in or pledged for 1982	Pledged for 1983
Country or organization	Governmental	Non-governmental	Governmental	Non-governmental
Afghanistan	30,000	-	30,000	-
Algeria	150,789	220	142,500	-
Antigua	301	-	-	-
Argentina	90,193	301	-	-
Australia	11,744,282	464,732	3,632,075	-
Austria	2,022,781	290,712	979,802	-
Bahamas	2,960	-	-	-
Bahrain	7,500	526	15,000	-
Bangladesh	18,293	105	6,000	-
Barbados	5,000	-	5,000	-
Belgium	1,179,724	397,076	714,286	-
Benin	11,836	-	2,000	-
Bhutan	2,530	-	3,030	-
Bolivia	16,000	-	16,000	-
Botswana	9,007	-	9,174	-
Brazil	122,222	353	100,000	-
British Virgin Islands	149	-	-	-
Bulgaria	58,685	-	-	-
Burma	215,115	-	50,374	-
Burundi	1,675	-	3,350	-
Byelorussian SSR	78,892	-	75,503	-
Canada	12,192,650	5,489,645	-	-
			Governmental	Governmental
			Central African Republic	25,568
			Chile	235,000
			China	270,000
			Colombia	431,625
			Congo	14,610
			Costa Rica	11,020
			Cuba	139,699
			Cyprus	-
			Czechoslovakia	81,037
			Democratic Yemen	5,819
			Denmark	19,939,229
			Djibouti	2,000
			Dominica	499
			Ecuador	27,066
			Egypt	72,107
			Ethiopia	49,275
			Fiji	2,000
			Finland	2,912,304
			France	1,740,609
			Gambia	5,045
			German Democratic Republic	117,155
				-
				110,236

Country or organization	Received in or pledged for 1982		Pledged for 1983	Country or Organization	Received in or pledged for 1982		Wedge for 1983
	Governmental	Non-governmental		Governmental	Governmental	Non-governmental	
Germany, Federal Republic of	6,246,170	3,423,387	925,000	St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla	749	-	-
Ghana	-	105	-	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	749	-	-
Greece	130,000	2,487	135,000	San Marino	4,625	62	-
Grenada	992	-	-	Senegal	7,000,000	5,461	1,000,000
Guatemala	37,335	5	30,000	Seychelles	30,303	1,691	3,000
Guinea	38,838	-	-	Singapore	1,000	-	-
Guyana	4,508	-	-	Solomon Islands	1,395	476	-
Holy See	1,000	-	1,000	Somalia	500	-	500
Honduras	20,000	-	-	Spain	3,987	-	-
Hong Kong	16,750	-	-	Sweden	259,920	1,589,609	282,715
Hungary	21,429	422	21,079	Switzerland	12,568	35	10,766
Iceland	21,061	-	21,350	Sri Lanka	25,641	-	-
India	1,945,355	6,784	1,691,332	Sudan	35,000	-	35,000
Indonesia	670,096	132	-	Swaziland	5,763	-	-
Iran	10,000	-	-	Sweden	30,216,957	112,889	22,351,352
Iraq	121,600	-	-	Switzerland	7,082,151	2,08,846	4,478,447
Ireland	316,456	119,147	-	Syrian Arab Republic	168,501	-	-
Israel	50,000	-	50,000	Thailand	297,871	14,363	203,352
Italy	31,102,989	287,853	21,089,219	Togo	8,746	-	-
Ivory Coast	63,636	57	-	Trinidad and Tobago	10,417	-	10,417
Jamaica	9,551	195	9,551	Tunisia	60,412	-	38,844
Japan	9,200,608	5,454,783	10,200,000	Turkey	168,501	-	169,492
Jordan	27,972	-	-	Uganda	1,923	1,068	1,786
Kenya	23,963	2	23,318	Ukrainian SSR	157,784	-	157,007
Kuwait	350,000	-	200,000	USSR	852,034	-	815,436
Leo People's Democratic Republic	5,000	-	5,000	United Arab Emirates	799,498	58,977	-
Lebanon	9,334,507	1,653	50,000	United Kingdom	10,341,031	504,399	-
Lesotho	2,100	-	2,500	United Republic of Cameroon	76,164	-	72,829
Liberia	20,000	4,003	-	United Republic of Tanzania	29,289	7,155	29,812
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	1,000,000	40	-	United States	54,600,000	14,209,086	-
Luxembourg	17,347	27,324	17,347	Venezuela	200,000	13,272	-
Madagascar	7,895	-	-	Viet Nam	4,398	68	5,000
Malawi	3,660	-	3,777	Yemen	22,298	-	-
Malaysia	98,400	8	78,000	Yugoslavia	250,000	9,673	-
Maldives	3,000	-	3,000	Zaire	13,000	-	-
Malta	5,016	-	-	Zambia	19,502	-	-
Mauritius	3,794	-	-	Zimbabwe	5,031	4,188	32,550
Mexico	290,263	34,055	267,637	Subtotal	268,020,964	42,525,141	112,274,129
Monaco	3,478	-	3,497	Intergovernmental agencies	-	-	-
Mongolia	3,500	-	3,500	Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development	318,750	-	-
Morocco	100,000	-	100,000	Arab Gulf Programme for UN Development	-	-	-
Mozambique	5,026	-	-	Organizations	24,250,000	2,973,715	-
Nepal	8,015	100	-	European Community	3,858,010	-	-
Netherlands	18,048,783	1,234,743	-	OPEC	2,365,000	-	-
New Zealand	538,462	23,450	-	Subtotal	30,791,760	2,973,715	-
Nicaragua	-	1,795	-	United Nations system	7,977,390	7,771	-
Nigeria	270,344	-	439,883	Adjustments to prior years' income	(485,639)	(53,764)	-
Norway	19,000,716	174,989	15,492,958	Total	306,304,474	45,452,863	112,274,129
Oman	1,050,000	-	50,000				
Pakistan	130,200	9	59,800				
Panama	22,000	-	22,000				
Philippines	516,969	5	413,700				
Poland	78,930	-	78,930				
Portugal	15,000	5,536	15,000				
Qatar	200,000	-	200,000				
Republic of Korea	147,000	-	147,000				
Romania	13,636	-	13,636				
Rwanda	8,154	-	4,000				

SOURCES: A/38/5/Add.2 and UNICEF.

Accounts

1980

On the recommendation of its Committee on Administration and Finance, the UNICEF Executive Board, at its May 1982 session,(1) noted the observations of the United Nations Board of Auditors and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) on the 1980 UNICEF financial report and the financial report on the Greeting Card Operation (GCO) for the 1980/81 season. It also noted the Executive Director's response to those observations. The Ex-

ecutive Director, in a December 1981 report,(2) had stated that modifications to the accounting system were being made as suggested by the Auditors, but that suggestions on GCO budgetary practices needed to be studied. He also made recommendations on administrative issues.

Report. (1)UNICEF Board, E/1982/17.
Yearbook reference. (2)1981, p. 1008.

1981

Following an audit of the financial reports of UNICEF for 1981(4)-noted and submitted by the

Executive Board in May 1982(3) on the recommendation of its Committee on Administration and Finance-and of GCO for the 1980/81 season, the Board of Auditors made a series of recommendations.(2) These called for improvements in budgetary control for field offices; field office management; project monitoring; and procurement procedures, particularly the inclusion of quality controls and a penalty clause for late delivery in contracts and compliance with regulations on competitive bidding. In connection with matters raised in the 1980 report, the Auditors noted that certain obligations and expenditures continued to be excluded from the 1981 GCO financial statement and that arrangements for hiring manual labour staff for the UNICEF Packing and Assembly Centre at Copenhagen, Denmark,(6) had yet to be formalized.

In a September 1982 report to the General Assembly on financial and Auditors' reports,(1) ACCABQ noted the Auditors' comments and UNICEF response. It agreed with the Office of Legal Affairs that, on the question of the penalty clause for late delivery, specification of damages in the event of a breach of contract should be considered on an individual basis. ACABQ also welcomed UNICEF action in establishing procedures to broaden competitive bidding so as to ensure procurement of the best products at the lowest possible cost.

The financial reports were accepted by the Assembly in a resolution of 16 November,(5) when it accepted various 1981 United Nations financial reports and accounts and endorsed the Auditors' opinions, concurred with the ACABQ observations and requested the executive heads to take such remedial action as might be required by the Auditors.

Reports. (1)ACABQ A/37/443; (2)Board of Auditors, A/37/5/Add.2; (3)UNICEF Board, E/1982/17; (4)UNICEF Director E/ICEF/AB/L.239. Resolution (1982). (5)GA: 37/12, 16 Nov. Yearbook reference. (6)1981, p. 1008.

Organizational questions

Greeting Card Operation

During the 1981 GCO season (1 May 1981-30 April 1982),(1) 115 million cards, 497,000 calendars, 292,000 packs of stationery and other related items were sold in 137 countries. Compared to the previous season, 2 million fewer cards were sold; gross proceeds from all sales totalled \$46.8 million, a decrease of 0.9 per cent; operational expenditures were \$18.7 million, or 4.1 per cent less; and net income was \$16.7 million, or 9.2 per cent lower (\$9.6 million below the projected revenue for 1981). The decreased income was due both to a lower volume of sales and to a loss of \$2.2 million from exchange rate fluctuations.

Reproduction rights were given by 183 artists and museums from 33 countries. Sixty-nine designs were used for calendars and 165 designs for cards.

Report. (1)UNICEF Director, E/ICEF/AB/L.245.

1982/83 budget

On the recommendation of its Committee on Administration and Finance, the Executive Board, at its May 1982 session,(2) approved the budget estimates for the 1982 GCO season (1 May 1982-30 April 1983) and advance costs for the 1983 season, as recommended by the Executive Director.(1) Gross operational expenditures were estimated at \$25.8 million, and gross revenue at \$50.2 million. The Board welcomed the secretariat's intention to revise the GCO budget format so as to reflect more fully the commercial nature of the operation.

Recommendations. (1)UNICEF Director, E/ICEF/AB/L.241 & Corr.1.

Report. (2)UNICEF Board, E/1982/17.

Relations with NGOs

UNICEF continued to foster close relationships with non-governmental organizations (NGOS), an increasingly important channel of advocacy for the Fund's programmes and fund-raising. In 1982, the membership of the NGO Committee on UNICEF rose to 134 international professional and voluntary groups, involved directly or indirectly with children and holding consultative status with the Fund. A roster of international and national correspondents, particularly from developing countries, was also growing. In all, some 400 organizations participated in UNICEF activities and shared information through the Fund's NGO liaison offices in New York and Geneva.

This larger, more diverse constituency allowed for greater concentration on issue-oriented programming (emergency situations, primary health care, water and sanitation) and thus for a more effective response by UNICEF to NGO needs and requests.

Public information

In 1982, UNICEF strengthened international and national capabilities in project support communications. In partnership with local media and communications agencies, this involved support for advocacy campaigns aimed at changing policy in favour of children, such as campaigns to promote breast-feeding and focus attention on possibilities for reducing infant mortality. A wide variety of mass media materials produced for this endeavour included posters, press advertisements, radio spots, cartoon stickers, and reference texts and training manuals.

In an effort to disseminate the work of UNICEF its annual report, The State of the World's Children 1982-1983, was given extensive radio, television and newspaper coverage, directly reaching some 12,000 newspapers published in 20 languages. Beginning with the 1982 UNICEF Annual Report, it was redesigned to include profiles on selected development situations and more graphic presentation. The first French edition of the quarterly UNICEF News was published during the year.

Information support was also provided for fund-raising activities, including special events such as a soccer game televised from the United States, a number of film premières, benefit concerts held in Austria and Spain, and exhibits on certain aspects of UNICEF work mounted in Europe. The Goodwill Ambassadors for UNICEF-Danny Kaye, Liv Ullmann and Peter Ustinov-continued to draw attention to the needs of children during tours to several countries.

In addition to producing or co-producing audio-visual materials for the purposes of advocacy, fund-raising and development education, UNICEF distributed during the year three new feature documentaries-titled "Herbal Medicine: Fact or Fiction", "A Child's Horizon" (on childhood blindness) and "A Kind of Paradise" (on the state of children in the Caribbean)-and some 2,000 copies of films in 10 languages.

Increase in membership of the Executive Board

The General Assembly, acting without vote on 28 April 1982,(5) enlarged the membership of the UNICEF Executive Board from 30 to 41 members. It determined the distribution of 40 of the seats among the five regional groups, as well as the rotation among them of the remaining seat, and requested the Economic and Social Council to elect the additional 11 members at its first 1982 regular session.

This resolution was recommended by the Council in a decision of 22 April,(1) adopted without vote and transmitted to the Assembly by a letter of the same date from the Council President.(2)

The enlargement of the Board had been discussed by it since 1980. On 16 April 1982, at a special session held on the question,(4) the Board reached a consensus on a draft resolution, which its Chairman transmitted to the Council President by a letter of 21 April(3) and which served as the basis for the text adopted by the Assembly.

The additional 11 members were elected by the Council on 6 May (see APPENDIX III).

Decision (1982). (1)ESC: 1982/111, 22 Apr., text following.
Letters. (2)ESC President, 22 Apr., A/36/872; (3)UNICEF
Board Chairman, 21 Apr., E/1982/55.

Board (Chairman, 21 Apr.) E/1982/53.
Report. (4)UNICEF Board, E/ICEF/694.
Resolution (1982). (5)GA: 36/244, 28 Apr., text following.
Meeting records. ESC: E/1982/SR.13 (22 Apr.). GA:
A/36/PV.110 (28 Apr.)

Economic and Social Council decision 1982/111

Adopted without vote

Draft by UNICEF Board (E/1982/55, annex): agenda item 1.

Enlargement of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 22 April 1982, the Council decided to recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

[Text as in General Assembly resolution 36/244 below.]

General Assembly resolution 36/244

28 April 1982 Meeting 110 Adopted without vote
Draft recommended by Economic and Social Council (decision 1982/111); agenda item 70 (b)

Enlargement of the Executive Board of the
United Nations Children's Fund

The General Assembly.

Convinced that a strengthened and expanded United Nations Children's Fund necessitates the increased participation of Member States in the work of the Executive Board of the Fund,

Recalling its resolution 417(V) of 1 December 1950, which established the importance of constituting the Executive Board with due regard to geographical distribution and to the representation of the major contributing and recipient countries,

Noting that the composition of the Executive Board was last considered by the General Assembly at its eleventh session, when the Assembly adopted resolution 1038(XI) of 7 December 1956, replacing paragraph 6 (a) of resolution 417(v),

1. Decides, without prejudice to arrangements which may be made in other bodies, to enlarge the membership of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund to forty-one members, to be elected from States Members of the United Nations or members of specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) Nine seats for African States;
 - (b) Nine seats for Asian States;
 - (c) Four seats for Eastern European States;
 - (d) Six seats for Latin American States;
 - (e) Twelve seats for Western European and other States;;;
 - (f) One seat to be rotated among the five regional groups, in the following order:
 - (i) African States:
 - (ii) Latin American States;
 - (iii) Asian States;
 - (iv) Western European and other States;
 - (v) Eastern European States
 - (g) Without prejudice to the terms of the States already elected, elections to these forty-one seats shall be for a term of three 'years and retiring members shall be eligible for re-election:

Draft declaration on adoption and foster placement

By a resolution of 16 December 1982(3) the General Assembly, acting without vote, requested the Secretary-General to circulate to Member States, for their views, the draft Declaration on Social and Legal Principles relating to the Protection and Welfare of Children, with Special Reference to Foster Placement and Adoption Nationally and Internationally, as well as the conclusions contained in his 1980 report(5) on the draft.

The text was approved, also without vote, on 3 December, by the Sixth (Legal) Committee following an oral revision by Sweden, which had

introduced the text also on behalf of Colombia, Iceland, Norway and Uruguay.

In its consideration of the item, the Assembly had before it an October report by the Secretary-General(2) reproducing the comments of 40 Member States on the draft Declaration, submitted in response to a 1979 request of the Economic and Social Council.(4) Also before it were the comments of the Holy See,(1) expressing gratification with the draft Declaration's explicit recognition of the family as the best environment for the welfare of children and drawing attention, therefore, to the duty of Governments to support families in difficulty so that they could bring up their own children. In the event of adoption or foster placement, the Holy See said, account should be taken of the child's rights and those of the adoptive and natural parents; the important role of private charitable agencies, including churches; and the child's cultural and religious heritage.

Comments. (1)Holy See, A/C.6/37/6.

Report. (2)S-G. A/37/146.

Resolution (1982). (3)GA: 37/115, 16 Dec., text following. Resolution (prior). (4)ESC: 1979/28, 9 May 1979 (YUN 1979, p. 769).

Yearbook reference. (5)1980, p. 777.

Meeting records. GA: 6th Committee, A/C.6/37/SR.27, 60, 62 (26 Oct. & 2, 3 Dec.); plenary, A/37/PV.107 (16 Dec.).

General Assembly resolution 37/115

16 December 1982 Meeting 107 Adopted without vote

Approved by Sixth Committee (A/37/710) without vote, 3 December (meeting 62); 5-nation draft (A/C.6/37/L.23), orally revised: agenda item 128.

Sponsors: Colombia, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Uruguay.

Draft Declaration on Social and Legal Principles relating to the Protection and Welfare of Children, with Special Reference to Foster Placement and Adoption Nationally and Internationally

Recalling its resolution 36/167 of 16 December 1981, whereby it decided, inter alia, that appropriate measures should be taken to finalize the draft Declaration on Social and Legal Principles relating to the Protection and Welfare of Children, with Special Reference to Poster Placement and Adoption Nationally and Internationally,

Noting, in this connection, the current efforts of the Commission on Human Rights to elaborate a draft Convention on the Rights of the Child,

Taking note of the decisions taken by the Economic and Social Council on the draft Declaration on Social and Legal Principles relating to the Protection and Welfare of Children, with Special Reference to Poster Placement and Adoption Nationally and Internationally,

Bearing in mind the reports of the Secretary-General, of 8 September 1980 and 19 October 1982, which contain the views of Member States on the text of the draft Declaration,

Noting that section VI of the first of the above-mentioned reports contains some proposed amendments and reformulations of certain articles based on comments by Member States,

Fully aware of the sovereign right of Governments to define their national and international policies as regards the protection and welfare of children, including foster placement and adoption,

Recognizing that it is the responsibility of Governments to determine the adequacy of their national services for children and to recognize those children whose needs are not being met by existing services,

Noting the usefulness of regional co-operation in matters regarding the well-being of children,

Recognizing that the best child welfare is good family welfare and that when family care is unavailable or inappropriate, substitute family care should be considered, in conformity with national legislation,

Convinced that adoption of the draft Declaration will promote the well-being of children with special needs,

Noting that the further views of Member States on the draft Declaration as well as on the amendments and reformulations of certain articles contained in section VI of the report of the Secretary-General would provide helpful guidance for further efforts to elaborate a generally agreed draft Declaration,

1. Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To circulate to Member States, for their views, the draft Declaration on Social and Legal Principles relating to the Protection and Welfare of Children, with Special Reference to Poster Placement and Adoption Nationally and Internationally as well as the conclusions contained in the report of the Secretary-General;

(b) To submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session a report containing the views of Member States;

2. Decides to resume consideration of this item at its thirty-eighth session and to determine at that session the most appropriate course of further action.

Youth

In a December 1982 report on the situation of youth in the 1980s,(1) prepared in response to a 1979 request of the Economic and Social Council,(2) the Secretary-General stated that the world youth population, defined as persons aged between 15 and 24 years, was currently estimated at 857 million, or 20 per cent of the total population. Over 75 per cent of them lived in developing countries, and projections for the remainder of the century indicated that the youth population would continue to rise in those countries and decline in developed nations. Current trends in practically all regions indicated that there would be dramatically increased numbers of unemployed young people.

Young people in the 1980s were faced with an economic recession and rising unemployment, coupled with social changes of family disintegration, rapid urbanization and industrialization, and conflict between traditional and modern values. As a major constituent of the population flow from rural to urban areas, of the unemployed, and of the insufficiently or inappropriately educated, youth was severely affected by the inequities of the prevailing economic order. Juvenile delinquency, crime and widespread drug abuse were additional problems of young people linked to the economic recession.

According to the Secretary-General, a more equitable distribution of the fruits of progress through implementation of the new international economic order, participation of youth in national development, and education and vocational training appropriate to available work would help youth perform a constructive social role and face a future that, for the first time since the end of the Second World War, seemed one of shrinking opportunities. In addition, the promotion of international understanding and peace would be of special service to youth. The Secretary-General concluded that action on behalf of youth needed

to be adapted to the specific needs of each country. Action by the United Nations system and its member-states was required to analyse the situation of youth around the world and to propose practical programmes at the international, regional and national levels. Preparation for the International Youth Year (1985) (IYY) provided an opportunity for increasing the realization among member States and non-governmental organizations of the seriousness of the problem that would be confronting youth and societies in the 1980s.

Report. (1)S-G, E/1983/3.

Resolution (2)ESC: 1979/16, 9 May 1979 (YUN 1979, p. 986).

Activities of the UN system

Responding to a May 1981 request of the Economic and Social Council,(4) the Secretary-General issued a report in March 1982 on co-ordination and information in the field of youth,(1) in which he presented the views of United Nations bodies and specialized agencies on the needs and situation of youth. They agreed that adoption of policy measures aimed at the fullest possible mobilization and integration of youth in development should be among the primary objectives of inter-agency collaboration. The report described arrangements made to ensure co-ordination of efforts, through an informal inter-agency working group, within the United Nations system and to implement the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities for IYY.(5)

Acting without vote on 4 May 1982,(2) the Council endorsed the conclusions of the Secretary-General and requested that, in the documentation to be submitted to the June session of the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year, he take account of the ideas expressed for improving co-ordination and information activities on youth. The Council invited all United Nations bodies and intergovernmental, as well as non-governmental, organizations to pay particular attention to such improvement.

This resolution originated in a 27-nation text introduced by Romania in the Council's Second (Social) Committee, which approved it without vote on 23 April.

The General Assembly, in a resolution of 3 December on IYY,(3) requested the Secretary-General to continue, through communications media at his disposal, to give widespread publicity to United Nations activities in the field of youth and to increase the dissemination of information on youth.

Report. (1)S-G, E/1982/36.

Resolution (1982). (2)ESC: 1982/28, 4 May, text following.
(3)GA: 37/48, para. 8, 3 Dec.

Resolution (prior). (4)ESC: 1981/25, 6 May 1981 (YUN 1981, p. 1016).

Yearbook reference. (5)1981, p. 1019.

Meeting record. ESC: E/1982/SR.23 (4 May).

Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/28

4 May 1982	Meeting 23	Adopted without vote
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Approved by Second Committee (E/1982/58) without vote, 23 April (meeting 7):
27-nation draft (E/1982/C.2/L.2); agenda item 11.

Sponsors: Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Colombia, Djibouti, Egypt, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Indonesia, Japan, Madagascar, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire.

Co-ordination and information in the field of youth

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1979/27 of 9 May 1979, 1980/25 of 2 May 1980 and 1981/25 of 6 May 1981 on co-ordination and information in the field of youth,

Recalling also resolution 34/151 of 17 December 1979, by which the General Assembly decided to designate 1985 as International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace, and resolution 36/28 of 13 November 1981, by which the Assembly endorsed the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities to be undertaken prior to and during the International Youth Year,

/Voting that the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year will hold its second session at Vienna from 14 to 23 June 1982,

Considering that the implementation of the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities to be undertaken prior to and during the International Youth Year will contribute to intensifying and improving the co-ordination of the activities of the United Nations and specialized agencies relating to youth,

Convinced of the importance of giving widespread publicity to the activities of the United Nations in the field of youth and of increasing the dissemination of information about youth, especially in the context of the preparations for the International Youth Year,

Recalling the conclusions contained in the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the work of its twenty-first session regarding the cross-organizational programme analysis of the youth activities of the United Nations system,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on co-ordination and information in the field of youth,

1. Endorses the conclusions contained in the report of the Secretary-General on co-ordination and information in the field of youth;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to take into account the ideas expressed in the Economic and Social Council on ways and means for improving the activities of co-ordination and information in the field of youth in the preparation of the documentation to be submitted to the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year at its second session;

3. Invites all United Nations bodies, specialized agencies, regional commissions and other international intergovernmental organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations concerned, to pay particular attention to the improvement of co-ordination and information in the field of youth in the context of the implementation of the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities to be undertaken prior to and during the International Youth Year;

4. Decides to consider at its first regular session of 1983, on the basis of a report of the Secretary-General, the progress achieved in co-ordination and information in the field of youth.

Strengthening channels of communication between youth and the United Nations

In a September 1982 report to the General Assembly,(2) submitted in accordance with a November 1981 Assembly request,(5) the Secretary-General reviewed implementation of the guidelines adopted in 1977(4) and 1981(6) for the improvement of communication channels between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations.

Among United Nations measures to reach out to young people and their organizations were participation in and organization of meetings on youth, distribution of documentation, promotion of exchange of information through United

Nations publications, such as the quarterly Youth Information Bulletin,(1) and replies to oral and written queries from youth. While reporting increased interest in youth issues and recognition of young people's contribution to the solution of world problems, the Secretary-General said that the United Nations had not achieved its target of generating among young people awareness concerning the Organization's work. The Secretary-General observed a lack of balance between United Nations efforts to reach out to young people and the feedback from them. He therefore recommended that additional channels of communication be sought, such as educational institutions and the mass media, so as to reach the largest possible number of young people.

By a resolution adopted without vote on 3 December,(3) the Assembly requested Member States, specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations, as well as the Advisory Committee for IYY, to promote further implementation of the 1977 and 1981 guidelines. The Assembly asked the Secretary-General to give full support to inter-agency co-operation in information activities in the context of IYY, to develop additional channels of communication and to improve the functioning of existing ones. It invited Member States, specialized agencies, regional commissions, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental youth organizations to communicate and offer suggestions for further development of communication channels; it also invited youth and youth organizations to contribute to the formulation of United Nations policies and programmes on youth.

The 33-nation text, introduced in the Assembly's Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) Committee by Egypt, was approved without vote by the Committee on 15 November.

Publication. (1) Youth Information Bulletin, Nos. 42-45 (quarterly).

Report. (2) S-G, A/37/401.

Resolution (1982). (3) GA: 37/50, 3 Dec., text following.

Resolutions (prior). GA: (4) 32/135, annex, 16 Dec. 1977 (YUN 1977, p. 801); (5) 36/17, 9 Nov. 1981 (YUN 1981, p. 1017); (6) ibid., annex, (p. 1018).

Meeting records. GA: 3rd Committee, A/C.3/37/SR.14-23, 25, 26, 29, 42 (18 Oct.-15 Nov.); plenary, A/37/PV.90 (3 Dec.).

General Assembly resolution 37/50

3 December 1982 Meeting 90 Adopted without vote

Approved by Third Committee (A/37/630) without vote, 15 November (meeting 42); 33-nation draft (A/C.3/37/L.23); agenda item 81.

Sponsors: Bangladesh, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Greece, Guatemala, Kenya, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Rome, Rwanda, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Togo, United Republic of Cameroon, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zaire, Zambia.

Channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations

The General Assembly.

Recalling its resolutions 32/135 of 16 December 1977 and 36/17 of 9 November 1981, in which it adopted guidelines for the improvement of the channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 1980/25 of 2 May 1980 and 1981/25 of 6 May 1981 concerning co-ordination and information in the field of Youth,

Taking NOTE of the report of the Secretary-General of 8 September 1982,

Convinced of the need to improve further the efforts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies with regard to the participation of youth in achieving the objectives of the Charter of the United Nations,

Equally convinced of the valuable contribution that youth can make in promoting co-operation among States and in implementing the new international economic order and the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,

Bearing in mind the importance of the existence of channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations for the proper information of youth and youth organizations and their effective participation in the United Nations and the specialized agencies at the national, regional and international levels,

Taking note of the efforts in inter-agency co-operation to promote and strengthen channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations within the context of International Youth Year: participation, Development, Peace,

Convinced that the existence and the proper functioning of channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations form a basic prerequisite of the active involvement of young people and thus of the successful preparation for, celebration of and follow-up to International Youth Year,

1. Requests Member States, specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations to promote, in co-operation with Youth organisations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and other youth organizations concerned, further implementation of the guidelines adopted in General Assembly resolution 32/135 and the additional guidelines adopted in its resolution 36/17;

2. Requests the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year to continue to promote the implementation of the additional guidelines, together with the guidelines adopted in resolution 32/135, during the preparation for and celebration of International Youth Year;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to give full cooperation and support to inter-agency co-operation and co-ordination in promotional and information activities within the context of International Youth Year;

4. Invites Member States, specialized agencies, regional commissions, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental youth organisations to communicate and further promote the guidelines and additional guidelines for the improvement of channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations and to offer additional suggestions for their further development;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to give special attention to developing additional channels of communication through such means as the mass media and educational institutions in order to reach the largest possible number of Young people in different regions of the world;

6. Invites youth and youth organizations to act as disseminators of and contributors to the formulation of United Nations policies and programmes directed to youth;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to strengthen and improve the functioning of existing channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and Youth organizations, such as the quarterly publication Youth Information Bulletin produced by the Secretariat;

8. Requests the Secretary-General, on the basis of the reports of Member States, specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organisations, as well as non-governmental youth organizations, to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session on the implementation of the guidelines and additional guidelines for the improvement of the channels of communication between the United Nations and Youth and youth organizations, and to include information on measures being taken to strengthen those channels of communication.

Preparations for International Youth Year (1985)

In accordance with a November 1981 General Assembly request,(7) the Secretary-General submitted in May 1982 a progress report on implementation of the Specific Programme of Measures and

Activities for IYY by Member States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.(2) The report outlined current trends in implementation, as well as major United Nations activities including: participation in establishing regional and national plans of action on youth issues and special funds to implement them; development of youth-related schemes and projects, and mechanisms for their co-ordination; organization of special events celebrating youth and drawing attention to the Year; dissemination of information on policy and strategies for bringing youth into the mainstream of development; research and studies on specific youth problems; and information and promotional activities on the Year.

Among the conferences, meetings, seminars and workshops organized in 1982 were an inter-agency working group meeting and the Ad Hoc Inter-agency Consultation on Preparations for IYY (Vienna, Austria: 18 and 19 March; 10 and 11 June); an International Labour Organisation workshop on youth unemployment (Geneva, 13 and 14 May); an ad hoc regional meeting and a technical meeting of youth experts on the Year (Thailand: Bangkok, 23-26 November; Chiang-mai, 29 November-5 December) organized by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; and a meeting on the role of youth and changes in the social structure under the auspices of the Economic Commission for Latin America (November).

In conclusion, the report suggested further activities at the national, regional and international levels and proposed additional guidelines for implementation of the Programme in the areas of criminal justice and youth, disabled youth, young migrant workers and children of migrant workers, and young women.

Advisory Committee activities. At its second session, held at Vienna from 14 to 23 June 1982,(4) the Advisory Committee for IYY recommended that the Assembly consider organizing five regional meetings in 1983 and that it request the Secretary-General to consult Governments and interested organizations on the launching of a world-wide campaign for tree-planting during the Year.

The Committee requested the Secretary-General to transmit to all concerned a draft declaration on the rights and responsibilities of youth (appended to the Committee's report) and prepare a working document on comments received; to review his report on public information activities to highlight IYY in the light of the Committee's comments (see below); to report on Secretariat arrangements for observance of IYY, including making the Youth Unit within the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitar-

ian Affairs (CSDHA) the secretariat for the Year; and to transmit periodically to Member States a list of international conferences connected with IYY. In addition, the Committee recommended that all States set up national co-ordinating committees for activities during the Year.

Other recommendations called for: government action to establish co-ordinating committees to prepare national plans of action for IYY and provide them with technical assistance and financial support, to encourage youth participation in those committees, and to mobilize the media for promotional activities on IYY; regional commission action to support preparations for IYY and to conduct research and studies on problems relating to the integration of youth in the development process, with special attention to the needs of specific groups; and action by all United Nations agencies to encourage governmental preparations for the Year's activities and to identify possible areas for collaboration in implementing decisions relating to it. Participation of Committee members in related activities was also recommended, as was the development of projects by CSDHA.

In regard to additional guidelines for implementing the Specific Programme, the Committee proposed that Governments and international organizations review their policies and programmes and report to CSDHA so as to enable it to suggest improvements and adjustments to the Programme. Other guidelines proposed were similar to the Secretary-General's proposals (see above), plus the suggestion that attention be given to the roles of youth for development and for peace.

General Assembly action. On 3 December,(5) the General Assembly endorsed the Advisory Committee's recommendations for the further implementation of the Programme for IYY and requested the Secretary-General to transmit them to all States and organizations concerned for early implementation. It invited States that had not done so to establish national co-ordinating committees or other forms of co-ordination for IYY, and stressed the importance of direct participation of youth organizations in activities organized for it at the local, national, regional and international levels. The Assembly requested the Secretary-General to take measures to ensure the success of the regional meetings devoted to IYY and the co-ordination of the Programme's implementation, and to convene the third session of the Advisory Committee during the first half of 1984. The Assembly appealed for additional voluntary contributions to supplement the funds provided by the United Nations regular budget for the costs of the Programme.

This resolution was adopted, without vote, on the recommendation of the Third Committee,

which had approved the 88-nation draft, introduced by Romania, on 15 November by a recorded vote of 133 to 1.

An amendment, sponsored by the United States,(1) had been rejected by a recorded vote of 75 to 22, with 26 abstentions. The amendment, as orally revised by its sponsor and sub-amended by Australia, would have added an operative paragraph to the draft, authorizing the Secretary-General to implement the activities approved in the resolution without exceeding, during the current budget period, the level of resources approved in the 1982-1983 programme budget. The rejection of this amendment led the United States to cast the only vote against the resolution.

Although voting in favour in the Third Committee, Brazil said that application of the Advisory Committee's recommendations, as endorsed by the Assembly, would be contingent upon Brazil's examination of them, which had not been possible due to the late distribution of the report; it also stated that the recommended support and professional technical back-stopping to be provided by CSDHA for national and regional projects should be provided only at the request of States. As to the Committee's recommendation that an international instrument on youth rights and responsibilities be drawn up, the Netherlands felt it was unnecessary because existing international instruments already dealt with the rights of special groups such as youth.

Australia, concerned about the way in which the issue of financial implications had been handled, said it would have preferred adoption of the United States amendment. Also expressing support for the amendment, New Zealand stated that it wanted to place on record its concern at the continued tendency to overlook the need for financial stringency with regard to programmes, adding, however, that its concern in no way affected its support for the programmes. The Federal Republic of Germany said funding should be within budgetary resources or through voluntary contributions. The USSR said it acknowledged the work of the Secretariat to reduce required resources, but added that it could not accept the financial implications for CSDHA because the Secretariat was departing from the understanding reached by the Advisory Committee that its recommendations should not entail new requirements for the United Nations regular budget. The United Kingdom, which supported the Centre's work, also expressed concern at the financial implications.

In a further resolution of 3 December, on human rights of youth,(6) the Assembly requested the Advisory Committee to give full attention to the Assembly's 1981 resolution on the same topic(8) and to all relevant international human rights instruments in its preparation for IYY, particularly when elaborating recommendations.

For its consideration of the item on IYY, the Assembly had before it the Secretary-General's revised report on public information activities to highlight the Year,(3) submitted at the Advisory Committee's request (see above). The report outlined a core programme for implementation within available human and financial resources, proposed additional activities in case voluntary contributions for their implementation became available, identified target audiences and ways to reach them, outlined resource requirements, and proposed establishment of a Joint United Nations Information Committee task force to consider activities of particular interest to youth.

Owing to a lack of time, the report could not be considered by the Assembly in 1982; consequently, the Third Committee requested the Secretary-General to transmit it to the Committee on Information in 1983 for consideration.

Amendment rejected. (1)United States, A/C.3/37/L.39.
Reports. S-G, (2)A/37/237, (3)A/37/348/Add.2; (4)S-G and Advisory Committee, A/37/348 & Add.1.
Resolutions (1982). GA, 3 Dec.: (5)37/48, text following; (6)37/49, para. 2.
Resolutions (prior). GA, 13 Nov. 1981: (7)36/28 (YUN 1981, p. 1021); (8)36/29 (*ibid.*, p. 973).
Financial implications. ACABQ report, A/37/7/Add.9; 5th Committee report, A/37/688; S-G statements, A/C.3/37/L.25/Rev.1, A/C.5/37/42.
Meeting records. GA: 3rd Committee, A/C.3/37/SR.14-23, 25, 26, 29, 42 (18 Oct.-15 Nov.); 5th Committee, A/C.5/37/SR.50 (1 Dec.); plenary, A/37/PV.90 (3 Dec.).

General Assembly resolution 37/48

3 December 1982 Meeting 90 Adopted without vote
Approved by Third Committee (A/37/629) by recorded vote (133-11), 15 November (meeting 42); 88-nation draft (A/C.3/37/L.16); agenda item 77.

Sponsors: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Burundi, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, MOROCCO, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 34/151 of 17 December 1979 and 35/126 of 11 December 1980, by which it decided to designate and observe 1985 as International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace,

Recalling also its resolution 36/28 of 13 November 1981, by which it endorsed the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities to be undertaken prior to and during the International Youth Year,

Recalling further its decision 35/318 of 11 December 1980 on the appointment of the members of the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year,

Recognizing the profound importance of the direct participation of youth in shaping the future of mankind and the valuable contribution that youth can make in the implementation of the new international economic order based on equity and justice,

Considering it necessary to disseminate among youth the ideals of peace, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, human solidarity and dedication to the objectives of progress and development,

Convinced of the imperative need to harness the energies, enthusiasms and creative abilities of youth to the tasks of nation-building,

the struggle for self-determination and national independence, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and against foreign domination and occupation, for the economic, social and cultural advancement of peoples, the implementation of the new international economic order, the preservation of world peace and the promotion of international co-operation and understanding.

Emphasizing again that the United Nations should give more attention to the role of Young people in the world of today and to their demands for the world of tomorrow,

Recalling the topicality of assessing the needs and aspirations of youth, and reaffirming the importance of current and projected United Nations activities designed to increase the opportunities for young people and for their active participation in national development activities,

Believing that it is urgently desirable to consolidate the efforts of all States in carrying out specific programmes concerning Youth and to improve the activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies in the field of Youth, including youth exchanges in the cultural, sporting and other fields,

Aware of the valuable contribution which the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization is making to the promotion of international co-operation in the field of youth,

Reaffirming the necessity of better co-ordination of efforts in dealing with specific problems confronting young people and in examining the manner in which those problems are being treated by the specialized agencies and by various United Nations bodies,

Convinced that the preparation for and observance in 1985 of the International Youth Year with the mono "Participation, Development, Peace" will offer a useful and significant opportunity for drawing attention to the situation and specific needs and aspirations of youth, for increasing co-operation at all levels in dealing with youth issues, for undertaking concerted action programmes in favour of youth and for involving Young people in the study and resolution of major national, regional and international problems,

Confident that the International Youth Year will serve to mobilize efforts at the local, national, regional and international levels in order to promote the best educational, professional and living conditions for young people, to ensure their active participation in the overall development of society and to encourage the preparation of new national and local policies and programmes in accordance with each country's experience, conditions and priorities,

Recognizing that the preparation for and observance of the International Youth Year will contribute to the reaffirmation of the goals of the new international economic order and to the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,

Recalling also in this connection its decision 35/424 of 5 December 1980 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on the question of guidelines for international Years and anniversaries,

Aware that, for the International Youth Year to be successful and to maximize its impact and practical efficiency, adequate preparation and the widespread support of Governments, all specialized agencies, international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the public will be required,

Noting with great satisfaction the interest of Member States, various United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, as well as youth organizations, in the implementation of the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities to be undertaken prior to and during the International Youth Year,

Taking note of the report of the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year on its second session, held at Vienna from 14 to 23 June 1982, as well as of the report of the Secretary-General,

1. Endorses the recommendations made by the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year for the further implementation of the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities to be undertaken prior to and during the International Youth Year;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the recommendations of the Advisory Committee to all States, United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and regional commissions, as well as to the international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, with a view to their early implementation;

3. Invites all States that have not already done so to establish national co-ordinating committees or other forms of coordination for the International Youth Year;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary organizational measures to ensure the success of the regional meeting; devoted to the International Youth Year;

5. Stresses again the importance of active and direct participation of Youth organizations in the activities organized at the local, national, regional and international levels for the preparation for and observance of the International Youth Year;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to take the necessary measures to ensure the proper co-ordination of the implementation of and follow-up to the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities, including the provision of information, and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

7. Also requests the Secretary-General to convene the third session of the Advisory Committee during the first half of 1981, to provide it with all necessary assistance and to submit to it a progress report on the implementation of the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities and of the recommendations made by the Advisory Committee at its second session;

8. Further requests the Secretary-General to continue to take concrete measures, through all the communications media at his disposal, to give widespread publicity to the activities of the United Nations system in the field of Youth and to increase the dissemination or information on youth;

9. Welcomes the voluntary contributions so far made for the International Youth Year, expresses its appreciation to all contributors and again appeals to all States, to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and to the public to make in due time generous voluntary contributions to supplement funds provided under the regular budget of the United Nations for the costs of the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities and requests the Secretary General to take all appropriate measures for obtaining such voluntary contributions;

10. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session the item entitled "International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace" and to grant it high priority.

Aging persons

World Assembly on Aging

The World Assembly on Aging was held at Vienna from 26 July to 6 August 1982.(1) Convened in accordance with a 1978 General Assembly resolution,(2) the World Assembly served as a forum to assess the significance of aging trends for national development and to launch an international action programme aimed at guaranteeing to the growing number of older persons economic and social security and opportunities for contributing to national development. Its objectives were to promote awareness of major demographic shifts in progress, to identify the wide-ranging impact of those shifts on socio-economic development, particularly in developing countries, and to clarify their practical implications for those entrusted with planning necessary adjustments to economic and social infrastructure.

On 6 August, the World Assembly adopted by consensus an International Plan of Action on Aging, recommended by its Main Committee whose task had been to review and modify the Plan's text. The Assembly also adopted two resolutions. By one, it expressed appreciation to the Government and people of Austria for hosting the

Assembly and decided that, to mark the association of Austria's capital with the Plan's elaboration, the Plan would be known as the Vienna International Plan of Action on Aging, 1982. The other resolution concerned aging people in Lebanon (see POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS, Chapter IX).

The World Assembly was attended by representatives of 124 States and the United Nations Council for Namibia, the Secretariat, regional commissions, specialized agencies, other United Nations bodies, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations (for participants and officers, see APPENDIX III).

Publication.. (1)Report of the world Assembly on Aging,, Vienna, 26 July to 6 August 1982 (A/CONF.113/31), Sales No. E.82.1.16. Resolution. (2)GA: 33/52, 14 Dec. 1978 (YUN 1978, p. 799).

Preparations for the Assembly

Work of the Advisory Committee. At its second session, held in New York from 16 to 22 February 1982,(2) the Advisory Committee for the World Assembly on Aging continued to examine the draft international plan of action on aging. In addition, it recommended a provisional agenda and approved the draft rules of procedure for the World Assembly, and made a series of recommendations on participants, topics for plenary meetings, the Main Committee's work, and the financing by the United Nations Trust Fund for the World Assembly of the least developed countries' participation in intergovernmental regional meetings and in the Assembly itself.

Taking note of documentation for the Assembly, the Advisory Committee decided against a separate declaration on the rights of the aging as had been suggested by the 1981 Ad Hoc Inter-agency Meeting on Aging,(12) but agreed to the inclusion of a preamble to the draft plan of action.

At its third session, held at Vienna from 3 to 7 May,(3) the Advisory Committee agreed on the text of the revised draft plan of action as a whole, subject to certain reservations. It revised the Assembly's provisional agenda and made recommendations on the allocation of agenda items, the Credentials Committee membership, additional rules for the conduct of meetings, an outline of the Assembly's report and the method for electing the Main Committee officers. The Advisory Committee recommended that non-governmental organizations (NGOS) not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council but meeting the criteria for participation in the Assembly be invited. It also requested its Chairman to explore ways of improving public information activities for the Assembly.

Other activities. As suggested in the Secretary-General's 1980 draft programme for the World Assembly on Aging,(11) three regional intergovern-

mental meetings were organized in 1982 by the regional commissions in collaboration with the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs (CSDHA). The meetings, which were in addition to the 1981 meeting organized by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, were held under the auspices of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 1 to 5 March; the Economic Commission for Latin America at San Jose, Costa Rica, from 8 to 12 March; and the Economic Commission for Europe at Vienna from 26 to 30 April.

At each of these meetings, a regional plan of action on aging was approved.(1) The ECA plan was endorsed by that Commission on 30 April with a request that its Executive Secretary bring it to the attention of Governments.(8) The Economic Commission for Western Asia, which could not organize a meeting, also prepared a regional plan, which it adopted on 12 May(9) for transmittal to the World Assembly's Secretary-General.

Common to the plans were principles and guidelines governing regional action and suggestions for national action on issues relating to the aging. The issues were broadly classified into those concerned with the implications for national strategies and programmes for economic and social development of the aging segment of populations; and the humanitarian issues of education and training for and about the aging, employment, family support and care, institutional care, health and social welfare services, housing and social security. The plans recommended research and collection of statistical data on actual situations of the aging on which to base national programmes, as well as programme co-ordination, monitoring and evaluation.

Notable among the preparatory activities for the World Assembly was a forum on aging, held at Vienna from 29 March to 2 April(6) by NGOs in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. Attended by 336 delegates from 43 countries and representing 159 NGOs, the forum made recommendations for action by Governments to provide for the needs of the aging.

In a related area, the Economic and Social Council, on 4 May,(10) urged that the special problems of elderly women be given full attention by the Assembly and treated in the plan of action that it was to adopt.

The Ad Hoc Inter-agency Meeting on Aging convened in New York on 25 and 26 February(4) and again at Vienna on 10 and 11 May,(5) for its third and fourth meetings, to review the co-ordination of preparations for the Assembly, including the status of documentation. After the Meeting's review of the draft international plan of action, a text urging recognition of the needs

of elderly refugees was proposed and annexed to the Meeting's report.

As decided by the Advisory Committee at its third session, pre-conference consultations were held at Vienna on 24 and 25 July, at which procedural and organizational matters for the Assembly were further considered.(7)

Regional plans of action. (1)A/CONF.113/26.
 Reports. Advisory Committee, (2)A/CONF.113/11, (3)A/CONF.113/24; Inter-agency Meeting on Aging, (4)ACC/1982/PG/3, (5)ACC/1982/PG/6; (6)NGO forum, transmitted by 13 May letter from Austria, A/CONF.113/27; (7)Pre-conference consultations, A/CONF.113/L.I.
 Resolutions (1982). (8)ECA (report, E/1982/21); 448(XVII), 30 Apr. (9)ECWA (report, E/1982/22); 111(IX), 12 May; (10)ESC: 1982/23, para. 1, 4 May.
 Yearbook references. (11)1980, p. 1016; (12)1981, p. 1024.

Work of the Assembly

Plan of Action

The Vienna International Plan of Action on Aging,(5) conceived as the instrument for carrying out the basic mandates of the World Assembly, contained a preamble, a foreword and four main sections. Its primary aims were to strengthen the capacities of countries to deal with the aging of their populations and with the needs of the elderly, and to promote an international response through action for the establishment of the new international economic order and increased international technical co-operation, particularly among developing countries. The introductory section provided information on demographic trends in developed and developing regions and defined the developmental and humanitarian aspects of aging; section II set forth the principles on which the Plan was based; section III presented recommendations for action, covering the impact of aging on development, specific areas of concern to the aging, and promotion of policies and programmes; and section IV recommended measures for the Plan's implementation at the national, regional and international levels, including periodic review and appraisal.

The preamble articulated the belief that the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights(7) applied fully and undiminishedly to the aging, and recognized that the aging should be enabled to enjoy a life of fulfilment, health, security and contentment as an integral part of society.

The foreword stated that the Plan should be considered an integral component of major international, regional and national strategies and programmes in response to world problems and needs, and should also be considered within the framework of other international instruments. The foreword outlined the Plan's objectives as follows: to promote understanding of the economic, social

and cultural implications, as well as the humanitarian and developmental issues, of population aging; to stimulate action-oriented policies and programmes to guarantee social and economic security for the elderly and provide opportunities for their participation in development and in its benefits; to present policy alternatives consistent with national values and goals and with internationally recognized principles; and to encourage appropriate education and research on aging and foster international exchange of relevant skills and knowledge.

To give perspective to the impact of the aging population, the Plan described demographic trends according to which, from 1975 to 2025, the number of persons aged 60 years and over throughout the world would increase from 350 million to over 1,100 million, or by 315 per cent. This compared with a total world population growth of 102 per cent. By 2025, the aging would constitute 13.7 per cent of the population. This trend was indicative of the gradually decreasing ratio between the economically active and employed sectors of society and those dependent on the resources provided by those sectors.

The Plan grouped the issues affecting the aging into two categories: the developmental issues arising from the socio-economic implications of a growing population of elderly for production, consumption, savings, investment and general social conditions; and the humanitarian issues related to their specific concerns, namely, health and nutrition, housing and environment, the family, social welfare, income security, employment, retirement and education.

The main principles underlying concerted action as recommended by the Plan to tackle these issues were: development for improving the well-being of the entire population; the right of participation in development; the creation of conditions of peace, security, freedom and respect for human rights in order to find solutions to problems of older people; the central importance of the family; public, private and individual responsibility to support the elderly; and the preparation of the entire population for old age as an integral part of social policies.

The Plan's general policy recommendations were aimed at a shift from policies and practices limited to providing protection and care to a vulnerable and declining minority to policies based on a positive, active and developmentally oriented view of aging. Stressing activity in old age, the recommendations identified the following avenues for self-expression and contribution to society: participation in family and kinship systems, volunteer work, continued formal and informal learning, work with arts and crafts, participation in community organizations, recreation and travel,

religious activities, part-time work and involvement in the political process as informed citizens.

In pursuit of the Plan's realization, full use was urged of opportunities existing for technical co-operation between developed and developing countries in three areas: data collection and analysis by means of censuses and surveys or statistics systems; training and education; and research on the developmental and humanitarian aspects of aging as identified by the Plan. Educational institutions of gerontology, geriatrics and geriatric psychology, as well as international exchange of research data, were recommended to advance research efforts, particularly in the biological, mental and social fields.

The text of the Plan had evolved over a two-year period. A draft was prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with Member States,(4) as requested by the Economic and Social Council in 1980.(6) It was considered and revised at three sessions by the Advisory Committee on the World Assembly, which recommended inclusion of a preamble and, at its May 1982 session, agreed to the draft text as a whole, subject to reservations on suggestions on which consensus was not achieved.(2) One was the addition of a paragraph recommending that the Secretary-General study the impact of removing the retirement-age limitations from the United Nations Staff Regulations. Two others, under the section on international and regional co-operation, concerned the addition of the concept of a decade for the aging and of a sentence to the effect that CSDHA be given executing-agency status by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in order to carry out technical assistance projects for the aging.

A text urging recognition of the needs of elderly refugees, particularly in health, housing and social services, was proposed for inclusion in the Plan by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, together with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, during the Ad Hoc Inter-agency Meeting in May.

The regional commissions provided their input by holding preparatory meetings (under the auspices of CSDHA and reporting to the World Assembly).(1) Also taken into account were the views of delegations, which were given an opportunity for further input during consideration and final modification of the Plan's text by the Assembly's Main Committee.(3)

Regional Plans of action. (1)A/CONF.113/26. Reports. (2)Advisory Committee, A/CONF.113/24; (3)Main Committee, A/CONF.113/30; (4)S-G, A/CONF.113/22; (5)World Assembly on Aging, A/CONF.113/31 (Sales No. E.82.I.16). Resolutions. (6)ESC: 1980/26, 2 May 1980 (YUN 1980, p. 1018). (7)GA: 217 A (III), 10 Dec. 1948 (YUN 1948-49, p. 535).

Implementation of the Plan

In the recommendations for implementation included in the Plan of Action on Aging,(2) the role of Governments was defined, as were the mechanisms for international and regional co-operation, technical co-operation and the exchange of information and experience. Governments were urged to design national strategies responsive to their own particular needs, with established priorities and objectives for the short, medium and long terms; to set up multisectoral machinery within government to ensure integration of the issues of aging in national development plans; to co-ordinate activities through co-operation between those in positions of responsibility with representatives of the aging; and to use national mechanisms that had been set up for the World Assembly for planning, implementation and evaluation of activities recommended in the Plan.

International co-operation in the form of bilateral and multilateral technical and financial assistance was recommended. The plan was to be brought to the attention of United Nations bodies responsible for preparations for the International Conference on Population (1984) so that it could be taken into account in proposals for further implementation of the 1974 World Population Plan of Action.(4) As implementation was primarily at the national level, the Secretary-General was requested, within existing United Nations resources, to give consideration to providing increased resources. The Administrative Committee on Co-ordination was to continue inter-agency co-ordination of activities; guidelines were to be kept under review; and Governments and international, governmental and non-governmental organizations were urged to maintain channels of communication with the elderly on policies and programmes affecting their lives.

The United Nations-in particular UNDP and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development-and its specialized agencies were to carry out technical co-operation activities with CSDHA support. Aging being a population issue affecting development, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) was urged, in co-operation with all organizations concerned with international population assistance, to continue and strengthen its assistance in that field, particularly in developing countries.

The Plan suggested meetings and seminars at all levels as forums for information exchange. It recommended that CSDHA promote and co-ordinate information activities and that standardization of definitions, terms and research methodologies be undertaken to achieve compatibility of international data.

Institutions with regional mandates were urged to contribute to the Plan's implementation. The

United Nations regional commissions and their members were asked to conduct a periodic review of regional and national plans on the aging. The Commission for Social Development was recommended as the intergovernmental body to review implementation of the Plan every four years and to make proposals for updating the Plan; it was to transmit its findings to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social-Council. To assist it in its work, the Commission was to be provided with periodic progress reports on the Plan's implementation by the United Nations system. CSDHA was to serve as co-ordinator of this process.

General Assembly action. By a resolution of 3 December 1982,(3) adopted by a recorded vote of 149 to none, the General Assembly endorsed the Plan of Action on Aging, called on Governments to implement its principles and recommendations and urged the Secretary-General to implement the recommendations on international co-operation and assessment of implementation. It requested the Secretary-General to ensure sufficient resources for the Plan's implementation and to strengthen the international network of information, research and training centres on aging, as well as technical co-operation within the various regions. The Assembly urged UNFPA to strengthen its assistance in the field of aging and requested the Economic and Social Council to report on the Plan's implementation every four years from 1985. It invited specialized agencies to co-operate in the implementation, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to co-ordinate their work on aging with the United Nations.

The draft of this resolution, sponsored by 38 nations, was introduced in the Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) Committee by Malta, which orally revised paragraph 5 to add a request that the Secretary-General make every effort to reallocate existing global resources in ensuring sufficient resources for the Plan's implementation. The revised text was approved by the Committee on 15 November by a recorded vote of 121 to 1, with 7 abstentions.

Prior to approving the text, the Committee rejected an amendment proposed by the United States(1) by a recorded vote of 67 to 23, with 32 abstentions. The amendment would have added an operative paragraph by which the Assembly would have decided that implementation of the resolution's provisions would be carried out within existing global resources or with voluntary contributions that might become available from the Trust Fund.

Amendment rejected. (1)United Stares, A/C.3/37/L.30. Report. (2)World Assembly on Aging, A/CONF.113/31 (Sales No. E.82.I.16). Resolution (1982). (3)GA: 37/51, 3 Dec. text following. Yearbook reference. (4)1974, p. 552.

Financial implications. ACABO report. A/37/7/Add.9: 5th Committee report, A/37/688; S-G statements, A/C.3/37/L.26, A/C.5/37/44

Meeting records. GA: 3rd Committee, A/C.3/37/SR.14-23, 25, 26, 29, 42 (18 Oct.-15 Nov.); 5th Committee, A/C.5/37/SR.50 (1 Dec.); plenary, A/37/PV.90 (3 Dec.).

General Assembly resolution 37/51

3 December 1982 Meeting 90 149-0 (recorded vote)

Approved by Third Committee (A/37/631) by recorded vote (121.1.7), 15 November (meeting 42); 38-nation draft (A/C.3/37/L.21), orally revised; agenda items 82 and 83.

Sponsors: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Greece, Guatemala, Maldives, Guyana, Indonesia, Jordan, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Romania, Sierra Leone, Spain, Suriname, Thailand, Togo, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Question of aging

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 33/52 of 14 December 1978, in which it decided to convene a World Assembly on Aging to call world-wide attention to the serious problems besetting a growing portion of the population of the world and to provide a forum to launch an international programme of action aimed at guaranteeing economic and social security to older persons, as well as opportunities for them to contribute to national development,

Recognizing that increasing longevity is an achievement of biology and a sign of progress, and that the aged are an asset and not a liability to society because of the invaluable contribution they can make by virtue of their accumulated wealth of knowledge and experience,

Bearing in mind that the States gathered in the World Assembly on Aging, held at Vienna from 26 July to 6 August 1982, reaffirmed their belief that the fundamental and inalienable rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights apply fully and undiminishedly to the aging, and recognized that the quality of life was no less important than longevity, and that the aging should therefore, as far as possible, be enabled to enjoy in their own families and communities a life of fulfilment, health, security and contentment, appreciated as an integral part of society,

Convinced that the International Plan of Action on Aging adopted by the World Assembly on Aging must lead to developing and applying, at the international, regional and national levels, policies designed to enhance the lives of the aging as individuals and to mitigate, by appropriate measures, any negative effects resulting from the impact of the aging of populations on development,

Recognizing that the Plan of Action should be considered an integral component of the major international, regional and national strategies and programmes formulated in response to important world problems and needs,

Recalling its resolution 35/129 of 11 December 1980, in pursuance of which the United Nations Trust Fund for the World Assembly on Aging was established to finance preparatory and follow-up activities in connection with the World Assembly, and its resolution 36/20 of 9 November 1981, in which it requested the Secretary-General to use the Trust Fund to encourage further interest in the field of aging among developing countries, particularly the least developed among them, within the context of the conclusions and recommendations of the World Assembly on Aging,

Acknowledging the role played by the United Nations and the specialized agencies through their efforts in the field of aging and the need to strengthen this role in order to make the implementation of the recommendations of the Plan of Action effective,

Emphasizing the importance of the Plan of Action and stressing the spirit of cooperation that prevailed during the World Assembly on Aging,

Expressing appreciation to the Government of Austria for acting as host to the World Assembly on Aging,

Having considered the Report of the World Assembly on Aging,

1. Takes note of the Report of the World Assembly on Aging;
2. Endorses the International Plan of Action on Aging, adopted by consensus at the World Assembly on Aging;
3. Affirms that aging should be considered in the context of economic, social and cultural development, as well as in the context of international strategies and plans;

4. Calls upon Governments to make continuous efforts to implement the principles and recommendations contained in the Plan of Action in accordance with their national structures, needs and objectives;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to ensure that sufficient resources within reasonable limits are made available for the effective implementation of, and follow-up action to, the Plan of Action, as well as to maintain the momentum generated by the World Assembly on Aging; in doing so, the Secretary-General should make every effort to reallocate existing global resources;

6. Also requests the Secretary-General to take such steps as may be appropriate for the necessary strengthening of activities in the field of aging at the central and regional levels of the United Nations, as set forth in the Plan of Action;

7. Further requests the Secretary-General to strengthen the international network of existing information, research and training centres in the field of aging in order to encourage and facilitate the exchange of knowledge, skills and experiences, as well as technical co-operation between countries within the various regions;

8. Urges the Secretary-General to implement the recommendations concerning international co-operation with respect to aging, as well as those concerning the assessment, review and appraisal of the implementation of the Plan of Action, using the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat as the focal point;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to use the United Nations Trust Fund for the World Assembly on Aging to meet the rapidly increasing needs of the aging in the developing countries, in particular in the least developed countries;

10. Also requests the Secretary-General to use the Trust Fund to encourage greater interest among developing countries in matters related to aging and to assist Member States, at their request, in formulating and implementing policies and programmes for the elderly; further requests the Secretary-General to use the Trust Fund for technical co-operation and research related to the aging of populations and for promoting co-operation among developing countries in the exchange of relevant information and technology;

11. Appeals to Member States to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund;

12. Urges the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, in co-operation with all organizations responsible for international population assistance, to strengthen its assistance, within its mandate, in the field of aging, particularly in developing countries;

13. Requests the Economic and Social Council, through the Commission for Social Development, to review the implementation of the Plan of Action every four years, beginning in 1985, and to transmit its findings to the General Assembly;

14. invites the specialized agencies concerned to co-operate with the Secretary-General in the implementation of the Plan of Action within their fields of competence;

15. Invites the intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations concerned to continue to give attention to major issues related to aging and to co-ordinate their work with the United Nations, particularly in view of the need for well co-ordinated activities for the implementation of the Plan of Action;

16. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session on the progress achieved in implementing and following up the Plan of Action and to include in his report an account of project activities financed by the Trust Fund;

17. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-eighth session a single item entitled "Question of aging" to replace the items entitled "Question of the elderly and the aged" and "World Assembly on Aging".

Recorded vote in Assembly as follows:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian SSR, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Arab Jamahirya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique,

Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian SSR, USSR, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: None.

UN Trust Fund

In a September 1982 report to the General Assembly on United Nations activities on aging,(1) the Secretary-General stated that the United Nations Trust Fund for the World Assembly on Aging, established in response to a 1980 Assembly request, (4) had been used to finance activities in three areas-secretariat support for the preparatory work for the World Assembly, including costs associated with the post of that Assembly's Secretary-General; participation of least developed countries in a regional meeting for Africa and in the Assembly itself; and public information for the Assembly. As at 31 December, the Fund's total income, from pledged contributions by Governments, public donations and interest, came to \$485,308; expenditures totalled \$336,450, leaving a balance of \$148,858.

The Secretary-General also stated that, should the General Assembly endorse the Plan of Action on Aging,(2) he would use the Fund to provide financial support for achieving the Plan's objectives.

The Plan recommended that the Fund be used to meet the increasing needs of the aging in developing countries, particularly in the least developed countries (LDCS); to encourage greater interest among those countries in matters related to aging; and to assist Member States, at their request, in formulating and implementing policies and programmes for the elderly. The Fund should further be used for technical co-operation and research related to the aging segment of populations and to promote co-operation among developing countries in the exchange of relevant information and technology. It should be administered by CSDHA and contributions to it should be encouraged.

In its 3 December resolution on the question of aging,(3) the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue to use the Fund to meet the rapidly increasing needs of the aging in developing countries, in particular in LDCs, and to encourage their interest in matters related to aging. He was also requested to assist Member States, at their request, in formulating and implementing policies and programmes for the elderly; and to use the Fund for technical co-operation and research in this field and for promoting information and technology exchange among developing countries. The Assembly appealed to Member

States to make voluntary contributions to the Fund.

Reports. (1)S-G, A/37/435; (2)World Assembly on Aging, A/CONF.113/31 (Sales No. E.82.I.16).

Resolution (1982). (3)GA: 37/51, paras. 9-11, 3 Dec.

Resolution (prior). (4)GA: 35/129, 11 Dec. 1980 (YUN 1980, p. 1019).

Social welfare of aging persons

The Vienna International Plan of Action on Aging,(4) drawing attention to the interrelation of all aspects of aging, called for co-ordination of both policy and research on the topic. The Plan urged adoption of preventive measures to combat the detrimental effects of premature aging, such as educational programmes on the physiology of aging, life-styles to promote health, appropriate working conditions and adaptation of the individual to his work and vice versa, including job flexibility so that the aging might better adjust to personal, social and cultural, as well as technological and economic, changes.

The Secretary-General, in a March 1982 report(2) submitted to the World Assembly on Aging, gave broad coverage to the social welfare issues confronting the aging in terms of the humanitarian problems of aging and the family, income security, health and continuing care, housing and environment, social welfare services and education. In a subsequent report issued in May,(3) he discussed the social welfare services required by aging persons, with emphasis on the question of adequacy and appropriateness of existing services. Outlining the needs of the aging, the report suggested a number of alternatives for progress in providing services.

By a letter of 15 October to the Secretary-General, Viet Nam transmitted extracts of its 26 July report to the World Assembly on the situation of its elderly, giving information on demographic trends, national policy on the care of the elderly, social welfare services and areas for future action.(1)

Letter. (1)Viet Nam, 15 Oct., A/C.3/37/4.

Reports. S-G, (2)A/CONF.113/9, (3)A/CONF.113/12; (4)World Assembly on Aging, A/CONF.113/31 (Sales No. E.82.I.16).

Education

The Plan of Action on Aging recommended expansion of educational structures to respond to the needs of an entire life-span, including continued opportunities for education for the aging; exchanges of skills, knowledge and experience in dealing with issues of aging as areas for international co-operation and technical co-operation among developing countries, to involve elderly people's organizations; establishment of practical training centres for the training of personnel in the field of aging, especially in developing countries, to serve also as links with developed coun-

tries and with United Nations agencies and facilities; research and study on the integration of issues of aging in policy formulation and management at the national, regional and international levels; and increased training in gerontology and geriatrics.

In a report on humanitarian issues submitted in March 1982 to the World Assembly.(1) the Secretary-General, underscoring the informational and related social obsolescence of older persons in societies characterized by rapid technological and social change and by information explosion, drew attention to the need for a life-span approach to education for all. This approach should include mid-career education, continuing education in the middle and later years, retraining of older persons who had become unemployed due to technological changes and training of those entering the work force for the first time, and educational programmes drawing on the experiences and skills of older persons.

A report submitted to the Assembly on the same topic by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization concentrated on education for, by, with and about the elderly, aimed at promoting development of the human person and tapping unused intelligence and energy for the benefit of society.(2) It examined Various programmes aimed at involving the elderly in education and suggested ways to expand such education.

Reports. (1)S-G, A/CONF.113/9; (2)UNESCO, A/CONF.113/20.

Employment

The Plan of Action on Aging, noting the prevalence of age discrimination in employment practices, recommended that Governments facilitate the participation of older persons in the economic life of society by eliminating age discrimination in the labour market, securing for older workers job security under satisfactory working conditions, gearing health services to the needs particular to older workers and to occupational hazards, creating new employment possibilities through training, making pension age flexible, ensuring the application of international standards governing employment of older workers and guaranteeing full social coverage for migrant workers.

A February 1982 report of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) prepared for the World Assembly(1) reviewed the problems of employment for older workers, as well as existing employment policies and practices. The report highlighted two concerns shared by the majority of countries—that older workers should not be subjected to discrimination because of age; and that, on the contrary, they should be accorded protection so as to achieve the best possible fit between their capacities and their conditions of employ-

ment. The report reiterated a 1980 ILO Recommendation on a code of good conduct towards older workers, based on the fundamental principles of social justice and respect for the needs and aspirations of the aging.

Report.. (1)ILO, A/CONF.113/15.

Retirement

Noting that most people could expect to survive their own retirement by a substantial number of years, the Plan of Action on Aging stated that preparation for retirement should be a matter not of last-minute adaptation but of concern from adulthood onwards and for society at large. The Plan proposed measures to facilitate the transition from employment to retirement and suggested that the varieties of personal preference could be taken into account in a system of elastic retirement plans catering to the individual. This would allow for choice of voluntary early retirement with reduced benefits, extended employment or part-time work.

A February 1982 ILO report on transition from professional life to retirement,(4) prepared for the World Assembly, highlighted end-of-career arrangements at the work place for a gradual transition to retirement-modification of work and working hours, medical surveillance, a system of remuneration to accommodate reduced work time and diminished capacities, and programmes to prepare employees for retirement. The report also raised questions for further examination in developing transition measures.

Report. (1)ILO, A/CONF.113/16.

Family

The Plan of Action on Aging, recognizing the family as a fundamental unit of society that had traditionally provided care for its elderly members, made a series of recommendations to enable the family to continue in that vital role. Among them were government promotion of social policies encouraging family solidarity and appropriate support in terms of social services for the family, especially for low-income families engaged in caring for their elderly members. The Plan stressed the contribution of non-governmental organizations in this endeavour.

The Secretary-General, in an April 1982 report on aging in the family context,(1) prepared for the World Assembly, suggested that the United Nations and its Member States make policy declarations affirming the family's importance and its viability as an instrument for the care of the young as well as the aging. He also suggested that social policies include support for families caring for their older members, and other forms of aid, such as income maintenance schemes, for families in that situation.

Report. (1)S-G, A/CONF.113/10.

Health and nutrition

The recommendations on health and nutrition of the Plan of Action on Aging were primarily aimed at achieving the highest degree of well-being of the elderly so that they might be able to live and function as independently and for as long as possible within the family or community. Thus, the recommendations laid stress on preventive health care to encompass physical, mental, social, spiritual and environmental factors; primary health care and maintenance administered to the extent possible within the home environment by social services and community health workers; curative measures, including early diagnosis, medical treatment and adequate hospital care, and rehabilitation geared to returning the patient to the community; and appropriate nutrition.

In support of these measures, the Plan also recommended education for the elderly in self-care; basic training for families in home care for the aging; education in correct nutrition and eating habits; and development and organization of adequate health care and allied services such as day-care centres, out-patient clinics, day hospitals, paramedical, nursing and domestic services, and technical and emergency facilities. The Plan additionally called on Governments to undertake measures to ensure that food products and household installations and equipment conformed to standards of safety, taking into account the vulnerability of the aged; to facilitate the availability of medications, hearing aids, dentures, glasses and other prosthetic devices to the elderly; and to regulate the promotional and marketing techniques aimed at exploiting the elderly.

The Secretary-General, in his report on the humanitarian issues of aging prepared for the World Assembly,(1) stated that health for the aging went beyond the concepts of the absence of disease and of optimal social functioning; it involved complex, interrelated biomedical, psychological and social factors, some of which were related to organic, physiological changes caused by normal aging, others to disease, and still others to social-environmental situations such as poverty, lack of environmental sanitation and social roles and purposes. The report continued that, as a result, greater emphasis needed to be given to preventive and primary health care services, including: continuing assessment of functional capacity and treatment for the restoration of function to the highest possible extent; community health care systems financed and organized for effective delivery to respond to health care needs outside hospitals and institutions for the elderly; the pursuit of health as an integral part of development and therefore of national policies and programmes; early prevention and life-long attention to general health and nutrition; and continuing education in

the process of aging for the public at large and for policy makers, the medical profession and health service practitioners in particular.

In a March 1982 report prepared for the World Assembly, the World Health Organization elaborated guidelines for the establishment of health and social policies on aging.(2) It included a statement addressed principally to decision makers, stating that the keystone of such policies was the commitment by all sectors of government, non-governmental organizations, the professions engaged in health care and individuals to programmes for the promotion of health and maintenance of functioning within society during aging.

Reports. (1)S-G, A/CONF.113/9; (2)WHO, A/CONF.113/19.

Housing and environment

The World Assembly on Aging, conscious that the home was the centre of the elderly's activities, incorporated into the Plan of Action on Aging a number of recommendations on housing designed to facilitate their ability to live independently. These included national policies aimed at helping the aged to continue to live in their own homes for as long as possible; improving inadequate dwellings to include facilities and practical aids adapted to the diminished mobility of the aged; adapting transportation to their needs; providing housing to suit varying degrees of self-sufficiency and located in traffic-safe environments; and securing social integration of the aged through urban development planning and law. Housing policies should be co-ordinated with health, social, cultural and communications policies. The Plan additionally recommended that law enforcement agencies and the elderly themselves be made aware of crime against older persons, which was on the rise in some countries.

The Secretary-General, addressing the issue of housing and environment for the aging in his report on humanitarian issues prepared for the World Assembly,(1) stated that, in the context of inadequate, overcrowded housing and housing lacking sanitary water supply and waste disposal, the aged were particularly vulnerable and often victimized. Social factors, such as the trend towards urbanization and the migrations of the young, were physically and socially isolating the aged. Housing policies should therefore meet not only the need for minimum adequacy, security, and access to transportation, community health and social welfare services but also the integrative needs of the aging.

In a supplementary report on housing for the aging issued in April 1982, the Secretary-General provided additional information, including recommendations for national programmes for improving housing and environmental conditions of the aging.(2) In addition, he urged local governments,

private voluntary organizations and the residents of low-income communities to participate in providing home services.

The findings in a May report of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to the World Assembly(3) pointed to the diversity of housing and environmental conditions which called for different approaches. The vast majority of older persons required conveniently accessible community services; the infirm and those with limited mobility needed help in housekeeping and household maintenance; and others needed institutional care. To meet these needs, government action was urged. Local governments, private voluntary organizations and individuals, including the aging themselves, were called on to participate in providing home services. International agencies were urged to assist developing countries in formulating national policies and programmes for the improvement of housing and environmental conditions for the aging.

Reports. S-G, (1)A/CONF.113/9, (2)A/CONF.113/13; (3)UNCHS, A/CONF.113/25.

Social security

The Plan of Action on Aging noted that social security schemes had been established in most developed countries but were limited, if they existed at all, in most developing ones. The Plan recommended that Governments ensure a minimum income for all older persons through social security programmes to meet their essential needs and guarantee their independence. Where this was not feasible, other approaches such as payment of benefits in kind or for direct assistance to families and local co-operative institutions should be tried. Such programmes should include special coverage for elderly women, who generally earned less than men and were employed for shorter periods. Ways were to be found to protect the purchasing power of social security benefits and savings of the elderly.

The Secretary-General, in his report on humanitarian issues to the World Assembly,(3) noted a lack of universal coverage in many social security systems. Also lacking was a unified system for income security, maintenance and protection in old age in the majority of countries. Work and retirement policies, social security benefits and private pension schemes were inflexible, and the limited incomes of older persons were being eroded by inflation. Among options suggested were public policies and programmes ensuring an adequate minimum income for all older persons, a periodic adjustment of benefits to increases in national productivity and cost of living, international agreements to assure migrant workers continuity of social security coverage, and assistance programmes in kind, such as subsidized housing and reduced transportation fees and food prices.

The International Labour Organisation, in a March 1982 report on income security for the elderly,(1) identified for the World Assembly two categories of problems. The first related to the different national approaches to income security, the scope and level of protection provided by national social security legislation and the contingencies limiting such protection. The second category involved financial problems of different income support programmes and the impact on those programmes of aging populations, which were progressively increasing and drawing on these support systems, often before reaching normal pensionable age, without a corresponding increase in contributions to those systems.

A report on the contribution of social security to the protection of the elderly was also submitted to the World Assembly by the International Social Security Association.(2)

Reports. (1)ILO, A/CONF.113/17; (2)International Social Security Association, A/CONF.113/18 & Corr.1,2; (3)S-G, A/CONF.113/9.

Social services

The Plan of Action on Aging stated that social welfare services could be instruments of national policy whose goal should be to maximize the social functioning of the aging. They should be community-based and encompass a broad range of preventive, remedial and developmental services.

The Plan suggested that, in countries lacking organized social welfare services, co-operatives and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) could play important roles in providing those services. A partnership should be formed between Governments and NGOs, designed to ensure a comprehensive, integrated, co-ordinated and multi-purpose approach to meeting the social welfare needs of the elderly. The participation of youth in this effort was to be encouraged with a view to promoting inter-generational ties. The Plan also recommended that Governments endeavour to eliminate fiscal or other constraints on informal and voluntary social welfare activities and to set minimum standards for the institutional care of the elderly. Also to be encouraged was group action by the elderly so that they could participate in social service agencies to make known their wishes, use their knowledge and enhance their sense of belonging.

Aging persons and development

The Vienna International Plan of Action on Aging(5) recommended that attention be given to the vast and multifaceted impact which the aging of populations was bound to have on the structure, functioning and further development of all societies. Chief among the problems identified by the Plan was the deteriorating ratio between the eco-

nomic productive sectors of society and those dependent on the resources generated by these sectors. At the same time, the number of dependent elderly was growing and traditional care-providing structures, such as the extended family, were undergoing radical change in many parts of the world. Another problem was the political and psychological one related to perceptions of the relative urgency of meeting the needs of population groups not involved in production or public life. Pointing out that security for older people would be most acute in rural areas, the Plan said efforts should be made to improve socio-economic conditions in those areas and rural development should be promoted.

In a March 1982 report on developmental issues,(2) prepared for the World Assembly on Aging, the Secretary-General highlighted the effects of demographic change on aging as it related to development, the tendency of development processes to create problems by segregating the old from the rest of the population, and how government planning and action should be adapted to meet the problems of old age.

In a supplementary report issued in April on the implications of aging populations for economic development,(3) the Secretary-General stated that prudent public policies, such as reducing early retirement incentives and facilitating the growth of the female work force, could mitigate the adverse effects of population growth of those aged 60 and over and the decline of the fertility rate. A close monitoring of the changing age structure of the population would enable Governments gradually to shift their emphasis from youth-oriented social services to those oriented towards older people.

In another April report,(4) the Secretary-General explored how the situation of aging populations could be improved through social development and discussed socio-economic and political issues that called for specific as well as general policy considerations, with a view to proposing feasible policy options.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in a February report analysing the condition of aging populations in the developing world,(1) noting the need for more data on the topic, recommended new policies for an integrated rural development strategy to provide improved technologies to assist older farmers and home-based productive activities for older rural women.

Reports. (1)FAO, A/CONF.113/8; S-G, (2)A/CONF.113/5, (3)A/CONF.113/6, (4)A/CONF.113/14; (5)World Assembly on Aging, A/CONF.113/31 (Sales No. E.82.1.16).

Population trends

The Plan of Action on Aging described demographic trends according to which, from 1975 to

2025, the number of persons aged 60 years and over throughout the world would more than treble. Life expectancies were increasing, with a higher expectancy for women than for men; thus women in most cases were expected to make up a majority of the older population.

These trends were supported by estimates included in a report of the Secretary-General on demographic considerations⁽¹⁾ provided to the World Assembly. The report described trends over time of the elderly population and the relative proportion of the elderly in the total population, in order to assist decision makers when dealing with problems relating to aging.

Report. ⁽¹⁾S-G, A/CONF.113/4.

Migration

The Plan of Action on Aging described the particular needs of aging migrants, in particular an improvement in the continuity of social benefits such as pensions. This could be achieved through bilateral and multilateral social security arrangements. Besides recommending guarantees for social coverage, including continuous social security credits, the Plan also recommended special assistance for the migrant worker upon repatriation, particularly with respect to housing, to facilitate reintegration. It urged co-ordinated efforts by the mass media to highlight the effects of migration on the relative aging of populations of rural areas and its effects on agricultural production and living conditions in those areas.

The Secretary-General, in a June 1982 report on migration and aging⁽¹⁾ prepared for the World Assembly, described problems linked to migration and suggested that policy makers take account of considerations in this regard, such as the rights of elderly migrant workers; the importance of the use of remittances sent by migrants for investment and the development process; measures to encourage continued relationships between younger migrants and the elderly they had left behind, as well as measures to enable the elderly to rejoin their children or maintain contact with them; and research on migration to provide decision makers

with information necessary for policy and programme formulation.

Report. ⁽¹⁾S-G, A/CONF.113/7.

National days

The Vienna International Plan of Action on Aging⁽²⁾ invited all States to consider designating a national Day for the Aging in conformity with a General Assembly resolution of November 1981.⁽³⁾ In a September report to the Assembly,⁽¹⁾ the Secretary-General stated that, of the 21 Member States which had replied to the invitation, three had indicated their hesitation to designate a specific day, another three would communicate their decision at a later date and the remaining 15 indicated their support for the idea.

Reports. ⁽¹⁾S-G report, A/37/408; ⁽²⁾World Assembly on Aging, A/CONF.113/31 (Sales No. E.82.I.16).

Resolution. ⁽³⁾GA: 36/20, 9 Nov. 1981 (YUN 1981, p. 1023).

Other activities of the UN system

The February 1982 Ad Hoc Inter-agency Meeting on Aging⁽¹⁾ suggested that, as an alternative mechanism for co-ordinating implementation of the Vienna International Plan of Action on Aging, a separate inter-agency secretariat or consortium, to which agency staff could be seconded, could be established, as could a task force on aging within the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, with the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs (CSDHA) as the focal point.

The May Meeting⁽²⁾ recommended that the inter-agency arrangements which had been set up for co-ordinating the preparations for the World Assembly on Aging should serve as the mechanism for the Plan's implementation, with CSDHA acting as the focal point. It also recommended that CSHDA convene an informal inter-agency meeting to decide on the next Ad Hoc Inter-agency Meeting and that organizations take the Plan into account when preparing future programmes and budgets, particularly for the 1984-1985 biennium.

Reports. Inter-agency Meeting on Aging, ⁽¹⁾ACC/1982/PG/3, ⁽²⁾ACC/1982/PG/6.